



President's Message



2017 marks Assistance League of Long Beach's 77th year of service to the children and adults of Long Beach and the surrounding communities. I am humbled to have been chosen to be president of an organization that does so much good for so many people. I follow in the footsteps of many talented women who have served as President of Assistance League of Long Beach.

I have chosen my theme "Beautiful Hearts Inspire Others" to celebrate our members' commitment to our mission. Chapter members and the four auxiliaries – Rick Rackers, CAMEO, Las Hermanas, and Assisteens – are dedicated to assessing community needs and directing our services to benefit the community.

Nearly 850 members volunteer their time and talents to 10 philanthropic programs that have a positive impact on our community. We delight at the faces of the nearly 9,000 children we clothe for Operation School Bell; the smiles of the 1,000 children who are in various stages of orthodontic treatment at the Earl B. and Lorraine H. Miller Foundation Orthodontic Center; and the successes of the students in our Mentoring Program.

I invite you to explore our website for more information about other programs, such as Assault Survivor Kits[®], which provides clothing, hygiene kits, and a sense of dignity for women, men, or children who are survivors of domestic violence, and our Operation Cuddles program that gives children in crisis a teddy bear and blanket to comfort them when they arrive at a shelter, often in the middle of the night. Our Philanthropic Center houses the Howard and Asian Arts Collection, which is toured by 7th grade world history in the Long Beach Unified School District. Other programs include ALa Carte, The Kids on the Block[™], and Scholarships.

We are fortunate to have the support of the community through financial donations from grantors, foundations, corporate partners, and our wonderful members. The Thrift & Vintage Shop on 4th Street's Retro Row not only provides funding for our operations, but it serves those with a need for gently-used clothing and household goods. We thank you, our community, for your support of our programs and for making a difference in someone's life.

Patti Brown