2018 Annual Report
FROM THE PRESIDENT

What an amazing year! Thanks to you, our generous members, donors, and supporters, we helped to change the lives of over 3,000 people in our community. This has been a true team effort, and we are so grateful for your contributions toward improving quality of life for our most vulnerable neighbors.

The City of Seattle continues to face difficult times, with growing numbers of homeless families and children who are struggling to stay in school. Our goal is to reach one person at a time, with attention and sensitivity, to let them know that their lives matter and that people do care. I am continually amazed by the determination of both our members and supporters to rise up and adapt to the many changes we have experienced in recent years. Despite the challenges we face, our organization continues to grow stronger, each year finding ways to fulfill our vision of meeting essential needs in our community so that families can flourish.

Several of our members received special recognition for their exceptional efforts toward achieving our vision in the past year. Becky Ringhouse and Beth Mullin received the Ada Edwards Laughlin Award for their commitment to our Operation School Bell Ambassador Program. In lieu of delivering new clothing in plastic bags, Beth and Becky initiated the idea to sew colorful fabric laundry bags which they made along with a team of several other members. Nancy McManamin and Teri LeClair were honored with the Susan J Suhadolnik Award for their vision, leadership, and extraordinary hard work in developing our new Operation School Bell in-store shopping model, and for their tireless resolve to clothe as many children as possible. Tammy Trost was recognized with the President’s All-Star Award for her devoted and thoughtful work with the Assisteens, our new Operation School Bell registration, and for her wholehearted dedication to our chapter.

Our wonderful Wallingford Thrift Shop continues to be a vital and consistent source of income to support our programs. We are so grateful to our members who donate their high-quality clothing, housewares, books, and decor, as well as customers and community groups who collect and donate to the shop. Recent upgrades to the look and quality of merchandise in the shop have made it a can’t-miss destination for finding great deals and unique treasures. Please come visit us!

Together, we can continue to change lives and make a real difference in our community. Thank you for your partnership!

Sincerely,

Carrie Slavin
President
Board of Directors

FINANCIAL REPORT

for Fiscal Year 2018: June 1, 2017 – May 31, 2018

REVENUE

TOTAL REVENUE: $515,607

Thrift Shop Net Revenue: $174,487
Special Events Net Revenue: $163,211
Membership Dues: $12,420
Investment Revenue: $5,438

EXPENSES

TOTAL EXPENSES: $508,736

PROGRAM SERVICES

Operation School Bell: $323,056
Financial Aid for Education: $72,118
Management & General: $26,046
Total Program Services: $440,945

SUPPORTING SERVICES

Thrift Store: $27,223
Membership Development: $9,871
Fundraising Events: $4,704
Total Supporting Services: $40,945

percent return to the community!
Operation School Bell is our flagship program, and provides brand-new clothing and shoes to low-income students in grades K-5 in Seattle Public Schools, homeless shelters, and transitional housing facilities. A student received a warm coat, hat and gloves, pants, shirts, athletic shorts, sweats, socks, underwear, hygiene kit, books, and a $25 voucher to Payless ShoeSource.

With the generous support of our donors, amazing volunteers and community partners, 3,121 students received clothing and smiles of self-confidence from Operation School Bell in 2017-2018, nearly triple of the total number of students reached in 2014-2015. WOW!

Thanks to the leadership of Becky Ringhouse and Beth Mullin, students this year received their OSB clothing in colorful cloth laundry bags sewn by AL Seattle volunteers instead of black garbage bags.

After a lot of planning and learning, Operation School Bell transitioned to in-store shopping events with JCPenney and Target in Fall 2018. This allows students and caregivers to choose items that fit their individual needs at retail partners close by, making it easier for them to participate in Operation School Bell. Without the need to order inventory or manage the store, AL Seattle volunteers can clothe 2,000+ students in one month rather than the whole school year, without ordering inventory. We piloted this new approach in March 2018 with Northgate Elementary School and Broadview Shelter, with positive feedback from students and their families, support staff, and volunteers. Our remaining clothing inventory was delivered to the McKinney-Vento program to distribute to students experiencing homelessness.

“Coming to school in a new outfit, with a warm coat, fresh socks, and weather-appropriate shoes, goes a long way with our students, and teachers report a big difference in the attitude of these kids... You change lives every single day, by giving kids confidence and the ability to fit in with their peers. You inspire our community with your amazing generosity.”

– Meg Watson, BSN, RN, NCSN
School Nurse at Graham Hill Elementary in Seattle
In April 2018, the Enrichment Scholarship Program committee awarded $25,585 in scholarships to 56 students in grades 6-11 to attend summer camp! Our 2018 scholarship recipients attended 38 camps around Washington this summer, ranging from Camp Orkila on Orcas Island, to Rain City Rock Camp and Wilderness Awareness School, Cascade Youth Symphony and Camp Tech Wise.

The ESP committee is proud to work with community partners, such as the YMCA of Greater Seattle. YMCA finished funding every ESP scholarship recipient who wanted to go to one of their resident camps, Orkila and Colman. These YMCA camps can range from $700-$1,100 per camper, so it made all the difference to these students and their families.

Thank you for helping us turn summer camp dreams into reality for these students!

**FINANCIAL AID FOR EDUCATION**

The road to a college education isn’t easy. But for students who don’t qualify for traditional financial aid, it can seem impossible. Since 1967, our longest-running philanthropic program Financial Aid for Education (FAFE) supports students who face economic difficulties to obtain their AA degrees or technical school certificates in King County.

In the 2017-2018 year, 26 students worked towards achieving their dream of higher education with full scholarships to cover tuition and books, and received one-on-one mentoring from FAFE committee members.

Partnerships with TRiO at Seattle Public Colleges, Project Finish Line, and Seattle Education Access provided a stream of eligible, motivated students in need of support, with a focus on students with one or two quarters left to finish their degree.

This year, a record 20 FAFE scholars graduated with their AA degrees!
In June 2017, we launched our new auxiliary Assisteens of Seattle, which provides hands-on volunteer and leadership opportunities for teens in grades 7-12 to develop a sense of community responsibility, self-reliance, volunteerism, and leadership. Assisteens is governed by their own board, manage their own budget and fundraising, and coordinate their own programs, and are advised by Assistance League of Seattle volunteers.

Assisteens of Seattle focus their philanthropic efforts to meet the needs of low-income teens in Seattle, as advised by Seattle Public Schools’ McKinney-Vento Homeless Program and Solid Ground. This includes monthly drives for specific items, including board games, swim goggles, laundry soap, African-American hair products, and is supporting three kids on $400/month), and they receive hygiene kits or donations from the school or shelter with products that they can’t use on their hair. She stated it’s a huge expense for her family on a limited income (she just lost her job and stated it’s really difficult for her family when they receive hygiene kits or donations from the school or shelter with products that they can’t use on their hair. She stated it’s a huge expense for her family on a limited income (she just lost her job

Assisteens are required to volunteer 30+ hours per year, plus at least four shifts at the AL Seattle Thrift Shop. All together, Assisteens volunteered 1,795 hours in 2017-2018. Their enthusiasm and commitment is inspiring! Thank you, Assisteens of Seattle!
2017-2018: BY THE NUMBERS

3,121 students clothed through Operation School Bell
* 2,302 served by OSB Ambassadors
* 293 students who live in shelters
* 220 students clothed through JCPenney shopping events
* 182 students transported to OSB facility by Family Support Workers
* 44 bags of clothes delivered via Family Support Workers

87 percent return to the community!

3,262 people reached through AL Seattle programs
June 1, 2017 – May 31, 2018

TOTAL REVENUE: $515,607
TOTAL EXPENSES: $508,736

$356,148 in contributions from individual donors, corporate/foundation grants, and fundraising events.
THANK YOU!

26 students supported with full tuition scholarships, books, and one-to-one mentorship through Financial Aid for Education, with 20 graduates!

$174,487 in Thrift Shop gross revenue, a 94% increase over 2014!

66 In their inaugural year, 66 Assisteens members contributed 1,795 volunteer hours and served 60+ students in need

56 students sent to summer camp with Enrichment Scholarship Program funding

151 member volunteers contributed 27,801 volunteer hours valued at $901,494
based on Washington’s volunteer hour value of $30.46 in 2017, as determined by IndependentSector.org

THANK YOU for making this possible.