

Effective, Efficient Service  
to the Saddleback Valley Community  
2009-2010 Program Year in Review

**OPERATION SCHOOL BELL®** the national philanthropy of Assistance League is our chapter's largest program. We provide children with new clothing and school supplies. This service helps to promote improved self-image and performance in school to those children who are identified by their teachers and principals to be in need of our help. This service has been expanded to include intermediate and high school children through our program called **TeenSpree**. We are partnered with Target where chapter members assist students and parents to shop, with each child receiving \$100 worth of back-to-school clothing and school supplies.



**OPERATION SCHOOL BELL** is the signature philanthropic program for all Assistance League chapters across the United States with combined annual budgets of more than \$9.5 million. It has come a long way from its beginning as a one-woman attempt to provide clothing for her students from her classroom closet. The true legacy of Ruth Ann Montgomery, who opened her heart to children in need, is that one person can make a difference.

**LINKS TO LEARNING** is a program that grants funds to intermediate and high school teachers, allowing them to purchase equipment and materials for their classrooms to enrich learning as well as expand the existing curriculum with new innovative approaches. Grants awarded this year included purchases of new fiction books for school libraries and entry fees for a music competition/festival.

Our **FIELD STUDY PROGRAM** provides funds to Saddleback Valley Unified School District to pay for transportation costs for the science programs held at Trabuco Elementary School. The school was founded in 1879 and is considered the oldest school in Orange County. The programs are exciting outdoor educational field trips with grade level activities correlated to classroom science

units for grades K-6 throughout the district.

Assistance League of Saddleback Valley partners with other Southern California Assistance League chapters to participate in **OPERATION CAMP PENDLETON**. During the summer, we work together to distribute clothing and school supplies to children who attend the San Onofre School on the base at the northern end of Camp Pendleton. Our chapter provides girls pants. In addition, three times a year, we join with the Capistrano Valley chapter to provide clothing, diapers and baby wipes to infants and toddlers.

**SENIOR OUTREACH** is a program which mixes compassion and friendship in our senior community. Our chapter members deliver hot meals, breakfasts and lunches to homebound senior citizens in Laguna Woods, offering smiles and conversation to people who often have no other visitors or companionship. If our budget allows, we also include small gifts with our deliveries during various holidays throughout the year.

Through **ASSISTING SHELTER HOMES**, our chapter helps reach abused women and their children at Laura's House. The shelter provides us with a wish list of items needed each month, including clothing, pajamas, diapers, shoes and hygiene items. Committee members shop for the needed items and deliver them monthly.



Our **ADOPT-A-FAMILY** program provides food, clothing and gifts for needy families two times a year. South County Outreach identifies families; our members then contact the families, develop a wish list, and shop for and deliver the items personally. The knowledge that we are reaching entire families with this philanthropy is what makes this program so rewarding.

**OPERATION BABY LOVE** is a program which provides layettes for newborns of low-income families. We purchase yarn for women at the Norman P. Murray Senior

Center in Mission Viejo who hand-knit baby blankets and clothing items. In addition to the knitted items, we provide bags, toys, diapers, wipes, receiving blankets and other items which are distributed by liaisons at Saddleback Memorial and Mission Hospitals.

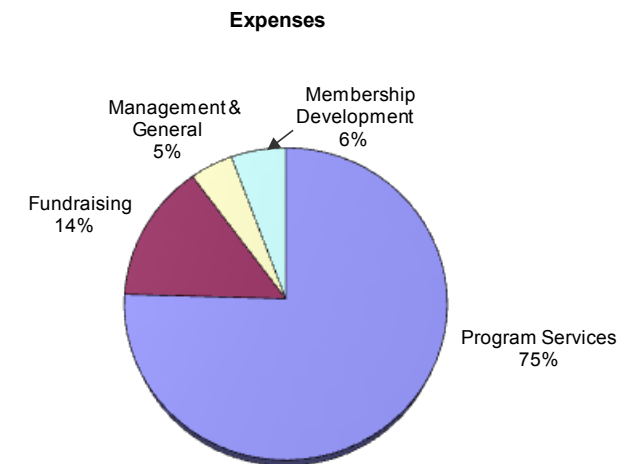
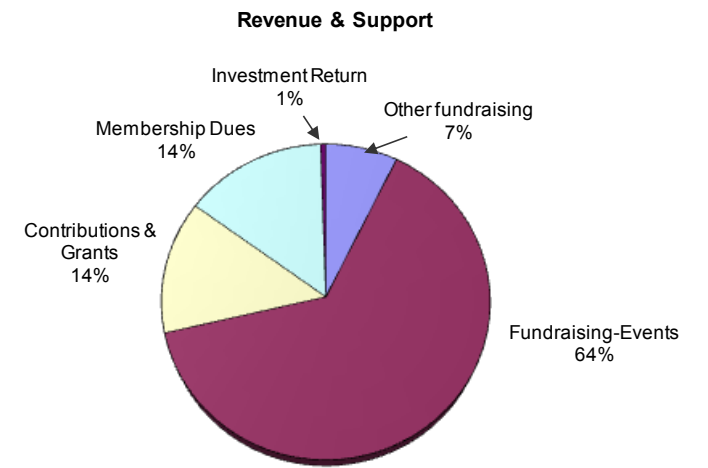
Our remaining two programs enable us to help children and their parents at CHOC at Mission Hospital and Saddleback Memorial Hospital. **WISHING WELL** provides infants and primary age children entertaining and educational items to assist them while patients at the hospital. Items include mobiles, rattles and teethingers, craft materials, CD's and DVD's and players, stuffed animals, cars and trucks.

**INFANT BEREAVEMENT** provides memory boxes to parents who have lost infants at CHOC at Mission and Saddleback Memorial Hospitals. The boxes include such items as a gown for burial of the infant, a camera, a Certificate of Life for the hand and footprints of the infant, and a ceramic heart-within-a heart (the smaller heart to be buried with the infant, and the larger one for the mother to keep). This program has touched the hearts of our entire membership, as well as the recipients.

**Assisteens®** are comprised of area teens attending grades seven through twelve in our area's intermediate and high schools. It was formed in 1993 and certified in 1995. Like their chapter mentors, they are learning how to give back to their community through service. Some of their programs include Adopt-a-Family, assisting with Senior Outreach and helping at the Loaves & Fishes soup kitchen.

During the fiscal year ended May 31, 2010, Assistance League of Saddleback Valley continued to fulfill its mission of developing and carrying out philanthropic programs to meet the needs of our community. We are pleased to report that, in accordance with our fiduciary responsibility for funds entrusted to our use, 75% of our budget went to Program Services while 5% of the total budget went towards Management and General expenses.

ASSISTANCE LEAGUE OF SADDLEBACK VALLEY  
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
Year Ended May 31, 2010



Assistance League of Saddleback Valley  
2009-2010 Donors

**GIFT FROM THE HEART  
MATCHING DONORS**

Pam and Tom Bender

**SPONSOR DONATIONS:  
Diamond-\$2,500**

Karen and George Thagard

**Gold-\$1,000**

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Marla Carlson

Susan and Peter Dolbee

Sandy and Tom Ewing

Kay and Jack Hockema

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Kim and Mark Krouse

Jean and Mike Simmons

Joyce and William Urone

**Bronze-\$250**

Cleo Bluth

Chris Brodtkin

Donna Clark

Marleen and Jim Quandt

Deborah and Bruce Robinson

Robin and Dennis Walsh

**UNDERWRITERS**

Mr. George Thagard III—

Fontana Paper Mills

Mr. Marty Stout—

Go Roof Tune Up, Inc.

**Friends of Assistance League**

Kim Jones

Nancy LaGrew

Mary Beth Molnar

Claudia Morrett

Su-Lyn Menzies-Ortiz

Nikki Palley

Mary Ann Wagner

Assistance League of Saddleback Valley  
2009-2010 Grants

Allstate Insurance  
City of Mission Viejo

Assistance League of Saddleback Valley  
2009-2010 Donations-In-Kind

Molina Foundation  
Norman F. Murray Senior Center

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Assistance League of Saddleback Valley  
2009-2010 Community Partners

Santa Margarita Water District  
Target  
MossWarner

**Will You Make a Difference?  
Your donation will be appreciated!**

\*Enclosed is my donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*I would like to make an in-kind donation of \_\_\_\_\_ . Please contact me for pickup.

\*I would like membership information. Please have your Membership Vice President contact me.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL OR TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please make your tax deductible check payable to:  
**Assistance League of Saddleback Valley  
26111 Antonio Parkway, Suite 500  
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688**

*The chapter may publish names of donors in publications viewed by the community. Please check one of the following boxes:*

You may include only my name

You may include my name and donation

Do not include any information regarding my donation

*Assistance League of Saddleback Valley is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) volunteer service organization*



**ANNUAL REPORT  
2009--2010**

“Caring and Commitment in Action”

Mission Statement

“Assistance League of Saddleback Valley is a nonprofit volunteer organization that puts caring and commitment into action by providing services to children, families and the elderly in the Saddleback Valley Communities”

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A chapter of National Assistance League®

PRESIDENT’S LETTER  
2009-2010 Annual Report



Kris McDowell  
President

It was a pleasure and honor to have served as President of Assistance League of Saddleback Valley for the year 2009-2010. We are a group of 201 volunteers who put caring and commitment into action by helping children, seniors and families who need assistance in the Saddleback Valley. We are constantly looking to the community’s growing needs and are always open to ways to improve our organization and our philanthropic projects.

We appreciate the support from the community we serve. Our philanthropic efforts have been funded for the last 22 years by our sole major fundraiser, the Christmas

Tree Luncheon, and from grants received from our generous donors. We have NO paid employees. We work diligently to make careful and responsible choices when putting the money that we raise to work in the community. Serious attention is given to assessing our philanthropic programs and their effectiveness as we want to do our best to help as many children, seniors and families as we can in the most helpful and worthwhile ways possible.

Last year, our members gave 8,924 hours volunteering to help those in our community who needed assistance. Through our partnership with Target Stores, we were able to clothe 506 children and teens in the Saddleback and Capistrano Unified School Districts through Operation School Bell® helping to improve their self-esteem. Through our Links to Learning program, we provided grants to area teachers for educational materials totaling \$10,000 and touching the lives of over 8,500 children in the community. We delivered 1,542 meals to housebound seniors and adopted 20 needy families, providing food for Thanksgiving and Christmas, as well as gifts for the children. We assisted women and children in shelter homes through monthly donations to Laura’s House. Diapers, wipes and clothing were given to military families at Camp Pendleton through our Operation Camp Pendleton program, as well as giving over 62 bags containing items needed to take a newborn home from area hospitals through Operation Baby Love.

Our Assisteens®, made up of area teens in grades 7 through 12, gave approximately 3,600 hours to their philanthropic programs. Through their participation and help in the community, they develop a sense of community responsibility, self-reliance and leadership skills.

Assistance League of Saddleback Valley is proud to have been able to give so much to meet our community needs, but these needs are growing. Our goal is to expand and increase our philanthropic programs and we need your help. Your support is very much appreciated by all those we serve. You can rely on us to ensure the continuation of worthwhile volunteer service to the Saddleback Valley community.