

Assistance League partners with Richfield Schools

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For the first time since calling Richfield home in 2001, the Assistance League of Minneapolis/St. Paul is partnering with the Richfield School District to provide students winter clothing, school supplies and more.

"We realized that many of the very same issues we have seen in the more impoverished neighborhoods are creeping into the suburbs," said Peggy Cotter, president of the Assistance League of Minneapolis/St. Paul. "Nearly 70 percent of the students who attend Richfield schools are on free and reduced price lunch. As Richfield has been our home since 2001, when we opened our thrift shop, we decided to expand our services."

The Assistance League Thrift Shop, located at 6416 Penn Ave., helps fund the nonprofit's mission of helping people in need throughout the Twin Cities. That mission now includes donating a large quantity of snow pants and waterproof mittens to students at Richfield's four elementary schools. Also, teachers will receive classroom supplies for students who lack them.

Bolstering its work in the district, the Assistance League will invite K-12 teachers to apply for \$750 grants to fund projects beyond the standard curriculum. Teachers will learn about the new opportunities during workshops at Richfield High School Tuesday, Aug. 30.

"We hope this is just the beginning of a long and fruitful partnership with Richfield Public Schools," Cotter said.