



March Hero Profile 2018

Children's Bill of Rights #3: As the children and youth of San Luis Obispo County, may we each have the basics for our daily life—clothing, transportation, and supplies for school, outside interests and activities.

MARCH'S HERO
Maureen Marquis

PASSION
Ensuring that children have basic needs for school and beyond

ONE WORD TO DESCRIBE MAUREEN
Loyal

NOMINATED BY
Assistance League of
San Luis Obispo County



Maureen Marquis is a champion for children, who has spent countless hours helping connect thousands of children in our community with clothing and supplies for school.

As coordinator for the Assistance League's Operation School Bell program in North County, Maureen is a go-to resource for young families who use the program to shop for clothes and basic necessities for their kids. She checks in parents and children, assesses their individual needs, and makes sure they are squared away for a smooth school shopping experience that results in new, comfortable clothes. Maureen knows this simple act is a valuable way to position students for better self-esteem, academic performance and social adjustments in school.

Maureen is a connector, on every level. She attends multi-agency collaboration meetings and works closely with school district personnel-- emphasizing the importance of seeking out students who might be going without basic items. As a result, many school staff are now signing up themselves as community volunteers to clothe students! For little ones and siblings who might not be eligible yet to

receive clothing, Maureen has taken the initiative to create a "treasure box" from which children can choose a book, toothbrush or other item. These behind-the-scenes efforts are felt in a big way by both the families and volunteers.

Colleagues say it is Maureen's greatest desire to see every local student in need be clothed through Operation School Bell-- and that she will not stop until this goal is reached. Her caring and compassionate dedication to kids is a gift to our Central Coast community.

**Thank you, Maureen.
You are a true Hands-On Hero.**

*Look for more on all of our Hands-On Heroes
on COE-TV channel 19!*



Hands-On Heroes is a special recognition of dedicated individuals who believe in and support the Children's Bill of Rights, an achievable vision that our children grow up with healthy minds, bodies and spirits that enable them to maximize their potential. This program is coordinated by First 5 San Luis Obispo County in collaboration with local organizations that make a difference in the lives of children in our community. To find out more about First 5 and the Children's Bill of Rights, please visit first5slo.org.



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