

Assistees

An Auxillary of Assistance League® of Irvine



APRIL/MAY

2020

ISSUE 8



***Matthew Blam and Katie Blam
created masks to donate to UCI.***

IMPORTANT DATES

Annual Meeting (80s Blast from the Past Presented by the 10th Grade) - May 23 (7 pm - 8:30 pm)

Governing Body & Committee Chairmen Training - May 30 (11 am - 12:30 pm)

Letter from the Coordinator: Mrs. Tuchman

No one could have ever predicted a year ago when we were preparing for the 2019-20 operational year that 12 months later we would be wrapping things up in such a strange and unfamiliar way.

Virtually all of our philanthropies, which are the hallmark of Assisteens of Irvine, are on hold. All of our meetings are done online. And all of us want to know "what's next?"

Well, I'm happy to report that our Annual Celebration Dinner will be a Zoom event at 7 pm Saturday, May 23. The 10 th grade class, the hosts of the dinner, selected an '80s theme, which is "gnarly." So get out your leg warmers, jelly shoes and Air Jordan's, and join us for some fun, games and a warm send-off to our graduating seniors.

We'll also be honoring those parents who worked tirelessly these past 12 months. And, of course, we'll be thanking the outgoing Governing Body and Committee Chairmen for their hard work and welcoming in the new leadership.

Over the next few months we'll be contacting the entities we work with, including University Park Library, Second Harvest Food Bank, Families Forward and Human Options, to name a few. Our goal will be to determine, as best as possible, how we can continue providing our volunteer services in a manner where the safety and wellbeing of our teens are paramount.

We'll also be looking into new philanthropies that meet the current and ever-changing environment. Have a suggestion? Please let me know!



Letter from the Chairman: Isha Shah

Hi everyone! I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy. I know this isn't the way any of us imagined ending our Assisteens year, but I think it's amazing the way all of us have adapted to changes and still have the same enthusiasm for the organization:) Thank you to everyone who joined our general meeting last month, and I hope to see you all tomorrow at our Virtual Annual Dinner to celebrate all our accomplishments and all of you! It's been a pleasure being your Assisteens Chairman this year, thank you to each and every single one of you!

Signing off, Isha:)



Announcements

Governing Body 2020-2021

The Governing Body Nominating Committee has chosen officers for the 2020-21 year. The new slate was voted on and approved by membership at the March general meeting! Thank you to all who applied and congratulations to our new leadership!

2019-2020 Governing Body

Chairman:

Isha Shah

VC Membership:

Isha Das

VC New Members:

Zara Hamid

VC Philanthropy:

Kathleen Overbaugh

Assistant VC Philanthropy:

Anvesha Srivastava

VC Fundraising:

Madison Weiss

Assistant Treasurer:

Katelynn Pi

Recording Secretary:

Tara Nguyen

Corresponding Secretary:

Sana Hamid

Publicity:

Luna Schaffer

Parliamentarian:

Avlyn Singer

Newsletter:

Zaina Shaik

Junior Liaison:

Katell Mehaignerie

Governing Body Feature: Luna Schaffer

What is your role as Publicity?

My role as publicity is to update the website whenever there is a new event or philanthropy coming up. The Assisteens Coordinators and I have also been working on a new website that we are hoping can go live this summer. We are all very excited about this!

Why did you want to serve as Publicity and what's your favorite part about it?

The reason why I wanted to serve as the Publicity chairperson was because I love sharing things with other people. By helping with publicity, I can promote other teens to join Assisteens and to make our family bigger. I thought by being publicity, I can also make the website easier for other Assisteens to see, and decided to take the steps to making a new website. My favorite part about serving in this position is that I know by making the new website, it will be easier for the other Assisteens that will join our organization to see events. It warms my heart that I can help those that join us in the future.

How is your role important to Assisteens?

My role is important because without this position, many people will not know which event is coming up.



What advice would you give to prospective Governing Body Members who want this role?

For those that want to be in this role, go for it! It is an amazing experience, and for those that are techy, you may be able to learn more things about website-making and more! For those that are not techy, it's okay, since I am not that techy as well! Being in Assisteens allows you to try new things, so don't waste your chances.

Governing Body Feature: Avlyn Singer

What is your role as Parliamentarian?

As Parliamentarian, I had to learn all of the rules and make sure they're all followed at all of our general and Governing Body meetings. I also send out and receive the nomination forms for the following year's Governing Body and Chairmen positions.



How is your role important to Assisteens?

My role is important to Assisteens because I work on constructing the new positions for the next year since they will be the new leaders of Assisteens.

Why did you want to be Parliamentarian and what's your favorite part about it?

I wanted to be Parliamentarian so I could be more involved in Assisteens and help out behind the scenes. My favorite part is being able to all of the other people who want to do more in this organization and helping them get there.

What advice would you give to prospective Governing Body Members who want this role?

This position requires you to be diligent when checking your emails and replying to others. You also need to be good with communication but it's not as stressful as it may seem. Congratulations to next year's Parliamentarian!

Governing Body Feature: Zaina Shaik

What is your role as Newsletter?

My role as Newsletter chairperson is to create monthly newsletters that feature members of Assisteens and the philanthropies we participate in. The newsletter also serves as a place for announcements and keeping a record of Assisteens' accomplishments.

How is your role important to Assisteens?

My role is important to Assisteens because the newsletter keeps everyone informed and lets readers get to know more about the Governing Body members and their positions as well as philanthropy chairmen and their philanthropies.



Why did you want to be Newsletter and what's your favorite part about it?

I wanted to be Newsletter chair because I've been involved with my school newspaper as an editor and wanted to be able to apply the skills I've learned there through Assisteens. My favorite part is learning about other members through their articles and interview responses.

What advice would you give to prospective Governing Body Members who want this role?

It's important to be resilient and open to article changes or restructuring as new information becomes known or if there's a need to fill in some space. Overall, creating the newsletter is super fun, and Canva is simple to use so I would encourage you to apply even if you don't have any major designing experience!

Governing Body Feature: Katell Mehaignerie

What is your role as Junior Liaison?

My role as Junior Liaison is to introduce new members of Assisteens to the wonderful organization by answering any questions they may have

How is your role important to Assisteens?

My role in Assisteens is important because joining a new activity can be intimidating, and I can help members feel comfortable in Assisteens.

Why did you want to be Junior Liason and what's your favorite part about it?

I wanted to be Junior liaison because I think it is important that there is someone to help members learn about Assisteens and the amazing work we do.

What advice would you give to prospective Governing Body Members who want this role?

Advice I would give to prospective government body members who want this role is: don't be afraid to ask questions and make everybody feel comfortable and welcomed.



Assistees Fill Food Pantry Needs

By Mrs. Michelle Tuchman

Assistees can be proud that even during State-mandated “stay at home” orders we are still meeting the needs of those we serve.

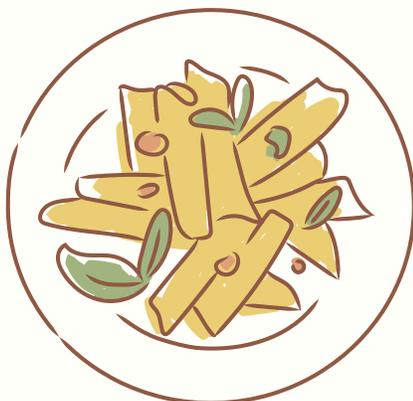
Irvine Valley College had sent several emails to the community asking for help in meeting the needs of those students facing homelessness as a result of losing their jobs. While the campus’ Food Resource Center and the need for food wasn’t specifically mentioned, a call to our campus contact confirmed a dire need.

Since we typically shop at Costco for Food Pantry supplies and Costco delivers, we placed an order for peanut butter, jam, pasta, canned tuna and snack bars. It took three attempts to get the order filled as in-store shoppers were buying these shelf-stable items at a furious pace.

But on Friday, April 24, nearly \$800 of food was delivered to IVC. And as soon as the cartons were unpacked, students were receiving the food they needed.

“We are so grateful your group is so caring to our students at IVC. We appreciate you all very much. Thanks again,” said Nancy Montgomery RN, MSN, Assistant Dean Health, Wellness and Veterans.

Yay, Assistees! You made a difference in the lives of many, many students.



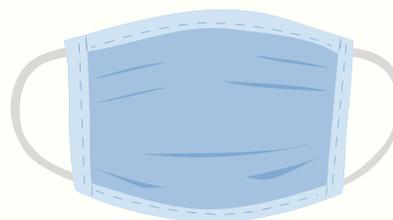
Mask Donation

By Kaitlin Blam

When the stay-at-home order went into place, my mom and I started volunteering by making cloth face masks with a Facebook group, which distributes them to various organizations in Central Orange County.

After making and donating approximately 150 masks, I became pretty decent at sewing them. I made masks to give out to the entire office at my father's work, and when a few of his co-workers asked if they could buy more, I realized that I could sell masks as a fundraiser to help people in need. I am using the funds raised to purchase food to donate and to obtain fabric to make more masks for both donations and to continue my fundraiser. The masks I am making have adjustable ear loops and are 100% cotton.

If you are interested in contributing by purchasing masks, please feel free to email me at kaitlinblam@gmail.com.



Class Highlights

Throughout the year, the 10th grade class has been planning the Annual Dinner. They learned valuable organizational skills while designing decorations and coming up with activities. This year, the theme revolves around the 80s and will take place on Zoom on Saturday, May 23 from 7 pm to 8:30 pm. There will be a trivia contest and two best dressed contests so make sure to join in!

Fundraising

Total

Fundraising Goal:
\$5,000
Money Raised So Far:
\$3,147.44

See's Candies

Boxes Sold: 685
Money Raised: \$2,932.44
Total Gross: \$10,226.30

Membership

Membership Numbers

7th Grade: 6
8th Grade: 16
9th Grade: 31
10th Grade: 20
11th Grade: 16
12th Grade: 11

Total: 100

If you know any 7th or 8th graders, please let them know about Assisteens! It's always great to have more members!





Important: Many members have not reported their hours for the year. Collecting hours is crucial for our non-profit status, so please turn them in today to teenhours@yahoo.com!

Letter from the Editor

A huge thank you to all those who contributed to this issue:

Mrs. Tuchman
Mrs. Mickelson
Isha Shah
Luna Schaffer
Avlyn Singer
Katell Mehaignerie
Kaitlin Blam
Madison Weiss
Ritika Ramnani

Hi everyone! I'm Zaina Shaik and I am the Newsletter Editor this year! I'm super thankful to have had the opportunity to feature all the wonderful things Assisteens do.

I'm glad that I got the chance to hear your stories while volunteering at philanthropies and learn about why you enjoy your position.

Thank you for taking the time to read the newsletters this past school year. I hope you enjoyed it!