



Assistance League of St. Louis

Fact Sheet
2017 - 2018

We Are Assistance League

We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization who celebrates the power of the volunteer to evoke positive change in our community. In 2017-18, we touched the lives of 44,000 children and adults in St. Louis. Our programs are conceived and designed to empower, not enable; provide opportunity, not promote dependence. We are attentive and responsive to changing needs in our community. Our 506 volunteers are engaged in hands-on delivery of much-needed goods and services directly to deserving people. We have no paid staff. In 2017-18, our members and friends donated 80,000 volunteer hours through our philanthropic programs. These hours have a value of \$1.9 million and are equal to 38 full-time paid employees.

GuideStar Platinum Seal of Transparency

Our chapter has received a Platinum Transparency Rating from GuideStar, the world's largest source of information about non-profits. Fewer than 1% of nonprofit members earn Platinum status. The thoroughness of our program assessment practices is a major factor in this achievement.

Serving the St. Louis Community

- In fiscal 2017-18, Operation School Bell served 7,834 elementary school students, fitting and providing uniforms, socks, hygiene products and an age-appropriate book. Operation School Bell has served over 83,000 students since it began in 1990.
- In the last year, Steps to Success visited 34 schools and 2 agencies to fit and deliver shoes and socks to 3,700 school children.
- Project ROSE volunteers purchase, package and deliver gift bags with clothing and personal care items to 4 area crisis shelters and 2 agencies and to sexual assault survivors. In 2017-18, we served 3,587 women and children in shelters. Since 2001, we have contributed to the well-being of 21,800 women and their children.
- Begun as a pilot in 2017, Books from Friends held book fairs in elementary and middle schools and provided 12,000 books to aspiring readers.
- In partnership with St. Louis Community College, Assistance League Scholarship provided financial aid to 72 individuals aspiring to improve their lives through higher education.
- Assistance League Outreach served 1,555 individuals with one-time critical needs.
- My Own Fun Stuff and Operation Hug touched the lives of 22,400 children and adults in hospitals or facing traumatic situations with activity kits and teddy bears.

Our Programs

Operation School Bell®
Operation Hug
Steps to Success
My Own Fun Stuff
Project ROSE
Assistance League Outreach
Assistance League Scholarship
Assistance League Waste Not®
Assistance League Beyond the Bell
Books from Friends
Beyond the Bell Clothing

For detailed information on our programs, please see our website at alstl.org.



stlouis.bbb.org



Operation School Bell®

Provides and fits new school uniforms, socks, personal care items and an age-appropriate book to deserving students in St. Louis community elementary schools.

Operation Hug

Provides teddy bears to comfort children and adults in traumatic situations.

Steps to Success

Provides and fits new athletic shoes and socks for deserving elementary school children.

My Own Fun Stuff

Prepares and delivers activity kits to hospitals, schools and agencies to entertain children and adults.

Project ROSE

Purchases, packages and delivers personal care gift bags and clothing to women and their children in emergency shelters and to sexual assault victims. Provides household items to women and their children transitioning from emergency shelters.

Assistance League Outreach

Provides one-time or short term assistance to individuals in need through partner agencies.

Assistance League Scholarship Program

In partnership with St. Louis Community College Foundation, provides financial assistance to individuals emerging from a life transition who aspire to improve their lives through post-secondary education.

Assistance League Waste Not

Ensures that donations that are not usable in our programs or saleable in our resale shop are distributed directly to those in need.

Assistance League Beyond the Bell

Umbrella program for projects supporting school children and young adults. Current projects include:

- **Books from Friends:** provides books to aspiring readers in elementary and middle school.
- **Beyond the Bell Clothing:** provides uniforms to schools and agencies that differ from Operation School Bell standard uniforms.