

ASSISTEENS

An Auxiliary of Assistance League® of Irvine



August 2021 Issue 2

Assisteens made blankets for NICU patients at the Baby Layettes event!



Coming Up

- The IVC Food Pantry Shopping & Stocking will be on Saturday, August 14.
- The OSB School Supplies assembly will be on Sunday, August 15.
- The next Farm and Food Lab will be on Saturday, August 14.
- The OSB Mask Cutting event is on Sunday, August 22

Coordinator's Message

Ms. Campbell
Assisteens Coordinator

Assisteens and their supportive parents have been busy this summer with multiple events and lots of enthusiasm. We have grown to 75 members and are planning a fall membership drive to build our middle school classes. So please get the word out about Assisteens and its many volunteer opportunities and philanthropic contributions to the community. This organization is really beneficial on so many levels!

July was a time to work outdoors and help the environment. Assisteens volunteered at OC Park's Second Sunday, watering and cleaning out undesirable vegetation in Newport's Back Bay, and picked up trash at CdM State Beach. A highlight for me was seeing so many dads volunteering alongside their teens, working at the Great Park's Farm & Food Lab. They seemed to be having a great time, and their support of Assisteens' philanthropies is very much appreciated. Speaking of support, thank you to all Assisteens families and ALI members who contributed to our Recycling Drive. Olivia Vu and crew collected and sorted over \$130 worth of bottles and cans.

The element of serving the community by helping others is what guides Assisteens. So far this summer, teens have assembled Self-Care kits for Human Options residents, who appreciate the little extras, having escaped abusive relationships. Assisteens and moms cut, sewed, and ironed baby layettes for preemies at Kaiser Permanente Hospital. It was quite an organized production, thanks to Kamryn Thongsrinoon and Jazlynn Fu, and all the volunteers who lugged sewing machines and ironing boards upstairs at the thrift shop. And finally on August 1, Assisteens packed thirty-five large boxes of home goods, mostly donated by members, and then parents carted the thoroughly stuffed boxes to help the homeless at HomeAid OC. Great job Kylie and Natalie and advisors June and Joanna!

Of course there is much more going on in August preparing for the start of school with IVC shopping and panty stocking, and Assistance League of Irvine's Operation School Bell. This year Assisteens will again be compiling school supplies and cutting and sewing masks for OSB. Be sure to regularly check your email since there are many eager volunteers who may fill the signups before you can.

Letter from the Chairman

Kahla Magbenga
Assisteens Chairman

"Hello Assisteens and parents! As we kick off the start of a new school year, please try to set aside some time for Assisteens events. It's very important that we reach the amount of hours needed by the end of the year, and you'll find that the more involved you are, the more fun you will have!

Thank you all, and I hope everyone had an amazing summer! See you all soon! "

Philanthropy

Anna Lieggi
V.C. Philanthropy

"We had a very busy summer with tons of volunteer opportunities. OC Parks had a super successful event in July and even ended early because of the large volunteer turnout! On August 1st there was a Help the Homeless event to package HomeKits for homeless people moving from the shelters to permanent living situations. This committee is also planning to sort and load boxes for the Thanksgiving food drive in November. OSB recently ordered all the supplies needed for hygiene kits and has both a school supplies assembly and a mask cutting event this month. Senior Services is also planning an event and has already gotten some of the supplies for that! Keep an eye on the calendar as more events get updated!"

"Hey Assisteens, we've had a lot of successful events this summer for our philanthropies such as Baby Layettes sewing 28 blankets for premature babies and Farm & Food Lab having almost 20 volunteers for each event at OC Park! This month, there will be a beach cleanup Tuesday, the 10th and Farm & Food Lab on August 14th, so be sure to sign up for those opportunities. Thanks!"

Natalie Fu
Assistant V.C. Philanthropy

New Members

Luna Schaffer
V.C. New Members

"Big Buddy Little Buddy:

Assistees new members have all been assigned a Big Buddy. At a new member social, big and little buddies joined together, and everyone had a lot of fun. They played games, had snacks, and everyone got to know each other. There may be another social later this month which is still to be determined.

Hours:

Please make sure to continue submitting hours for all of the events/philanthropies that you have attended. A reminder that the hours form can be found on the website under "Forms" in the Members Only tab.

New Member Training:

There have already been two successful new member trainings since June to go over the binder, the website, and how to submit hours. The next one will be on August 13 from 5-6 pm."



Membership

Sana Hamid
V.C. Membership

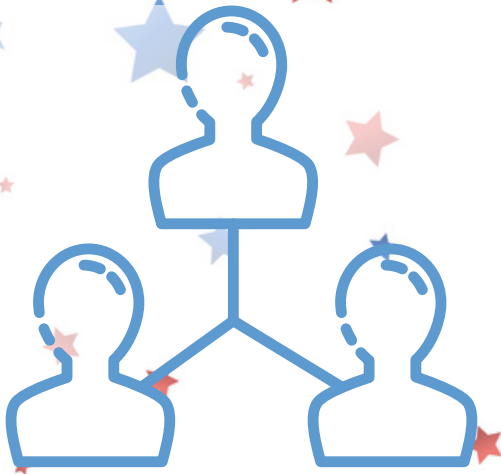
"Hope everyone is feeling ready for the start of the school year! A few updates to keep in mind from your V.C. Membership:

- Self-improvement will bring guest speakers for the September and February general meetings. Topics are still being determined, so if you have any subjects you would like to learn about, email annanlieggi@gmail.com. We'd love to hear your input!
- The Social Committee is planning an event in September, so make sure to look for more information on that soon.
- Please send photos (and name of event) to assisteenspictures@gmail.com, so that our Historian can compile this year's memories into a photo album that will grow throughout the year!"

Membership Drive

Julie Campbell
Assistees Coordinator

"Assistees Fall Membership Drive is going on now with everyone going back to school. Reach out to your friends and acquaintances and tell them about all that Assistees of Irvine does for the community and how rewarding it is to be a member. We are especially looking for middle school students to fill out our 7th and 8th grade classes. So think of friends who may have middle school brothers or sisters or are themselves in those grades. Of course, Assistees is still open to new 9th and 10th graders, but let's get the word out to the younger set. Current members and parents will soon receive flyers to post on social media and wherever other teens and their parents might take notice. We are planning an in-person Meet & Greet on Sunday, September 12."



Fundraising

Ria Kundu
V.C. Fundraising



“Hey Assisteens! Remember to sign up to help volunteer in the thrift shop to help tag and sort items since it is now open from Wednesday through Saturday from 10 am - 3:00 pm. In addition, there will be another clothing and toy drive this year, so please start collecting any unused items that you may want to donate! Keep collecting your bottles and cans to recycle, as well, and stay on the lookout for signups for the second recycling drive that will likely take place in the fall. It's an easy way to make money and help the environment at the same time!”



"Hi! Our recent event was very successful. We made 28 blankets! Thank you to everyone who came and volunteered! We are looking to have another event sometime in the fall, so be sure to look out for that."

Baby Layettes

Kamryn Thongsrinoon
and Jazlynn Fu
Baby Layettes Co-chairmen



ALI Thrift Shop

Selin Bennett
Thrift Shop Liason

"With the reopening of the ALI thrift store, Assisteens were encouraged to start signing up for Tagalong shifts. During a typical Tuesday shift, Assisteens and parent volunteers helped tag and sort donated items. With twenty-eight volunteers and 114 hours spent tagging items, it is clear that teen and parent volunteers should be recognized for their hard work. Their efforts have provided immeasurable aid in the reopening of the thrift shop. Tagalong shifts will not be available to teens soon because of school, however Assisteens are welcome to come into the thrift store as community volunteers on Saturdays to help in the back room and floor. As thrift shop liaison, I encourage anyone reading this to sign up for a shift on the Assisteens website- you'll not only get hours, but you might just find that perfect piece of clothing when you're done!"

Parliamentarian

Avlyn Singer
Parliamentarian

"Hi Assisteens, make sure you look out for updates on events coming up! Signing up and participating is a great way to become more involved with our organization, and later in the year you can apply to become a chair for the upcoming school year!"

"Hi Assisteens! We had an event on August 1st and were able to assemble 35 HomeKits, which are kits full of items to help people moving from the shelters to a more permanent living situation. These items included paper towels, detergent, bath and kitchen towels, dishes, cups, and more. We dropped off these kits at HomeAid OC, and they were so thankful for these donations! We will have more events later in the year, so look out for those. Thanks!"

Help the Homeless

Kylie Thongsrinoon and
Natalie Fu
Help the Homeless Chairmen



Farm and Food Lab Pictures





Thank you to everyone who contributed!

- Ms. Campbell
- Kahla Magbenga
- Sana Hamid
- Luna Schaffer
- Anna Lieggi
- Ria Kundu
- Avlyn Singer
- Kamryn Thongsrinoon
- Jazlynn Fu
- Natalie Fu
- Selin Bennett

Letter from the Editor

Hi Assisteens! My name is Kylie Thongsrinoon, and I am your newsletter editor this year! I can't wait to hear about all the events everyone has been participating in. If you want to include something, feel free to reach out to me at kykythongsrinoon@gmail.com