



Assistance League® of the Triangle Area



Assistance League of the Triangle Area is a volunteer organization dedicated to improving the lives of women, children and families in our community. Assistance League has been providing service in the Triangle Area since 1997. The local group is one of 120 chapters of National Assistance League, a nonpolitical, nonsectarian, nonprofit 501(c) 3 organization. With no paid staff, volunteer members of Assistance League operate six philanthropic programs.

- **Operation School Bell®** is our signature program. Our organization provides for over **1,600 elementary students** annually in Wake, Durham and Orange Counties. Children received new clothing, shoes, backpacks, school supplies and health items. The program operates in two formats. The in-school format includes purchasing new clothes and direct delivery to the students. Also, we measure the students' feet and deliver new shoes. The in-store shopping format allows pre-screened families to select needed clothing and shoes with the help of the Assistance League members. Homeless students were given clothing and hygiene kits.
- **Women in Need (WIN)** is designed to help homeless and women in crisis with personal care items, laundry vouchers, bus tickets and other items as needed. Through InterAct, Assault Survivor Kits® are provided for women who have been abused and/or sexually assaulted. Annually, the chapter provided support for over **7,000 women and family members**.
- **Kid's Place** at WakeMed Pediatric Emergency Department was created by the Triangle chapter. It is a true oasis for children being treated at the emergency department. Assistance League supplies games, books, toys and furnishings for over **43,000 children** that visit the facility each year, as well as, **1,500 teddy bears** for the children that need an extra element of comfort. Additionally, a treasure chest was established and the chapter continues to provide a supply of small toys and stickers for distribution to young patients and their siblings.
- **The Scholarship program** awards scholarships to students in need of financial assistance who will attend North Carolina colleges, universities and technical schools. In May, the organization presented **\$137,500 to 27 students**. Scholarships are offered in several categories to high school seniors, single working parents, students entering health care fields, students attending technical schools and returning scholars that have received a scholarship in the previous year.
- **SMILE (Senior Multi-Interest Lifetime Enrichment)** increases our interaction with senior citizens in the community for mutual education and enrichment. This program provides an opportunity to visit, share ideas and interests with residents who knit scarves for elementary students.
- Lastly, **Community Sharing** is an effort to partner with other local nonprofit organizations by redistributing gently used items that are non-saleable or are in excess at the Thrift Shop. This program increases exposure in the community, encourages collaboration with other nonprofits and helps with some of the unmet needs in the community.

All philanthropic programs are funded through the A-Z Thrift Shop, grants, donations and various other fundraisers. 100% of donations remain locally in the Triangle Area. The Open Your Heart direct mail campaign runs from November through March. More information can be found at www.altriangle.org. The Thrift Shop is always in need of gently used household items, furniture, accessories, books and toys. Assistance League provides pick up service by calling (919) 875-8901 or feel free to deliver donations to the shop which is located at 1621 North Market Drive, Raleigh NC. The hours of operation are Wednesday-Friday 10:00 am-5:00 pm and Saturdays 10:00 am-4:00 pm.

Assistance League of the Triangle Area is actively seeking new members. Just under 100 members volunteered over **25,000 hours** working in various roles in the philanthropic programs, managing the organization and operating the Thrift Shop.

Consider becoming a member, participating on our Advisory Council or making a tax deductible donation to Assistance League. There are many ways to make a difference in our community. Visit www.altriangle.org or call **(919) 875-8901** for more information.