

Bargains' Community Waste Not Partners



Bargains is often called the nicest thrift shop in Tulsa and a short walk around the store quickly confirms this sentiment. Daily, the donations team is amazed at the quantity and quality of our donations coupled with the incredible generosity of the Tulsa community. The Bargain's donation department is a constant source of furniture, artwork, home décor, linens, men's, women's and children's clothing and shoes, ladies designer apparel, jewelry, handbags, holiday items, and books etc. AL Tulsa members who volunteer in this area sort, organize and distribute incoming donations to the various Bargains department sorting tables. Each department then performs their own quality assurance and sets a price for each of their items. Sometimes the quality or condition of a donation does not meet the high standard that sets Bargains Thrift Shop apart from other Tulsa area thrift stores. The donations department then makes a

determination as to which community Waste-Not partner will receive the various items not suitable for sale in the store. We are so fortunate to partner with non-profit and community agencies who welcome our discards! The following is a list of our Waste Not partners, the populations they serve and items they request:

- ◆ PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly): Homebound clients receive services through LIFE Senior Services. *Comfortable men and women's clothing, adult diapers, calendars*
- ◆ FOSTERING CONNECTIONS: Children 0-18 years of age in the foster care system. *Infant equipment and clothing, boys and girls clothing sizes 2T-20, teen clothing XS-XL*
- ◆ BLUE STAR MOTHERS: Packages for soldiers serving overseas. *Paperback books, CDs, DVDs, Greeting and Christmas cards upon request*
- ◆ MUDDY PAWS: Dog grooming training program for women released from Oklahoma Department of Corrections. *Scrubs and towels*
- ◆ ANIMAL AID: Thrift store that supports animal rescue groups in Tulsa. *Dog and Cat themed items. Dog and cat collars, leashes, bowls etc.*
- ◆ PAMELA SMITH PROGRAM: Re-entry program for women exiting the Oklahoma prison system *Women's clothing, shoes, handbags, toiletry items*
- ◆ EL CENTRO: New sanctuary empowerment program for undocumented Tulsa residents. *Women's and men's clothing, sheets and comforters, towels and other household items.*

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2022 - 2023**

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CHANGE THE WORLD



WITH A GIVING HEART

**National
Philanthropy Day®**

**AL Tulsa Awarded:
Outstanding Philanthropist Organization**

Each year the Association of Fundraising Professionals, Eastern Oklahoma Chapter hosts its National Philanthropy Day awards, celebrating those individuals and organizations making an impact in the Tulsa philanthropic community. Assistance League® Tulsa has been selected as this year's winner of **Outstanding Philanthropist Organization**. This award will be presented to us at a luncheon hosted on November 18. This recognition is all due to the hard work and passion of our wonderful volunteers to help transform the lives of children and adults by dedicating their time and energy to the various community programs we support.

Assistance League® Tulsa Advisory Council

Ken Busby
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*It's astonishing in this world how things don't turn out at all
the way you expect them to.
~ Agatha Christie*

Probably every day of our lives, a plan goes awry. We generally assume we have all things under control and know exactly how things will unfold...but such is not always the case!! Here are just a few highlights of some recent changes:

Operation School Bell®. We are so excited to host the children in our building again to pick out their new clothing items, shoes, and books. With OSB's new inventory system, developed and managed by Kay Quinton, we've made some adjustments to our procedures and how we record items we distribute. Marianne Pickering (OSB chair), Pam Glenn (OSB buyer) and Julie Burton (OSB shoes) held training classes every day for a couple of weeks to prepare the day chairs and dressers of the new changes and procedures. We are also working with the schools on a new Personal Care Closet. More details will be forthcoming on this.

Letter Campaign: Is AL Tulsa's only annual fundraiser for Operation School Bell and helps provide clothing and essential items to students in need from Pre-K to grade 12 throughout the Tulsa area. The chairs for this program are Sussie Hyden and Lynne Hoe. New this year is the email that each member recently received which included a link to our secure website that allows them to donate directly by credit card. I'm pleased to report that many immediately used this convenient way of donating. With the new Donor Perfect system that was implemented earlier this year, thank you letters are generated immediately and emailed back to them and a record of this transaction is recorded in our system for easy tracking of monies. In the next week or so, letters will then be mailed to our generous community supporters, our Advisory Council, and potential new donors. Please let us know of any names and addresses you might like to add to our distribution list.

Weekly Update: We announced back in June that we would start publishing the newsletter bi-monthly. In order to keep everyone updated on current business, we decided to send out a weekly update to our members. With our new Constant Contact system implemented earlier this year, President-elect Brenda Dinan, will be emailing **"this week at the League"** giving everyone an update on committee meetings, upcoming events, member care and concern information, and birthdays. This notice will be emailed to you every Monday morning. Please email preselect@altulsa.org with any news updates you have.

Mentoring Program: Sherry Bowen, Orientation chair, is developing a new mentoring program to help new members get acquainted with all the programs and services of ALT and getting involved by working one-on-one with a current member. We want the new members to feel welcome and excited to be a part of this wonderful organization.

I'm so very proud of the way the members of ALT have come together and adapted to the many changes and challenges we face daily. We are always working on ways to keep everyone informed and involved.



2022 - 2023 Letter Campaign

AL Tulsa members donate their valuable time and talents.

Why also make a monetary gift?

A frequent question on grant applications asks

"What percentage of your members support your organization financially?"

The logic: *Why should we give you money, if your members don't?*

Your gift, IN ANY AMOUNT, brings us closer to our 100% participation goal.

- ◆ **CHRIST FOR HUMANITY:** Provides Emergency Assistance and aid to both disadvantaged and medically fragile Tulsans. *Bibles, medical supplies and equipment, clothing, basic household items, furniture etc.*
- ◆ **FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES:** AL Tulsa's provides donations to three F&CS programs:
 - Women in Recovery - downtown location:** Intensive outpatient alternative for eligible women facing long prison sentences. Many of them have children who are placed with relatives or in foster care. *Work clothing for women, closed toe shoes, purses, household items, sheets, towels, comforters, unopened toiletries, etc.*
 - Mental Health Independent Living program - Legacy Plaza location:** *Men's clothing, basic household items, small kitchen appliances, sheets, towels and bicycles*
 - Resource Room - Crisis Outreach - Harvard Ave location:** *Men's and women's seasonally appropriate clothing, shoes and outerwear. Most clients accessing this resource are homeless*
- ◆ **PENCIL BOX:** Free school supply resource for Tulsa County K-12th grade teachers where 70% or more of the students attending school are living at or below the Federal Poverty Level. *Pencils, pens, markers, glue, folders & crayons, construction, notebook and copy paper, bulletin board supplies, grade level workbooks, text books, etc.*
- ◆ **THE RESTORE - Habitat for Humanity:** Non-profit donation and home improvement store. *Building materials, overhead lighting, framed pictures, draperies & blinds, holiday decorations*
- ◆ **KAPPA KAPPA IOTA:** National Teacher's organization that promotes the advancement of education. Among their local programs this group holds birthday and holiday parties for homeless families housed at the Tulsa County Emergency Shelter. *Party paper products and supplies, unopened happy meal toys, new toys, wrapping paper*
- ◆ **501 TECH:** Nonprofit technology company that services and installs computer for non-profits groups. *Picks up and recycles obsolete or unusable electronic equipment*
- ◆ **PROJECT ELF:** Provides school uniforms, clothing and shoes to in-need Tulsa area students in grades K-12. Individual referrals come from school counselors and volunteers deliver clothing to the school. *Gently used navy and/or khaki uniform skirts, pants, and jumpers, polo's in all colors, athletic shoes*
- ◆ **GRAND ADDICTION RECOVERY CENTER:** Drug and alcohol rehabilitation center focusing on substance abuse treatment services. *Donations are requested by Grand staff on an as needs basis. Currently they are in need of adult men and women's underwear and socks*
- ◆ **THEATRE TULSA:** Locally produced musical theatre company staging 6 productions a year for adults and children. Share their costume closet with other local theatre productions. *Vintage Clothing, Period and Adult costumes, hats, wigs, tap, spike and dance shoes, prom gowns and anything crazy or outlandish a theatre might use for a future production.*
- ◆ **GREEN VISION RECYCLING:** Committed to keeping textiles out of landfills by recycling clothing and shoes. *Out of style but wearable clothing and shoes that are bailed for 3rd world countries. Clothing sent to Green Vision are unsuitable and/or impractical for the populations served by our resource partners. Bi monthly pickup*
- ◆ **QUALITY RAGS:** Bi Monthly pick up of soiled, stained, torn or worn out cotton clothing that is durable and absorbent enough to be made into rags. *Some clothing we receive is in such poor condition that it should not be passed on to another charity.*
- ◆ **RISING VILLAGE SEWING MINISTRY - South Tulsa Baptist Church:** Gives local Refugee women the opportunity to learn the skill of sewing through project based guidance. *Fabrics and notions as well as head scarves for projects or to be used as a hijab*

- ◆ **MARKET AT PEARL - Children's Medical Charities:** Like Bargains, this thrift store staffed and operated by volunteers. 100% of their profits benefit non-profit charitable organizations helping children in the Tulsa area. *Out of season better women's clothing and shoes that Bargains cannot keep because of lack of storage space.*
- ◆ **MEMORIAL DRIVE CHURCH OF CHRIST:** Clothing Closet and Food Bank open to public and congregation. *Household items, men and women's clothing and shoes*

Assistance League Tulsa / Bargains Thrift Shop is proud to partner with these community nonprofit organizations!

~ Maura Browne, Waste Not chair

Community Action Programs



The STEM Committee is humming! In August, 22 members assembled 392 straw rockets activity bags. On September 13, 20 members assembled 200 stethoscopes and 200 straw rockets.

On September 24, 170 activities were delivered to Keystone Elementary School and 250 were delivered to Anderson Independent Elementary.



Red bags have been ordered with AL Tulsa, Assistance League, and STEM printed in white letters. STEM in a Bag activities will be delivered to teachers in these bags rather than in trash bags! Hopefully these teachers then will carry these bags outside of school to promote Assistance League in their communities.

On September 20, Pat Banzhof, Brenda Dinan, Yolanda Taylor, and myself toured the new STEM facility. We saw the new STEM Learning Lab and the STEM Shoppe where STEM activities can be checked out by teachers and then returned. We will be supporting these two areas with purchases they have requested.

Thanks to all who support our assembly lines.

~ Nancy Sacra, STEM committee chair

← Susan Crostin accepting bags of projects for her fourth grade class and for Natalie Ray, the fifth grade teacher at Anderson Independent



Ms. Veldcamp (fourth grade) and Mr. Taylor (fifth and sixth grades) receive STEM kits at Keystone Elementary. →



← Learning Lab at Tulsa Regional STEM Alliance's new facility near the Tandy Family YMCA on 51st Street.

Membership

WELCOME to all of our new members! Our first Friends Day was on Monday, September 19th.

A big Thank You to all of you who provided information for potential new members. We sent out 35 invitations, 19 invitees attended, 3 joined AL before the event and 2 joined that day. Many more plan to join at the first orientation class. Thanks also to the members of the Membership committee who provided food and help set up the OSB activity room for the event. Our President, President elect, Orientation chair and OSB chair did a great job presenting an overview of our organization and listing some the committees and volunteer opportunities that are available. May we all make our new members feel welcome and assist them in any way possible as they begin to work in our organization.

~ Debra Lockerman, VP Membership

Orientation

The Orientation committee is rolling out a combined orientation and mentoring program this fall. Twenty potential new members were invited to the first orientation session, September 28th, for a meet and greet and the opportunity to meet their mentors. The new mentors will participate in four group activities with the class of new members and help make them feel at home on a one to one basis. Orientation classes will be held one morning a week for six weeks. It's not too late if you would like to be involved. Just contact Sherry Bowen at orientation@altulsa.org.



President Pat Banzhof, Kathy Stephen, BBAEA chair and committee member Marilyn Brill met with Betty Bradstreet's daughter, Elizabeth Bradstreet Milford.

Betty Bradstreet Arts Education Awards



**The Betty Bradstreet committee will meet Monday, October 17
9:30 am -12:30 pm in the Activity Room**

Selection of Betty Bradstreet Arts Education Award recipients is the primary purpose of this meeting. Committee members will also select those awardees they will contact and the instructions for that process.

If you have questions, please contact Kathy Stephen at bettybradstreet@altulsa.org.



Students from Marshall Elementary say THANKS!

THE KIDS ARE BACK!

OSB Uniform Shirts: Two shirts per enrolled student have been delivered to 35 TPS elementary schools.

Thank you Lynne Hoe!

Personal Care Closets: Our test of bulk delivery to 8 Union schools was successful. Orders are being placed for an additional 34 TPS elementary schools with enrollments of 70% free lunch or greater. Deodorant, feminine pads, toothpaste and bar soap are being purchased from RightGift, a new vendor. AL Tulsa receives 1% back and AL Nationals gets 1%.

Thank you Loretta Raschen, Marva Carnahan and Kim Campbell!

OSB Onsite: We're excited to host children in our building again. Due to staff shortages, some schools have requested OSB fill bags from sizes provided. Thanks to our amazing Dressers, Day chairs, Desk chairs and Restock Teams, buses have departed by

noon each day! Onsite has been assisted by community volunteers from Boston Avenue Methodist Church, CAP Tulsa, Bank of America and Tulsa LINKS, Inc. OSB is also providing bags of "accident" clothing to Pre K - Kindergarten classes and selected items for elementary in-school Clothes Closets. Thank you to Vicky Campbell and Pam Glenn for coordinating these efforts!

OSB Secondary: AL liaisons are filling TPS school requests. Clothes closet distributions in August (mostly shoes) were well received. Another distribution to secondary clothes closets will be assembled during Fall Break. This will include coats, men's pants, men's underwear and t-shirts, sweatshirts, sweatpants, more shoes and other adult clothing from Onsite inventory. Thank you Donna Hickman, Marilyn Brill and all the Secondary liaisons!

OSB Offsite: Shopping events for families of qualifying students attending outlying schools are in full swing. OSB Offsite will be at two Walmart locations each Tuesday and Thursday until early November. Many thanks to Kathy Harper and the Offsite teams for helping so many families in need.

Assistance League Tulsa Scholar Awards (ALTSA): Fees for TPS students who take concurrent classes at TCC are covered by this new program. Thank you Yolanda Taylor! Watch for updates about ALTSA.

Operation School Bell® will hold morning & afternoon work sessions during Fall Break (October 17- 21) to fill boxes and bags for Secondary in-school Clothes Closets. Can you help?

Kids from Clinton West Elementary were thrilled to visit Operation School Bell®.





Assistance League® Tulsa



Operation School Bell® partnered with CAP Tulsa to provide first day of school clothing and two books for children graduating from early-childhood support services to Kindergarten. Marianne Pickering, Pat Banzhof, Pam Glenn and Brenda Dinan helped distribute the bags to excited families.

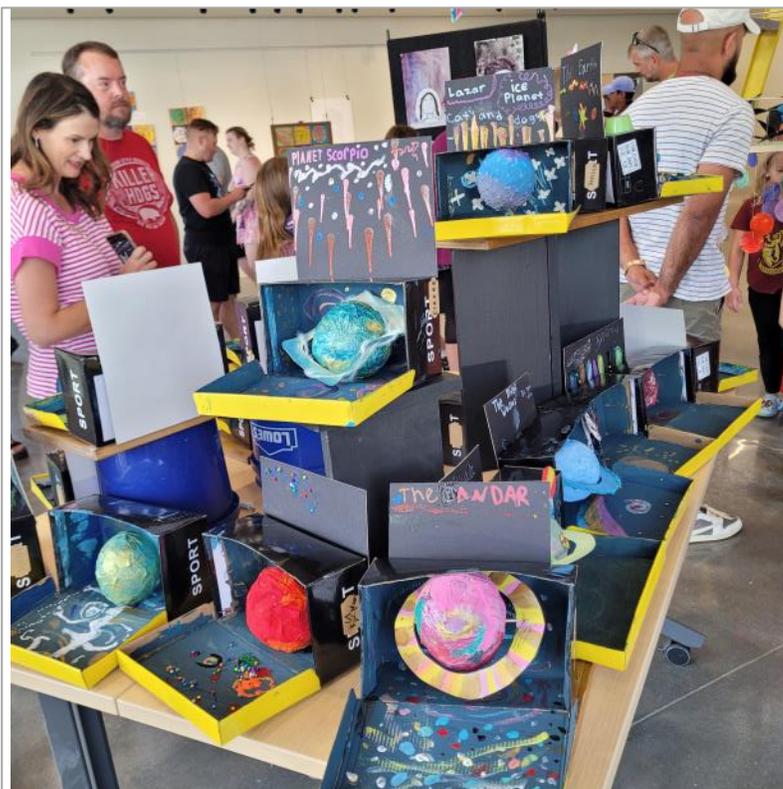


Diane Dross, Martha Nichols, Bonnie Singer, Kim Piper and other members of the OSB committee staffed a resource table for a two-day training of newly hired TPS teachers and staff. Support, treats and information about Operation School Bell®'s Onsite, Secondary and Uniform Shirt services were provided.



This summer OSB received shoes, shoes and more shoes; which meant there were a lot of shoe boxes! Rather than filling up the dumpster with them, roughly one hundred boxes were saved for Arts@302, a community art center in Broken Arrow. Here is a recent project families made with the boxes. More projects are being planned!

Credit: art pictures courtesy of Jes McCutchen
Box photos courtesy of Julie Burton



Assistance League® Tulsa thanks the following people for their generous contributions in the second half of July through the first half of September 2022.

- Sherry Bowen
In memory of Sue Leatherwood
Julie Brockmeier
In memory of Sue Leatherwood and Richard Fiocchi
Laurie Brumbaugh
In memory of Sue Leatherwood
Kate Craft Mowry
Sheryl Davis
In memory of Sue Leatherwood
Ginny and Paul Greek
In memory of Sue Leatherwood
Cathe Kehe
Hilda and Will Lupardus
In memory of Sue Leatherwood
Martie McCain
In memory of Donald Oden
Glenna and LeRoy Morrison
In memory of Sue Leatherwood and Robert McCamish
Christine Morrow
Jan Reynolds
In memory of Sue Leatherwood
Barbara and Richard Scott
Anne Waller-Neal
In memory of Ronnie Lawther and Sue Leatherwood
Sue Warner
In memory of Don Warner

Thank you for Your support

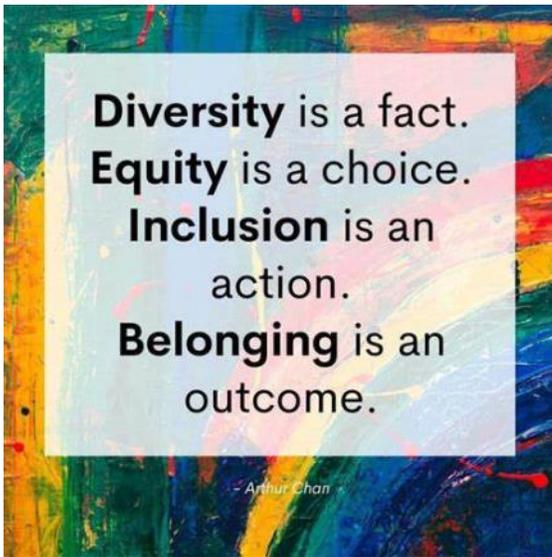
Grants Committee

The Assistance League® Tulsa has many moving parts. There are the volunteers who receive, examine, sort and cull items for our philanthropic partners and are seen going in and out of the loading dock hundreds of times a week accepting donations. There are many hands which hang, price and stock Bargains. Then there are the groups of women who wash, fold, iron in Linens, the keen eyed volunteer who gently cleans family heirlooms at Treasurer's and those who pick up, hoist, carry and transport the belongings not sold at Estate Sales. AL Tulsa is a living breathing beehive of activity! Don't think we have forgotten the hearty souls who work OSB! It would take a day to describe their activities and efforts to clothe 21,000 children a year.

Lately, you have been hearing a lot about the Grants committee at the monthly meetings. The impact of COVID has supercharged the need to bring in more money. The chair is the irrepressible Julie Brockmeier. She is known for her color coded spread sheets and golf handicap. Long time members include Phyllis Dotson, Sharon Atcheson and Loretta Raschen. Between the three of them, they know where every dollar in Tulsa is stashed and Phyllis always knows the right way to ask for it! Sharon Atcheson's keen eye helps produce tight and well written grants. Her vast vocabulary strengthens every application. Loretta Raschen's heart helps drive all we do to bring in money for the children we serve. The AL Tulsa Leadership Team are also members and provide the requisite numbers needed to justify AL Tulsa's grant requests. They review and approve every submission. New members of the Committee include Susan Foust, Sussie Hyden and Heather Smith. Susan Foust, a former librarian has extensive experience in writing grants and we are so happy to have her on the team! Each member provides input, insight and energy to the grant writer Elizabeth Hocker (who also volunteers in Linens). Like all the other teams and committees, and especially our stalwart leader Pat Banzhof, we are formidable and indefatigable!

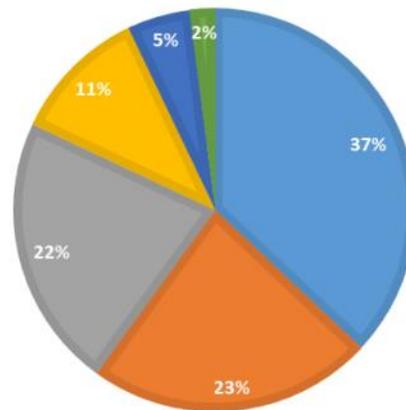
LUNCH & LEARN

Yolanda Taylor, V.P. Philanthropic Programs and AL Tulsa past-president, was our featured speaker on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. In an informative and thought provoking presentation, Yolanda discussed the demographics of Tulsans served by our programs and how AL Tulsa can take action to become a more inclusive organization for our membership and community.



TPS STUDENT ENROLLMENT 2021-2022

■ Hispanic ■ Black ■ White ■ Multiracial ■ American Indian/Native Alaskan ■ Asian/Pacific Islander



Key DEI considerations for a non-profit organization

- Begin discussions around Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- Establish relationships with other diverse organizations and create opportunities for collaboration
- Develop initiatives to recruit diverse populations into the organization
- Incorporate recruitment initiatives into Strategic Plan
- Establish anticipated outcomes

Next LUNCH & LEARN:

Civilian Response to Violent Encounters

Corporal Latif Whitsett, Tulsa Sheriff's Department

Monday, October 17 from 11:30 am –12:30 pm

Corp. Whitsett currently serves as an Assistant Team Leader on the Tulsa County SWAT Team. He created Alpha 1 Tactical LLC to give law enforcement, security, military and private civilians access to intermediate and advanced training.





Tulsa

President: Pat Banzhof
Newsletter Editor: Marianne Pickering

www.altulsa.org



Assistance League® Tulsa

A chapter of National Assistance League®

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Our Values

Commitment

showing compassion for all

Accountability

being fiscally responsible to our donors & our community

Leadership

demonstrating professionalism that is visionary & ethical

Respect

appreciating & considering others

Self-esteem

enhancing success in the people we serve

Members of Tulsa Links, Inc. volunteered at Operation School Bell helping students from John Hope Franklin Elementary select clothes and shoes.

Tulsa Links, Inc. is a TPS Community Partner supporting this school.



Linked in Friendship, Connected in Service