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A Chapter of National Assistance League

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Community Newsletter Assistance League of Inland North County Summer 2008

Assistance League Grants \$77,500 in Scholarship Funds to Students from Four Area Schools

During graduation ceremonies at San Pasqual Academy—a residential high school for foster teens—10 graduating seniors received scholarships from Assistance League of Inland North County totaling \$28,500. According to Karen Warburton, chairman of the Scholarships and Grants Program, many of the graduates receiving scholarship funds for continuing their educations are the first high school graduates in their families. During the application process, many scholarship applicants expressed that education is an important opportunity for them to better their lives. Scholarship recipients will be attending either community colleges or four-year college programs. This is the third year that graduates of San Pasqual Academy have been awarded scholarships from the chapter.

This year's program has been expanded to provide scholarships to students attending other area schools who are interested in pursuing careers in the health field. At Orange Glen High School's Honors Award Ceremony in Escondido, five scholarships totaling \$7,500 were presented to graduating seniors Ji-Hye Hong, Ivan Martinez, Juana Mendoza, Bashar Toma and Daniel Varela by Assistance League Scholarship Program committee members Gloria Tecca and Karen Warburton. (Pictured right)



Scholarship funds in the amount of \$40,000 have also been donated to the Foundation at California State San Marcos and the Palomar College Foundation to provide financial support to students currently enrolled in nursing programs at the two institutions. The applicants for these funds have shown a high level of professionalism throughout their training program with excellent academic credentials. Recipients are beginning the final semester of their training.

By targeting the grants to students pursuing careers in the health field, the chapter hopes to help address the critical shortage of skilled nurses in area hospitals.

Funds for this program are provided by our generous donors and from the net proceeds of sales at the Assistance League Thrift Shop at 2068 E. Valley Parkway, Escondido, which is operated by an all-volunteer staff.

Volunteers Making A Difference

Community Newsletter of Assistance League of Inland North County Summer 2008

Community Newsletter Available On-Line at
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If you would prefer reading the Newsletter at the chapter's website, go to Assistanceleague.info and click on the "contact us" page so we can remove your name and address from our mailing list.

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Donations are tax-deductible and gratefully accepted.

Members give over 10,500 hours each year managing and staffing the Thrift and Consignment Shop. There are no paid employees.
Tax ID #95-3768372



Assistance League
of Inland North County
Thrift and Consignment Shop
2068 E. Valley Pkwy
Escondido, CA 92027
(760) 746-7532

Volunteers Making A Difference

**A Message from Suzy Soppet,
President**

This past year has seen the growth of all six of our philanthropic programs as we expand our services to more schools and other charitable institutions within our community. Our newest program, Scholarships and Grants, will allow many deserving students to pursue their dream of a college education. Our members have worked tirelessly to ensure that all of our programs continue to grow and thrive.

A major source of funding for all of our programs is the Assistance League Thrift Store. We appreciate your donating items to help us maintain the high quality and variety of merchandise that we offer at the store.



We also rely on your support of our annual fundraisers. This year we will have a dinner theater evening in November at the Lawrence Welk Resort and hold our Second Annual Pro-Am Golf Tournament in late March. Last year's tournament was a resounding success. We hope you will join us in supporting these special events. You would have a wonderful time!

Suzy Soppet

Your generous support of Assistance League of Inland North County makes the following services possible:

Operation School Bell - Dressing Up Our Future

Hug-A-Bear - Bears for Traumatized Children

Ready...Set...Read! - Motivating Children to Read

Baby Real Deal - Deterring Teen Pregnancies

Operation Duffel Bags - Support for Foster Teen Graduates

Scholarships and Grants Program

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**PROGRAM YEAR 2007-2008
Making a Difference in the lives of Over 4,000 Inland North County Residents**

**Operation School Bell Dresses 1,612 Area School Children
Serving 70 Elementary Schools, 6 High Schools, and Camp Pendleton Families**

Over \$127,000 was spent to provide area children with new school clothing and supplies. A rapid response system was established for families who lost homes and possessions during the wildfires. In addition to participating with other Assistance League chapters to provide for military service families at Camp Pendleton, the program was extended to Valley High School in Escondido.

**Baby Real Deal Provides Realistic Experiences in Child Care
For 1,380 High School Students**

In addition to the existing programs in area high schools, new infant simulators were made available to teachers of 8th grade science in Hidden Valley Middle School. The chapter made arrangements for a professional trainer from Reality Works to work with teachers new to the program. Assistance League volunteers presented classes to high school students, demonstrating the effects of shaking a baby and prenatal drug and alcohol abuse.



Ready...Set...Read! Encourages over 1,300 Area Students in their Reading

During the 2007-2008 school year, 17 Assistance League volunteers worked with 160 students in grades one, two and three, providing weekly classroom assistance in the Accelerated Reader Program. At the end of the school year, these students were presented with two new books for their summer reading. In March, children's author Lee Wardlaw visited Juniper and Conway Schools. Over 1,200 students were inspired and encouraged in their reading as they participated in a reader's theater program led by Ms. Wardlaw. Children's author Jeff Savage is scheduled to visit four area schools during the next school year.



Operation Duffel Bags Honors Graduating Foster Teens

On June 19, 27 students graduating from San Pasqual Academy—a residential high school for foster teens—received duffel bags packed with blankets, sheets, towels, toiletries, phone cards, first aid kits, cameras and other items. This year, in addition to the duffel bags, each student received a George Foreman Grill and a toaster. The value of the contents of each bag exceeded \$600. The duffel bags help the graduates as they leave their residential setting to begin their lives as either college students, members of the military or workers in the community.

Hug-A-Bear—Providing Comfort to Children and Adults

This year over 600 stuffed bears were distributed to 7 area organizations to provide comfort to children and adults in distress. Next year, the bears will be made available to and distributed by the Escondido Fire and Police Departments, Palomar Medical Center, Hidden Valley House, Salvation Army Family Services, Interfaith Community Services, Escondido Humane Society and the Animal Emergency Clinic of San Diego.