

Connections

Fall 2011



Assistance League - A National Organization Celebrating the Power of the Volunteer to Evoke Positive Changes in Our Communities

Caring and Commitment In Action



We are your friends and neighbors. We provide positive assistance to our local community as volunteers of the Assistance League of Los Gatos-Saratoga.

Community volunteers selecting books for the Literacy Program

When was the last time you raised your hand, stepped in and got involved?

Established in Los Angeles in the early 1890's, Assistance League has grown into a national organization of 122 individually linked chapters with over 26,000 members who believe that a giving heart and simple, compassionate acts can make a significant difference. These volunteers live where they serve, with all funds raised by local chapters staying in those individual communities. In 2010-2011, our volunteers touched the lives of 1.2 million people nationwide.

Last year our 134 local dedicated member volunteers, including the Assisteens® auxiliary, dedicated more than 16,000 client contacts in Los Gatos, Saratoga, Campbell and San Jose communities through its philanthropic programs designed to help improve the lives of school children, seniors and young mothers.

- **18,500 volunteer hours of service**
- **88% of funds used for local programs**
- **Returned \$27,000 to schools in our local area**
- **Served over 4,800 hot lunches to seniors**

The need in our community is growing, especially with our current economic environment, and Assistance League is extending our services to meet those needs. We ask for your support to expand our outreach. Please consider how you can help transform lives by joining with Assistance League of Los Gatos-Saratoga to meet our community needs.

2010-2011

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Mission Statement

Assistance League of Los Gatos-Saratoga is a non-profit, philanthropic organization that identifies and addresses the needs within our community through caring and commitment in action.



Local Community Programs Helping Local Children

Operation School Bell® is the signature philanthropic program of Assistance League®. Designed after careful needs assessments, these programs consistently work to improve the lives of local students. This past year, children in Los Gatos, Campbell, Moreland and Luther Burbank School Districts received the following services:

LITERACY PROGRAM

*892 primary school students in 3 districts enjoyed volunteers reading quality literature in their classrooms monthly and each child took home new books of their own to encourage the love of reading.

*900 third grade students received a new English dictionary and 430 families received a Spanish-English lexicon.

Volunteers presented a lesson on use of the dictionary in partnership with the California Dictionary Project.

"The Los Gatos-Saratoga Assistance League is a remarkable organization that continues to leave its mark on the Campbell Union School District. Our community is fortunate and proud to partner with them to expand the learning experiences for our students. Their proactive approach, providing clothing and school supplies, has resulted in our students being able to fully engage in the educational program without the added anxiety of having their basic needs met." Dr. Eric Andrew, Superintendent, Campbell Union School District

CLOTHES FOR KIDS

*449 students received hand selected new jackets and a voucher for new shoes at Payless Shoe Store to warm them through the winter and to enhance their chances of school success.

SCHOLARSHIPS

*70 scholarships were awarded to students in 7 schools in 2 school districts to help them attend science camp for a week with their peers - for many students, camp was their first time away from home.

EXERCISE AND NUTRITION

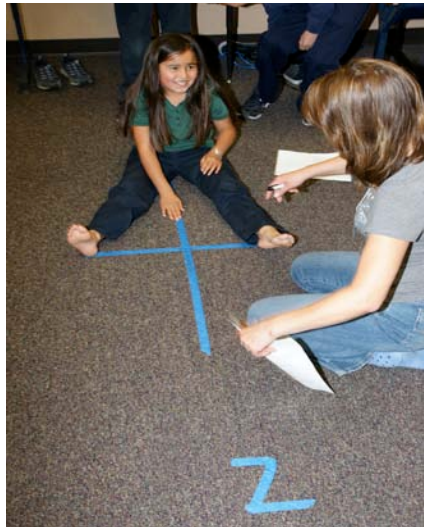
*60 fifth grade students at Luther Burbank School benefited from a weekly exercise and nutrition program, created and implemented by volunteers to help children pass the California Physical Fitness Test. Over 60% were expected to pass this year.

Assisting Families

By supporting the Santa Clara County Public Health Nurses at the East Valley Clinic, 400 new mothers and their babies were able to receive layette packages including home-made baby quilts, diapers, formula and clothes to help them toward a better start in life. In partnership with The Family Giving Tree during the holidays, members and friends of Assistance League donated gifts to children of families in need.

Enriching Senior's Lives

In Los Gatos and Saratoga, volunteers helped seniors create crafts to take home and enjoy with their families. Working in partnership with the Saratoga Adult Day Care Center, 32 volunteers planned, cooked and served hot lunches four days a week for frail, elderly adults. A total of 4,800 meals were cooked and enjoyed last year.



Why I Like Being an Assiteen

I love being an Assiteen. The Assisteens of Los Gatos-Saratoga has given me so many opportunities to work with and help members of my community. I have always liked interacting with people, and being an Assiteen has allowed me to do so. I love doing the activities where I can go and visit with the people I help. Seeing how happy my organization makes people, even if we are doing something as simple as baking cookies for senior citizens, is priceless. Being an Assiteen has helped me in many ways since

I joined three years ago. I have become more aware of the needs of my community, and my volunteer work has inspired me to pursue a career that allows me to give back in some way. I would encourage any young person to join the Assisteens. It is a great organization that provides amazing opportunities to make a difference and help their community. Because of the opportunities and experiences that I have had in this organization, I love being an Assiteen.

Emma Watson



President's Message

Assistance League of Los Gatos-Saratoga is one of 122 chapters of Assistance League, a National nonprofit organization that addresses needs in our local communities and meets them with caring and commitment. In the past year, our members volunteered 18,500 hours in our Philanthropic Programs serving 16,000 clients in Los Gatos, Saratoga, Campbell and West San Jose, helping to improve the lives of school children, seniors and young families.

I am proud and happy to be a part of Assistance League and to contribute to my community. Please, consider joining our chapter to donate your time and talents. I can assure you a feeling of great satisfaction for the time you spend and the great friends you will make.

Barbara Muse, President,
Assistance League of Los Gatos-Saratoga

The Power of a Generous Heart! **HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

We are able to continually increase our contributions to the community when we receive additional funding. Assistance League is able to stretch your dollars by pooling donations and volunteer resources.

- *\$500 helps send five students to curriculum based science camp
- *\$250 provides diapers and formula for ten new mothers and their babies
- *\$100 buys a warm jacket or shoes for four children this coming winter
- *\$30 buys 10 dictionaries for third graders

TO DONATE OR HELP, PLEASE CALL 408-278-5300
OR GO TO: www.allgs.org.



Assistance League

Los Gatos-Saratoga Chapter
 P.O. Box 320455
 Los Gatos, CA 95032

Partners Make the Difference!

Assistance League Financials

Assistance League is designated as an IRS 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization.
 Our nonprofit Tax ID number is 77-0554406.

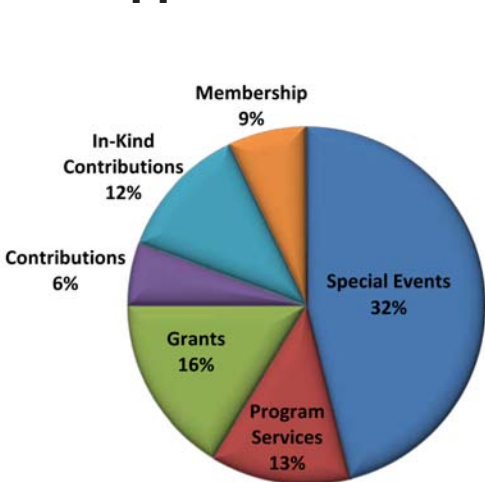
Where Do Our Funds Come From?

We raise funds through donations, special fundraising events, grants and direct mail.

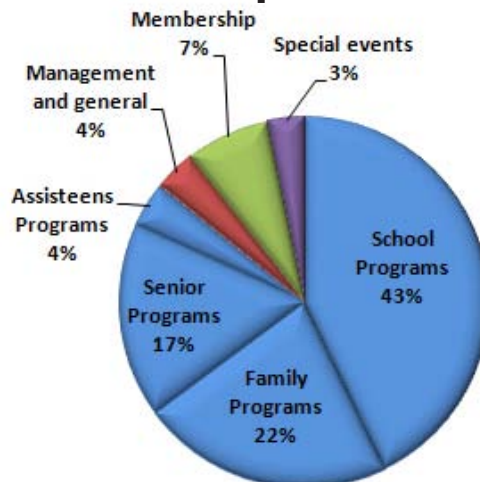
How Do We Use Donations?

In 2010-2011 fiscal year, our chapter returned 88% of the \$82,835 raised in our community.
 Refer to the charts below for the details.

Support and Revenue



Expenses



You Can Make Big Things Happen!

For more information about joining our organization or to support any of these programs, please call 408-278-5300 or go to our web site at www.allgls.org. **We look forward to hearing from you.**

Thank You to our donors
We appreciate your generosity and support!

- De Anza Kiwanis
- Duff Thrasher Memorial Fund
- Farrington Historical Foundation
- Intero Foundation
- Los Gatos Community Foundation
- Los Gatos Kiwanis
- Rock Bottom Foundation
- Saint Andrew's Foundation
- Saratoga Rotary
- Silicon Valley Charitable Foundation
- Target