A RECORD BREAKING YEAR

Janice Carlton and Pat Gipson working at the Thrift Shop. Our first full year in our new space achieved record results with sales of $175,488, allowing us to spend more than ever on our philanthropic programs.

Members picking up donations at Carolina Arbors in Durham. The record pickups have helped our Thrift Shop sales skyrocket, but also were reflected in the record 21,334 volunteer hours donated to our organization. Left to right: Pat Morrison, Molly Bailey, Suzanne Jones, Judy Thompson, and Janice Carlton.

Phyllis Sullivan awarding a scholarship to Zena Jeffers. We gave a record 18 scholarships totaling $70,000 last year.

Kathy Faust and Sheila Schmidt preparing to serve lunch at The Women’s Center of Wake County through our Women In Need program. We served a record 8,500 women through this program.

Nancy Nemargut helping deliver clothes at Reedy Creek Elementary. We served a record 1,518 children through our Operation School Bell Program.

Karen Perry and Dabney Dougherty deliver toys to the Tyner twins at Wake Med. A record 48,000 children visited the Emergency Department there.

This Community Link is printed annually to report on our previous fiscal year ended May 31.

As defined in a nonprofit blog, “the impact statement of a nonprofit is a tool used to measure the success of the nonprofit. It’s not a summary of income and expenses or how many people were served. The impact statement is proof that your nonprofit is accomplishing its mission.” (Aplos.com Blog 06/26/2012).

Assistance League of the Triangle Area measures impact in several ways. Since 1997, we have tracked several factors. There are quantitative measurements such as the 13,500 schoolchildren that have been served in Operation School Bell, the $175,000 in Scholarships that we’ve awarded and the 270,000 volunteer hours given back to the community. However, there are other ways that the impact of our organization has affected people.

Assistance League members are empowered, vested and rewarded in our volunteer capacity. As volunteers, we see the impact in those individuals we serve when the faces of children light up as we tie the shoelaces of their brand new shoes through our Operation School Bell program or when a woman of domestic violence departs with dignity after she receives an Assault Survivor Kit® through our Women In Need program. This summer, we had a scholarship recipient offer to give back to our organization by dedicating her spare time to a historical preservation project.

Additionally, we see the impact when our donors discover that 100% of their donations stay in our local community and directly fund Assistance League philanthropic programs. That sense of giving back is indescribable and different for each of us in our various capacities. It’s up to each one of us to figure out what type of impact is significant.

There are many ways that the volunteers, donors and supporters of Assistance League have proof that our nonprofit is accomplishing our mission; and we thank you for your role in providing us with that knowledge.

Anna Merrett
President
Assistance League of the Triangle Area has five philanthropic programs that focus on making a difference in the lives of children and women in need.

**Operation School Bell®** provides new clothing, shoes, school supplies and personal hygiene items to elementary children in need in Wake, Durham and Orange counties.

**Women in Need (WIN)** assists women in crisis. We provide needed resources to The Women’s Center of Wake County and its affiliates. We also provide Assault Survival Kits to InterAct for women who have been abused and/or sexually assaulted.

We provide teddy bears, books, toys and treasure chest items for the children who come into Kid’s Place at WakeMed Children’s Emergency Department.

Our **Scholarship** program provides scholarships to college students in financial need throughout the Triangle Area to attend colleges in North Carolina. **Community Sharing** distributes Thrift Shop donations of gently used items that are surplus or not saleable at the Thrift Shop to other nonprofit organizations in the Triangle Area. This program increases exposure in the community, encourages collaboration with other nonprofits and helps to meet some of the unmet needs in our community.

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

This year was a wonderful one for the scholarship committee. With a generous grant from the Gipson Family Foundation, we were able to award $70,000 to 18 students.

We received applications from twenty-one high schools, and awarded scholarships to winners from Durham, Orange and Wake Counties. We were able to make a bigger difference in these students’ lives this year because we had more money to award. They will graduate with less student debt because of the work of our volunteers at the Thrift Shop and because of our generous donors.

We have a large grant commitment for our program for this next year, so we are increasing our efforts to spread the word about our program. Besides contacting all the high schools in Wake, Durham, and Orange counties, we are making a special effort to contact hospitals to make our scholarships known to applicants pursuing health care careers. In addition, we are instituting a new Technical School application for those who didn’t go to college right out of high school and now realize they need more education to get better jobs. We are also targeting GED students whom we haven’t reached through the high schools. Finally, we now have a Single Working Parent application replacing the Single Working Mom application. We continue our efforts to make life better for children and students in the Triangle Area.

Grace Fox
Chair, Scholarships

### 2014 Recipients

#### HIGH SCHOOL CATEGORY (14)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>High School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Janvier Dinagaopo</td>
<td>Cedar Ridge High School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Swaim</td>
<td>East Wake High School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashley Zheng</td>
<td>Leesville High School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annie Dang</td>
<td>Millbrook High School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jessie Jeffrey</td>
<td>Millbrook High School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madeline Minear</td>
<td>Millbrook High School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Walker</td>
<td>Ravenscroft School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daria Selezneva</td>
<td>Riverside High School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayli Nichols</td>
<td>Sanderson High School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zena Jeffers</td>
<td>Southeast Raleigh Magnet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jada Smith</td>
<td>Wake Early College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chekera Hunter</td>
<td>Wake Forest Rolesville HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison Pontrelli</td>
<td>Wake Forest Rolesville HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meaghan Rice</td>
<td>Wake Forest Rolesville HS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### RETURNING SCHOLARS CATEGORY (3)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>College</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexandra Higgins</td>
<td>Appalachian State Univ.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alex Medlin</td>
<td>University of N. Carolina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aryn Knotos</td>
<td>East Carolina University</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OPERATION SCHOOL BELL

Operation School Bell is still growing! We proudly served 1518 children at 21 elementary schools this past year. We added schools and served our children in need with new clothing, new shoes, and hygiene supplies through in-store shopping and our more traditional bag and deliver program. Our average cost per child was $70. We provided gently used clothing to school clothes closets and we provided expanded hygiene kits to homeless children. The schools we worked with this year were: Central Elementary in Orange County; Bethesda, Burton, Eastway, Glenn, CC Spaulding, Holt and Pearsontown Elementary in Durham County, and Brentwood, Poe, Walnut Creek, Reedy Creek, Lead Mine, Pleasant Union, Carver, Green, Fox, Hodge Road, Barwell, Washington, and Moore Square in Wake County.

Our Year’s Activities:
- In-store shopping: 375 children at 8 schools
- Full traditional bag and deliver: 753 children at 11 schools
- Clothing only: 31 children at 2 schools
- Gently used clothing to school clothes closets: 159 children
- Each school received a selection of school supplies, health supplies, and books.
- Backpacks went to Orange and Durham schools and one Wake county school
- Hygiene kits: 200 homeless children attending Wake county schools.

WOMEN IN NEED

Our Women In Need (WIN) program grew exponentially this past year and provided support for 8,500 recipients. We continued to work with The Women’s Center of Wake County, which is a day shelter for women who are in crisis or homeless. We supplied gas cards, laundry vouchers, bus tickets, funding for emergency overnight housing and also special needs items for its clients. In addition, we worked with the Oak Hollow Apartments, a community supported by the Women’s Center for individuals that have been homeless and have a mental, physical or emotional disability. We delivered lunches, cleaning supplies, miscellaneous furniture, holiday gifts and gift cards and a variety of other wish-list items.

We partnered again with InterAct, which is a private, nonprofit agency that provides safety, support and awareness to victims and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. We purchased, assembled and delivered Assault Survivor Kits to the Solace Center at InterAct, including sweat suits, panties, socks, flip-flops and bags of toiletries. We also supported their holiday festivities: bought and assembled mothers’ gift baskets; accepted and organized donations, and helped set up and assisted families shopping during the Holiday Bazaar.

Our Women In Need program offers the opportunity for members to support and engage directly with community organizations supporting women in transition.

Mission Statement:
“Assistance League of the Triangle Area is a volunteer organization dedicated to improving the lives of women, children and families in our community.”
**KID’S PLACE AT WAKE MED**

*Kid’s Place* was one of our chapter’s first philanthropic programs, and in years past we have provided a variety of items which are used to comfort children receiving traumatic or painful procedures or to entertain them or their siblings through long ordeals. This past year we provided a new Pirate’s Treasure Chest, from which patients and siblings can select a tiny toy trinket on check-out day, hoping this final little reward will add a pleasant note to an otherwise difficult experience. In addition, we delivered three large toy shipments, 2000 Teddy Bears, and multiple books. As always, our team at Kid’s Place is so very grateful to our community friends. Without their loving hearts and generosity nothing that we do at Kid’s Place would be possible. Surely, it is only the time, talent, and treasure of many people working together that creates success.

*Dabney Dougherty*, Chair, Kid’s Place

### RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

**Thank You!**

100% of these donations remain in the Triangle Area. If you or your organization would like to join these lists of contributors, please visit [www.altriangle.org](http://www.altriangle.org) or contact us at join@altriangle.org.

**Grants and Donors:**
- Bank of North Carolina
- Cary Community Foundation
- Gipson Family Foundation
- IBM
- Johnson & Johnson
- Pest Pros
- Raleigh Association of Realtors

**In-Kind Contributions**
- Mr. Frank Westmayer
- NVIDIA Corporation & Employees
- Dr. Robert A. Bailey
- Drs. Julia Zervos & Amy Earwood
- Drs. Dustin Durden & Katina Pittman
- Beavers Family Dentistry
- The Knitting Group at Abbottswood

**Community Partners**
- Tom/Marla Bednar-Triangle Gold
- Dawn of Health Chiropractic
- Clayton Dorn & Team-UPS
- Gresham Lake Self Storage
- DNA Group
- Jim Morrison/DeLime Website
- Linda Craft Team Realtors
- RE/Max Preferred Associates
- Tom Farrin/Pegasus Lighting

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY – CHILDREN’S BOOK DRIVE**

Make A Difference Day is a celebration of neighbors helping neighbors, with millions of Americans uniting in a common mission to improve the lives of others. We joined this effort again and participated in our national organization’s Children’s Book Drive. This drive is held in October each year with a goal of collecting as many new and gently used books for children as we can. Our goal was to collect 1,000 books. We celebrate collecting a grand total of **1,460 books**. Through the excellent effort of our chapter members, their families, neighbors, local dentists, grocery stores, a country club’s book swap group, book clubs, fitness centers, and various other groups, we surpassed our goal and can again provide wonderful books for many young children. We thank all of our partners across the community who help us make sure more children each year have the opportunity to enjoy a good book. These books were distributed to school children throughout our philanthropic programs.

*Pat Morrison* loading books for Durham County schools.
Our first full year in our new Thrift Shop space was successful beyond any of our expectations. We had worried that it might be too much space, but we've had tremendous donations to fill the space, and as quickly as it comes in, it sells and new donations pour in. We had a record number of 21,334 volunteer hours between our members and non-member volunteers, much of this logged during furniture pickups, cleaning, pricing, and volunteering in the shop. The shop continues to be staffed entirely by our member volunteers without any paid staff. A-Z is our main fundraiser, and since our sales hit record highs, this has allowed us to greatly expand our philanthropic programs.

The A-Z Thrift Shop is located at 1621 North Market Drive in Raleigh. Stop by to do some shopping and consider donating your gently used furniture, household items, accessories, toys and books by calling 919-875-8901 for directions or to schedule furniture pick up service. All donations are tax deductible. The hours of operation are Wednesday - Friday 10 am – 5 pm and Saturday 10 am - 4 pm.

### A-Z Average Monthly Sales

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Sales</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007-08</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008-09</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009-10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assistance League of the Triangle Area was founded in 1997, chartered in 1999, and currently has 96 members. Established in Los Angeles in the 1890s, Assistance League® was the first nonprofit, nonpolitical, nonsectarian organization in the West to recognize the potential of volunteers in helping those less fortunate to a better, more meaningful life. In 1935, the national organization of Assistance League was organized with the vision of a nationwide effort to carry the principles of Assistance League to other cities. Annually, Assistance League returns over $38 million to local communities, assisting 1.5 million people. This is made possible by 26,000 member volunteers in 120 chapters who have contributed 3.2 million service hours. Operation School Bell, our signature national program, served 331,000 children last year. Since 1958, nearly 4 million children have been assisted.
# Statement of Financial Position

**ASSETS**

- Cash & Cash Equivalents $183,545  
- Prepaid Expenses $16,072  
- Inventories $37,940  
- Property & Equipment $20,060  

**TOTAL ASSETS** $257,617

**LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS**

- Liabilities $6,156  
- NET Assets 251,461  

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS** $257,617

---

# Statement of Activities

**SUPPORT & REVENUES**

- Thrift Shop Revenue $175,488  
- Contributions & Grants 110,327  
- Membership 4,975  
- Interest income 1,228  
- Noncash Contributions 22,253  
- Other 238  

**TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUES** $314,509

**EXPENSES**

- Program Services  
  - Operation School Bell $87,883  
  - Kids Place at WakeMed 8,750  
  - Women In Need 14,228  
  - Scholarships 71,512  
  - Community Sharing 19,013  

- Support Services  
  - Fundraising (Thrift Shop) Expense* $70,400  
  - Management & General 7,165  
  - Membership Development 4,179  

**Total Support Services Expenses** $81,744

**TOTAL EXPENSES** $283,130

**INCREASE IN NET ASSETS** $31,379

**NET ASSETS—BEGINNING OF YEAR** $220,082

**NET ASSETS—END OF YEAR** $251,461

---

*The Thrift Shop expenses are occupancy costs only. There are no labor costs (no paid employees) and no cost of goods sold, since all items are donated. The Thrift Shop sustains itself, and all monetary donations go directly toward our Philanthropic Programs.

---

**2014 Distribution of Expenses**

- Management & General 3%
- Membership Development 1%
- Fundraising (Thrift Shop) 25%
- Philanthropic Programs 71%

---

*It is our policy to retain a reserve equal to one year’s operating expenses.*

---

**Martha Funsten**  
Treasurer

---

Complete Financial Statements for the year-ended May 31, 2014 are available upon request.
This Community Link is printed annually to report on our previous fiscal year ended May 31.

P.O. Box 98477
Raleigh, NC 27624
(919) 875-8901
http://www.altriangle.org

Editor: Martha Funsten
Email: join@altriangle.org
Proofreaders: Janice Carlton, Ann Cole, Ellen Czinege, Grace Fox, Anna Merrett, Pat Morrison, Gail Park, Joyce Poole, Phyllis Sullivan, Barbara Townson

Mission Statement
Assistance League of the Triangle Area is a volunteer organization dedicated to improving the lives of women, children, and families in our community.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vision</th>
<th>Values</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caring and commitment in action in our community.</td>
<td>Commitment with accountability.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>