



## Assistance League® of Klamath Basin 2019 - 2020 Annual Report – Philanthropic Programs and Finance

This year, 2019-20, is the 34<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Assistance League of Klamath Basin. We are incredibly grateful for all the generous donors and community support which has helped our organization transform lives of children and adults throughout the Klamath Basin. We are associated with the National Assistance League® with 120 chapters located in 26 states and 23,000 member volunteers nationwide, all making a commitment in their communities to make a difference.

The Assistance League of Klamath Basin has achieved “Gold level statue” on Candid once again this year. We feel immensely proud to have this status and know it will help potential donors find out about our nonprofit organization. We also have become a Better Business Bureau Accredited Charity. We are dedicated to BBB’s 20 Standards for Charity Accountability. This, too, is another way for potential donors to find out about our nonprofit organization.

This fiscal year, 2019-20, the COVID-19 Virus resulted in having to close our quality used furniture store, Findables, for approximately 3 months. Our very committed and dedicated group of volunteers worked hard to still achieve our philanthropic goals and prepare for the eventual reopening of Findables. Being an all-volunteer organization, it takes many helping hands to achieve our goals of helping children and making a difference in the community.

Thank you so much for your support and generosity. We could not achieve what we do without you.

Sincerely, Leslie Wilkenson, President, 2019-20

### **Philanthropic Programs**

**Operation School Bell®** (OSB) is our primary philanthropic program. Its purpose is to provide new school appropriate clothing for children in need of clothing in the Klamath Basin including Tulelake, California. Our mission is to promote learning, school attendance and self-worth of children.

Operation School Bell is divided into two programs: (1) Instore Shopping Events, and (2) Clothing Certificates. The students are selected by school personnel.

The Instore Shopping Events involve designated elementary schools. The students, accompanied by parents, shop for new clothes/shoes on scheduled nights in September and October at the Fred Meyer Store. The remaining schools not participating in the Shopping Events are included in the Clothing Certificate Program which involves the K-12 grade students in the Klamath Basin, including Tulelake. Students issued clothing certificates use them at the Fred Meyer Store.

In 2019-20, a total of 950 students participated in the shopping event or received clothing certificates. In addition, they were given hygiene kits, hand-knit winter hats, gloves and scarves. Each elementary student was able to spend up to \$115.00. Middle/high school students spent up to \$120.00.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff at the Fred Meyer Store who has been very supportive and dedicated in helping make these Operation School Bell programs successful.

This is the second year Operation School Bell was involved in the Stearns Elementary School’s program entitled “Active Shoes = Active Bodies.” It was established by Brandon Powell, Physical Education Teacher, to provide quality athletic shoes for its students with the goal of improving participation during physical education class and increasing the amount of physical activity students engage in daily as well as helping with their self-worth.

The teachers work with the students to select attainable goals to “earn” a \$40.00 shoe certificate. The Assistance League raises money to pay for these certificates used at the Big 5 Sporting Goods Store who, in turn, makes sure these students get quality shoes at a low price.

**Graduation Clothing Certificates** were sent to eleven high schools: Bonanza, Chiloquin, EagleRidge Charter, Falcon Heights Academy, Gilchrist, Henley, Klamath Institute, Klamath Union, Lost River, Mazama, and Tulelake. Each school received two \$100.00 clothing certificates except for Klamath Union High School whose number is doubled because of the closing of Link River High School in 2014 and the students were transferred to Klamath Union High School.

These graduating students are selected by school counselors using the criteria that these students have demonstrated an effort in being a good student and citizen, and are also in need of financial assistance in purchasing clothing for graduation. The new clothing can also be used when searching for employment.

**Citizens for Safe Schools (CFSS):** This is the second year that students (K-12) who participate in the CFSS program were added to our Operation School Bell Program. School counselors refer students to CFSS when it is determined they are at risk and need help. CFSS is a nonprofit organization and its goals are to create safe and drug free communities and children in good character. Students are placed one-to-one with a responsible adult mentor.

**Project USA:** We coordinate with elementary schools to paint large maps (38’ x 24’) of the USA on school playgrounds for educational purposes. We provide the map stencil, paint, and equipment. Painting is done by volunteers such as chapter members, students, parents, school staff and businesses.

**Families in Crisis Program:** Exodus House has been included as one of our philanthropic programs. It is part of Intregal Youth Services (IYS). It is a temporary shelter for students ages 7 to 17 who are either homeless, runaways, waiting for foster care homes, or on probation.

**Award-Winning Books:** This is part of our Operation School Bell program. Each year these books are distributed to all elementary, middle and high school libraries in the Klamath Basin and Tulelake. The elementary schools received the Newbery Award and the Caldecott Award. Middle and high schools receive books selected by the Young Readers Choice and Pacific Northwest Library Association. These books are also given to the Klamath County Libraries, Exodus House and Marta’s House. It is our hope that children will find these books a source of enjoyment and will help instill in them a love of reading for their lifetime.

**Legacy for Literacy Day:** Each year we participate in the National Assistance League’s literacy program titled Legacy of Literacy Day. It involves all 120 Assistance League Chapters throughout the country. This year, our chapter partnered with the Friends of the Klamath County Library and participated in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. This program entails sending a child a new book every month until their fifth birthday.

*Note: Our philanthropic programs are fully funded and managed by the Assistance League of Klamath Basin. Members volunteer their time during fundraising events, Findables Store, and Operation School Bell events. All chapter members are volunteers. There is no paid staff.*

## **Finance**

**Fundraising:** Funds are raised through grants, donations, estate sales, special event fundraisers e.g. the Silver Tea, the Christmas Tree Jubilee, and our Findables Used Furniture and Home Décor Store (which operates with consignments and donations). No funding is received from the National Assistance League. All funds raised are spent in the Klamath Basin.

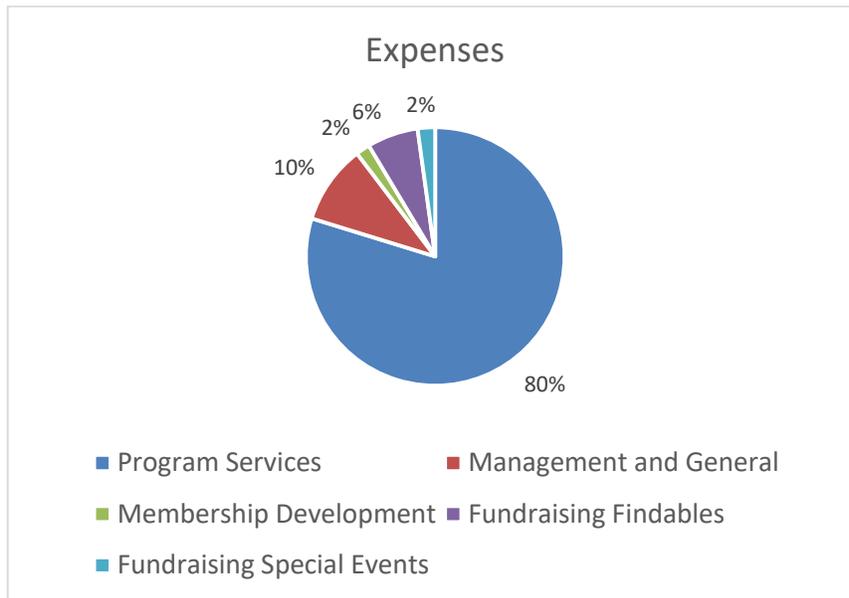
**Financial Summary:** We are dedicated to integrity in our financial management and careful stewardship of donated and granted funds. To that end, a local CPA performs a yearly financial review. Our fiscal year is June 1 - May 31.

The following financial information is provided from the CPA Review Report from June 1, 2019, to May 31, 2020.

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

<u>Support and Revenue</u>		<u>Expenses</u>	
Fundraising	\$ 82,503	Program Services	\$ 130,413
Donations	\$ 64,708		
Grant Income	\$ 5,000	<u>Support Services</u>	
Non-Cash Donations	\$ 2,128	Management & General	\$ 16,198
Member Dues/Activities	\$ 6,225	Membership Development	\$ 2,875
Interest/Other Income	\$ 3,660	Fundraising Findables	\$ 10,455
	\$ 164,224	Fundraising Special Events	\$ 3,569
			\$ 33,097
		Total Expenses:	\$ 163,510
Changes in Assets	\$ 714		
Net Assets, Beginning Year	\$ 561,420		
Net Assets, Year End	\$ 532,134		

80% of total expenses were spent on Philanthropic Programs as shown in the following chart:



**MoreAbout Us**

**Who We Are:**

Assistance League of Klamath Basin is an all-volunteer organization serving children and adults in the Klamath Basin. Our members contribute in many ways *from* hours spent on philanthropic programs *to* fundraising efforts in support of those programs *to* administrative duties behind the scenes.

We are an organization of caring committed people who form friendships while working together for a common purpose of helping meet the needs of our community in a meaningful way. As a 501(c) (3) nonprofit corporation, we are part of a national organization that has provided clothing to more than two million children in the United States.

**Mission Statement:**

Assistance League volunteers transforming the lives of children through community programs.

**Our Vision:**

Essential needs are met in our community and families flourish.

**Core Values:**

Assistance League has always recognized the dedication and talents of our volunteers engaged in putting caring and commitment into action in our community. There are five core values that focus members on priorities and actions. They are commitment, ethics, leadership, accountability, and respect.

**National Assistance League®:**

Our local chapter enjoys a strong relationship with the National Assistance League, an umbrella organization for 120 local chapters located in 26 states with 23,000 volunteers nationwide providing over 3.2 million hours of volunteer service annually. The National Assistance League was founded in 1935 and is dedicated in building effective chapters nationwide through education, inspiration and support, and empowers its chapters to focus on meeting local needs. National enables chapters to effectively lead by providing administrative, legal and operational guidance.

2019-20  
Assistance League of  
Klamath Basin Board Members



*Left to Right: Linda Hartenberger, Merlaine Zwartverwer, Marla Miller, Denny Jamarck, Dorene Ridgway, Julianne Barrett, Sally-Ann Palcovich, and Leslie Wilkenson*

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|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| President                         | Leslie Wilkenson     |
| Vice President Strategic Planning | Sally-Ann Palcovich  |
| V.P. Marketing/Communications     | Merlaine Zwartverwer |
| V.P. Membership                   | Denny Jamarck        |
| V.P. Philanthropic Programs       | Linda Hartenberger   |
| V.P. Resource Development         | Dorene Ridgway       |
| Treasurer                         | Marla Miller         |
| Recording Secretary               | Julianne Barrett     |

***How You Can Help:***

- Make a contribution.
- Become a member.
  - Donate your time.
  - Shop at Findables Store.
  - Donate or consign furniture/home décor items.
  - Participate in fundraising events, e.g. the Christmas Tree Jubilee.



Leslie Wilkenson helping a young student check in during the InStore Shopping Event held at the Fred Meyer Store



Three brothers showing off new hand knit hats they received during the Instore Shopping Event.

Annual Report Prepared January, 2021, by Leslie Wilkenson, Marla Miller and Linda Hartenberger