

NEWS

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ASSISTANCE LEAGUE OF ST. LOUIS VOLUNTEERS GIVE 1,600 DESERVING CHILDREN NEW SHOES, SOCKS THIS SPRING

The past 8 months, Assistance League volunteers visited 37 schools in 8 school districts—fitting about 3,700 area school children with new athletic shoes, socks

Assistance League of St. Louis Steps to Success today marked the 18th public school where volunteers provided new athletic shoes and three pair of socks to students, bringing to more than 1,600 the number of deserving children who received shoes and socks this spring.

Assistance League volunteers began fitting deserving kindergarten and 4th graders on Tuesday, March 5, at Drummond Elementary School in Pattonville and ended today with a visit to the Ritenour School District's Marvin Elementary School.

Fittings happen annually in the fall and spring. During the 2018-2019 season, Assistance League volunteers visited **37 schools** in **8 school districts**—providing approximately **3,700 St. Louis area school** children with **new athletic shoes** and **socks**.

Each fitting day, 20 to 30 Assistance League volunteers traveled to three elementary schools to fit school children with a pair of the latest styles and colors in athletic shoes.

“Many of the children we fit are wearing incorrect shoe sizes or shoes that allow their feet to get wet and cold,” said Assistance League of St. Louis President Roxie Randolph. “The comfort and fun of having new socks and shoes is unmistakable when you see the big smiles on the children’s faces. This program provides so much to a child’s self-esteem.”

Assistance League's philanthropic partner, Shoe Carnival, provides invaluable help in the form of two or three employees who work alongside Assistance League volunteers each fitting day.

ABOUT ASSISTANCE LEAGUE OF ST. LOUIS. Assistance League of St. Louis is run by an all-volunteer group of more than 500 volunteers. The organization's mission is to identify, develop, fund and implement ongoing philanthropic programs to serve specific needs of children and adults in the St. Louis community. In 2017 alone, Assistance League members and friends donated 80,000 volunteer hours through nine philanthropic programs, touching more than 44,000 lives. Each program has a special focus from providing new school uniforms to shoes and socks and from personal care items for crisis shelter clients to teddy bears for comfort. All funds raised are returned to the St. Louis community. Assistance League of St. Louis is an accredited charity of the Better Business Bureau and has achieved a Platinum Transparency Rating from GuideStar.

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