

History of Assistance League® of Long Beach

Assistance League® was formed in 1935 and is now comprised of more than 120 chapters nationwide. It is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) corporation whose volunteer members administer and staff philanthropic programs that serve specific needs of local communities.

Assistance League of Long Beach is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation whose purpose is to create a community of volunteers to identify and deliver philanthropic services. With over 900 members, Assistance League of Long Beach is the largest chapter of Assistance League.

Assistance League of Long Beach has provided more than 69 years of dedicated service to the Long Beach community. The auxiliaries of Assistance League of Long Beach (***Rick Rackers, Las Hermanas, CAMEO, and Assisteens®***) combine with chapter members to create the dynamic “community of volunteers” that is the lifeblood of the organization.

Primary programs include providing orthodontic care and new school uniforms for economically disadvantaged children; scholarships for deserving California State University, Long Beach, and Long Beach City College students; school tours of the Howard Collection; and The Kids on the Block™ puppet presentations.

Philanthropic Programs

ALa Carte: Creative art and entertainment activities are brought to the bedsides of young patients at Miller Children’s Hospital.

Assault Survivor Kits®: Las Hermanas Auxiliary volunteers provide “wear home” clothes to survivors of sexual assault when police keep their clothing as evidence.

Howard Collection: Through a trust acquired in 1948, this museum-quality Asian art collection continues to inspire and educate school children and adults. Last year, more than 1,200 students participated in this exciting tour with its accompanying *manga* comic book.

The Kids on the Block™: Children and seniors enjoy educational puppet programs addressing social, behavioral, and cultural concerns. Volunteer puppeteers performed over 50 shows this past year to 8,000 children and adults.

Mentoring: CAMEO Professional Auxiliary members mentor promising high school and Long Beach City College students.

New Life Beginnings: Assisteens Auxiliary members provide goods and services for a long-term homeless shelter for young mothers and their children.

Operation Hug: Assisteens Auxiliary members provide teddy bears for children in trauma in partnership with the Long Beach Fire Department.

Operation School Bell®: Founded by Rick Rackers in 1974, Operation School Bell provides school uniforms to over 7,000 Long Beach Unified School District students in grades K through 12. In partnership with Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD), our goal is to provide complete uniforms to 10,000 students annually by the year 2011.

Orthodontic Program: Founded in 1969, the Orthodontic Program provides high-quality, low-cost care to children in the Long Beach area. Currently, we serve nearly 700 children a month.

Scholarships: Academic scholarships are awarded annually to students at California State University, Long Beach, and Long Beach City College. Funds are also given annually to supplement Long Beach middle school music programs.

Thrift and Vintage Shop: Located at 2100 E. 4th Street in Long Beach is a showcase Thrift Shop staffed by hard working volunteers and one paid manager. The Thrift Shop continues to be our chapter's major fundraising source for our philanthropic programs. Donations are tax-deductible and are gratefully accepted.

For more information on Assistance League of Long Beach, please visit our website at www.allb.org or call (562) 627-5650.

