Still helping,

Always caring.

assistance league®
Seattle

2020 ANNUAL REPORT
FROM THE PRESIDENT

This has certainly been a year like no other. No one could have predicted the changes that would occur in our city, state, country and the world in the year 2020. Like all of you, Assistance League of Seattle has had to adapt to a new reality, pivot the way we operate, and respond to the ever-changing world created by Covid-19. And more than that, we have learned to adjust to the growing and changing needs of those in the community who are in the greatest need of our support.

During the 2019-2020 school year, Assistance League of Seattle had our biggest year ever. With your help, we clothed 3,142 children during Operation School Bell shopping events in October and March. In addition, after hearing a plea from our schools about kids showing up without warm coats, we were able to provide over 800 winter coats to the kids in Seattle Public Schools last winter. We helped 16 students complete their AA degrees from local colleges and trade schools. And even after the pandemic hit, we were still able to send 26 students, and in one case with their entire family, to summer camp – many of which were online.

In addition, I am proud to say that in the face of the pandemic and with the help of our donors, we were able to provide emergency services in the form of $100 grocery gift cards to 480 families to help with food and necessities during these uncertain times. Plus our community rallied with us and collected 325 Family-to-Family Care Packages, providing toiletries and cleaning supplies for those in the community in greatest need.

While we are proud to have served more individuals than ever this past year, the numbers tell only a small part of the story. Each young life that we are fortunate enough to encounter has their own unique circumstances, challenges and, most importantly, HOPE for a brighter future. We strive not only to provide clothing and scholarships, but to empower individuals by building self-confidence, self-reliance and a sense of belonging.

Our goals for the coming year are loftier than ever before as the need in our community continues to rise. As an organization, we have committed to increasing the amount we provide each Operation School Bell student from $100 to $125 – a result of our hearing of the number of children coming to school without warm coats last winter. We feel that $125 will get these students closer to being able to purchase the clothing they need.

A warm and heartfelt thank you to all our members, donors, and supporters for extending a hand of encouragement to these children and young adults in our community, helping them take that first step in the right direction. To let them know that their lives matter, that they are capable, and that people DO care.

Sincerely,

Theresa Roberts
Board President

FINANCIAL REPORT

for Fiscal Year 2020: June 1, 2019 – May 31, 2020

GRANTS/INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS: $269,218
SPECIAL EVENTS NET REVENUE: $227,259
THRIFT SHOP NET REVENUE: $146,310
MEMBERSHIP DUES: $13,010
INVESTMENT REVENUE: $2,384

TOTAL REVENUE: $658,181

Program Services:
Operation School Bell®: $357,961
Financial Aid for Education: $44,277
Enrichment Scholarship Program: $11,838

Supporting Services:
Membership Development: $146,310
Other Fundraising Support: $57,260

Total Program Services: $471,336

Other Philanthropic Activities: $57,260
Fundraising Events: $4,023
Total Supporting Services: $66,916

Total Expenses: $538,252

Percent Return to the Community: 88 percent

We are proud to have earned GuideStar’s highest level of data and financial transparency!
guidestar.org/profile/91-6055119

Want to know more about our financials? Visit our website at assistanceleague.org/seattle to download our audited financial statements and 990s.
With Operation School Bell, students in grades K-8 in Seattle Public Schools who face economic hardship can shop for new school clothes to boost their self-confidence and school participation.

Each elementary student was allocated $100 (students in grades 6-8 got $130) to spend on items on the approved list: coats, shirts, pants, skirts, shoes, underwear, socks, and more. Assistance League of Seattle volunteers were on hand to help families navigate check-in, shopping, and checkout. We also provided new or gently used books for students to take home. To show their support, JCPenney and Target gave an additional discount to each student.

In the 2019-2020 school year, we clothed 3,142 students through shopping events at JCPenney and Target. In December 2019, Family Support Workers told us about the urgent need for warm coats for students at Seattle Public Schools. In response, our volunteers and donors answered the call by raising $17,945 to purchase 800+ coats for kids! The success of this fundraiser inspired us to establish a new program component in January 2020 called the OSB Emergency Fund, so we could rapidly respond to needs of students as acute needs arise.

This made it possible for us to pivot quickly in March 2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic shut down schools and businesses. In response, Assistance League of Seattle volunteers:

- Raised funds to purchase $100 gift cards for 480 families in our community in need to purchase groceries and other essential items
- Gathered cleaning supplies and toiletries to create Family-to-Family care packages for 325 families

And our members did not stop there. Several began sewing masks for students, nursing homes, and first responders, creating art for elderly at Harborview that were unable to have visitors, delivering food, supplies, and more.

A special thank you to Family Support Workers and Seattle Public Schools for distributing the gift cards and packages to students throughout 2020. We couldn’t do this without you!

Thank you to our amazing volunteers, community partners, and generous donors for making Operation School Bell a success!
With support from the Enrichment Scholarship Program, qualified teens in grades 6-11 can attend the summer camp of their choice, exploring new interests and gaining new life skills. We believe positive experiences during these critical years can change the trajectory of a young person’s life.

This year was a unique and challenging one for the ESP program, as most summer camps were canceled due to COVID-19. We awarded scholarships to 26 students in grades 6-11 from 17 different schools. Fourteen students attended online camps including music, coding, robotics, painting, photography, and mathematics. The other 12 students attended in-person camps that included back-packing, soccer, outdoor leadership, horseback riding, and YMCA family camps at Camp Orkila.

This year we partnered with the Seattle Public School’s McKinney-Vento program to increase access to students from families experiencing homelessness. One-third of our scholarships this year were awarded to students who found us through this partnership, and we are looking forward to increasing that percentage in the coming years. Thank you for helping us turn summer camp dreams into reality for these students!

Since 1967, our longest-running philanthropic program Financial Aid for Education (FAFE) supports students who face economic hardship to attend King County public colleges or technical/vocational schools.

In the 2019-2020 year, 16 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 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.

“[My] college experience was a great and challenging experience where I faced financial difficulty until FAFE offered to give me a scholarship. My financial stress was solved and I was finally able to focus on my studies.” – Natnale Bekele, FAFE scholarship recipient
Assisteens of Seattle volunteer auxiliary 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 are governed by their own board, manage their own budget and fundraising, coordinate their own programs, and are advised by Assistance League of Seattle volunteers. We had 77 members this year, coming from 17 schools around the city.

With the statewide stay-at-home order announced in March, Assisteens put a hold on meetings and our annual fundraiser, and transitioned to Zoom meetings. Even though we couldn’t be in person, Assisteens wrote cards to send to people in senior living communities, and received a $5,000 grant from the D.V. and Ida J. McEachern Charitable Trust to purchase Fred Meyer gift cards for teens and families to purchase food and other basics in May 2020.

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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, such as school supplies for students served through the McKinney-Vento program, hygiene and personal items for the Broadview Family Shelter, games and crafts for kids at the Broadview Family Shelter, and a food drive for Ballard Food Bank. Over 200 teens and families were served by Assisteens in 2019-2020.

Assisteens are required to volunteer 30+ hours per year, including four shifts at the AL Seattle Thrift Shop. All together, Assisteens volunteered 1,012 hours in the 2019-2020 year. Thank you, Assisteens!

We could not have accomplished any of what we have without our incredible volunteers and their tireless commitment to make the world a better place. Special recognition was awarded to the following members for their extraordinary commitment to those that we serve.

The Ada Edward Laughlin Award was given to Julia Marconi, one of our Thrift Store leaders, who not only manages all intake for store items, but has restarted our efforts to increase online sales, particularly for high end items. The Susan J. Suhadolnik Award was presented to our past President, Carrie Slavin, who chaired last year’s record-breaking auction as well as creating our family-to-family care package initiative in response to the need created by the pandemic. Susan Tento, our Corresponding Secretary, received the President’s All Star Award, for her unending willingness to help in all areas of the organization.

**VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION**

**OFFICERS**
President: Theresa Roberts
Vice President: Connie Hodgson
Treasurer: Julie Bouffleur
Corresponding Secretary: Susan Tento
Recording Secretary: Elaine Say
Membership: Katherine Faubion, Ev Hays

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**
OSB Co-Chairs: Teri LeClair, Nancy McManamin
Enrichment Scholarship Program: Mary Anne Martin

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2019-2020**
- Julie & Bruno Cross
- Karen & Patrick Crumb
- Elise Cubentova
- Custom Art Works
- Cathy & Phil Davis
- Desk Seattle
- Mimi DeBurle
- Marie & Steve DiPietro
- Eva & John Dougherty
- Ashley Doyle
- Ila Dressen
- Jennifer & Jeff Droopstep
- Kathryn Dugaw
- Mrs. Raul Durazo
- Colleen Eastman
- Susan Edwards
- Sarah & David Enfield
- Michelle Ellett
- Bonnie Elsworth
- Theresa & Daniel Evans
- Katherine & Gary Evans
- George Gilbert
- glassbaby
- Jennifer Gouk
- Grand Central Bakery
- Jill Green
- Carol Grogan
- Kristine Griffin
- Jennifer Gloth
- Patty Haggarly
- Glenn & Susan Hansen
- Nicole Hardie
- Denise Harvey
- Kristi & Todd Hayes
- Ev Hays
- Jessica Heaton
- Giclee Heinault
- Carla Hogan
- Rosalie & David Holcomb
- Rachel Hopper
- Trina & Peter Holleman
- Simi Hummer
- Angela & Mark Hunskor
- Elisea Hurst
- Sara Irenon
- Mary Jochem
- Megan & Kevin Johnson
- Elizabeth & Peter Kain
- Jackie Kannier
- Gayle Kiplan
- Mindi Katzman
- Kimpton Hotels
- Michelle Kokstad
- Shannon & Brad Knowles
- Nicole & Todd Korman
- Mary E. Lachapelle
- Alond Lambert
- Jame Lamott
- Lampkine
- Meg Larkin
- Cheri Leavitt
- Victoria Leckie
- Laciela Lindal
- Renee LeVaque Wass
- Melinda & John Lewis
- Karen Lortenzen
- Margaret Lortenzen
- Annie Lundquist
- Laura Weinard
- Jesse Weltrup
- Maria Wickens
- Jennifer & Matt Wickers
- Helen Wilson
- Gall & Curt Winterfeld
- Karen Wren
- Julie & Norman Yee
- Jennifer & Mark Yeend
- Jennifer & Phil Yerkes

OSB Emergency Services: Elizabeth Kain

**APPOINTEES**
OSB Emergency Services: Elizabeth Kain
2019 Auction Chairs: Carrie Slavin
Property Management
Supplies: Karen Capretto
Maintenance: Charlie Lewis

Thrift Store Fund Development: Kristen Klein
Database - Salesforce: Ev Hays
Database: Susan Tento
Hospitality: Jill Navone
Wednesday Weekly Publisher: Carol Viyo
Webmaster: Cindy Flannigan

**ASSISTEENS OF SEATTLE**

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- Jennifer & Phil Yerkes
2019-2020: BY THE NUMBERS

3,142 students clothed through Operation School Bell shopping events at JCPenney and Target in Fall 2019 and Spring 2020

4,989 people reached through AL Seattle programs
June 1, 2019 – May 31, 2020
TOTAL REVENUE: $658,181
TOTAL EXPENSE: $538,252

88 percent return to the community!

$496,477 in contributions from individual donors, corporate/foundation grants, and fundraising events.
THANK YOU!

16 college students supported through Financial Aid for Education with full tuition scholarships, books, and one-to-one mentorship

800 warm winter coats distributed through OSB Emergency Fund

26 students sent to summer camp with Enrichment Scholarship Program funding

136 member volunteers contributed 23,738 volunteer hours valued at $807,813 based on Washington’s volunteer hour value of $33.02 in 2019, as determined by IndependentSector.org

805 grocery gift cards and Family-to-Family care packages for COVID-19 relief

3,142 students clothed through Operation School Bell shopping events at JCPenney and Target in Fall 2019 and Spring 2020

200 teens supported by 77 Assisteens

THANK YOU!