

Below are the areas where the OLA program gave their "gifts" since the program was started at the 2000 National Convention in New Orleans, LA.

Each Mid-Winter Conference held in February had an event in the Washington, DC area.

National Conventions

2001 – Dearborn, MI 2002 - Harrisburg, PA 2003 - Spokane, WA 2004 – Irving, TX 2005 – Cleveland, OH 2006 - Quincy, MA 2007 - Albuquerque, NM 2008 – Orlando, FL 2009 - Rochester, MN 2010 – Greensboro, NC 2011 – Boise, ID 2012 – Mobile, AL 2013 - Grand Rapids, MI 2014 – Charleston, WVA 2015 - Scottsdale, AZ 2016 – Tulsa, OK 2017 - Overland Park, KS 2018 - Buffalo, NY 2019 - Billings, MT

For More Information Contact:

OperationLittleAngel@nationalmcla.org

Donations May Be Sent To:

Marine Corps League Auxiliary

> P.O. BOX 3038 Stafford, VA 22555-3038

> > 571.477.2780

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OPERATION LITTLE ANGEL©



Protecting our Future, One Angel at a Time!

Remember...

Children Are Our Future!

What is Operation Little Angel?

We can turn a blind eye, turning our backs and say, "there is nothing we can do", or we can band together and make things better by helping.

In 2000 a National President and two police officers, all members of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary (MCLA) put their heads, hearts and minds together and the *Operation Little Angel*© (OLA) program was formed. It started out small with only the idea of stuffed toys being put into police vehicles to be given to frightened children. The dream grew and today, not just toys, but clothing, food and items necessary for survival are placed in the hands of those agencies that can best serve the "*little angels*" of this land.

Sadly, there are children of all ages in this country in need of items necessary for a safe, productive and happy young life. The MCLA can, with your help, make these lives a bit brighter. The circumstances surrounding these needs were not of the children's making. Help can be given to the parent/parents to get back on their feet by helping the young loved ones of the family. By doing so, we can, in some small way, lessen the burden of the adult, who in most cases is dealing with challenges and stress of their own. Contacting your local child abuse center, children's home or any local agency that deals with children and families is a good place to start. These agencies will identify the need in your geographical area. They will outline their specific needs.

Most agencies will suggest all baby needs, socks, underwear, blankets and warm coats. The need will vary according to location. Start today by choosing someone in your area to be in charge and to be the contact person. You will make friends for life. The cost to you will only be the time you put into this venture. The rewards to you and your group will be worth more than money.

How to Participate and Fundraising Ideas

Should you want to participate in this program in your local area, search on-line for Child Protective Services, Children's Homes, Family or Abuse Shelters or your local police department to find agencies needing your assistance.

Here are some ideas you may use for raising funds to support this program. Unit could sponsor an Ice Cream Social, Paint Night, or Food Theme Night (such as Spaghetti).

Your Unit may also just have a social gathering for your members to bring items that are needed by a certain agency. Some of these agencies have a Wish List that they are more than willing to share.

When visiting an organization that needs assistance, use the blank spaces below to list the items the organization needs for their *"little angels"*.

If you want a brochure(s) and can't print off the National Webpage, <u>www.nationalmcla.org</u> contact the MCLA Administrative Assistant at the address/phone number on the back of this brochure.

Should anyone have any questions about the OLA program, contact the Committee Chairman at email <u>OperationLittleAngel@nationalmcla.org</u>.

National Operational Little Angel Event Information

Two events are held yearly. One is in February/March time frame at the MCLA/MCL Midwinter Conference and the other one is held in August at the National Convention. The organization/agency that will be receiving our "gifts" at these events are chosen by the Operation Little Angel Committee. If possible, most shopping is done in that community to help support the economy of that neighborhood.

There are several ways to contribute to the OLA program and ways to raise funds.

1. Bring new items that are contributed by individual members, and some Units choose to hold events locally and give their gifts at one of the National events.

2. Gift cards to local chain stores, such as TargetTM, Wal-MartTM or McDonaldsTM may be presented to the OLA Chairman during the Conference or convention or sent to her prior to the event. If you wish her to shop with the gift card, be certain to specify that when presenting the card.

3. Checks should be payable to the MCLA with "OLA" written on the Memo line and then sent to the MCLA Administrative Assistant at the address on back of brochure. Checks will be deposited into the MCLA-OLA account so that shopping may be done prior to the national event.

4. Cash given directly to the Committee Chairman will be deposited into the account unless otherwise specified.

5. Fundraisers are on-going at all events to help with the program. These fundraisers help supplement giving and allow more to be given at each event.