



# Assistance League of St. Louis

Fact Sheet  
2016 - 2017

## We Are Assistance League

We are a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization that celebrates the power of the volunteer to evoke positive change in our community. We touch the lives of thousands of children and adults in St. Louis. Our programs are conceived and designed to empower, not enable; provide opportunity, not promote dependence. We have no paid staff. Our 490 volunteers are engaged in hands-on delivery of much needed goods and services directly to deserving individuals. In 2017, our members and friends donated 72,459 volunteer hours through our nine (9) philanthropic programs, touching 46,029 lives.

### GuideStar Platinum Rating

Our chapter has achieved a Platinum Transparency Rating from *GuideStar*, the world's largest source of information about nonprofits. Fewer than 1% of nonprofit members earn Platinum status. Our **80% Return to Community** and the thoroughness of our program assessment practices are major factors contributing to our rating,

## 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  
Pack for Kids  
Books from Friends  
Beyond the Bell Clothing

For detailed information on our programs, please see our website at [alstl.org](http://alstl.org).



## Serving the St. Louis Community

- In fiscal 2017, Operation School Bell served 9,808 elementary school students, fitting, and providing uniforms, socks, hygiene products, and an age-appropriate book.
- In the last year, Steps to Success visited 32 schools and 2 agencies to fit and deliver shoes and socks to 3,310 elementary school children.
- Project ROSE volunteers purchase, package and deliver gift bags with clothing and personal care items to 4 area crisis shelters and to sexual assault survivors. Since 2001, we have contributed to the well-being of 18,800 women and children.
- Begun as a pilot in 2017, Books from Friends held book fairs in elementary and middle schools and provided 3,755 books to aspiring readers.
- In partnership with St. Louis Community College, Assistance League Scholarship provided financial assistance to 29 individuals aspiring to improve their lives through higher education.
- Assistance League Outreach served 1,721 individuals with one-time critical needs.
- My Own Fun Stuff and Operation Hug touched the lives of 22,616 children and adults in hospitals or facing traumatic situations with activity kits and teddy bears.



### **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 children in emergency shelters and to sexual assault victims. Provides household items to women and children transitioning from emergency shelters.

### **Assistance League Outreach**

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

### **Assistance League Scholarship**

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 pilots include:

- **Pack for Kids** – weekend food for elementary students in two elementary schools
- **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