



# Updates and Highlights

September 2022

## Welcome Back!



We look forward to another great school year ahead. The Angel Foundation for Learning has continued to support students and families throughout the summer by providing grocery cards to those attending transition programs, programs for students with developmental disabilities and multiple exceptionalities, counsellors and participants of the Focus on Youth programs, as well as responding to requests for vouchers for school apparel and emergency funds.

Last year we broke many records thanks to the many Angels Among Us who demonstrated compassion and caring by opening up their hearts to those in need. We raised a total of \$559,748.31 through a variety of fundraisers, thanks in part to our many sponsors, but mostly due to our many generous individual donors who participated in those initiatives or chose to make donations periodically throughout the year. In addition to supporting in school student nutrition programs, with that amazing support, we were also able to provide:

- Grocery cards-- \$2.1 million
- Emergency funds for basic and essential needs (including support for families from Ukraine)--\$172,014
- Art and Camp funds--\$24,190
- Equity Funds including vouchers for school apparel (with special thanks to McCarthy's for providing funds for this initiative), vouchers to offset post-secondary application fees and awards & bursaries--\$115,550

We ended the 2021-2022 school year with an auction that raised almost \$3,000 and a 50-50 raffle that brought in \$26,440 (with the winner taking home over \$13,000). As the year gets underway, we have been preparing to raise even more money as we anticipate that the needs in our community will continue to grow due to the current economic situation, as well as the continued influx of newcomers. We are committed to ensuring that we will be able to continue to say yes to all requests for assistance.

Our best wishes go to everyone in the TCDSB community for a successful and enjoyable 2022-2023 school year.

## Build Your A-Team and Help Us Help Our Students

All schools are invited to initiate an A-Team (Angel Team), a great leadership opportunity for students, enabling them to help raise the profile of the work of The Angel Foundation for Learning, and explore options for local fundraising initiatives in support of AFL and other charities. More information about the A-Team concept is on our website at <https://angelfoundationforlearning.org/join-the-a-team/>.



Information will be sent to all school principals and vice-principals this fall to help you get started. Our central team is available to support your efforts. We are looking to provide some sort of prizes to the first few schools who get their local A-Team off the ground and let us know about their first project.

TRICK OR  
TREAT!

Halloween  
50-50 Raffle

Sponsored by  
**JOHNSON**  
INSURANCE  
HOME-CAR



## Your Chance to Win Big is Just Around the Corner

The winner of our last raffle took home \$13,220.

You could be the next lucky winner.

Tickets go on sale Monday October 3, 2022 at 9 am:

<https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/angelfoundation>

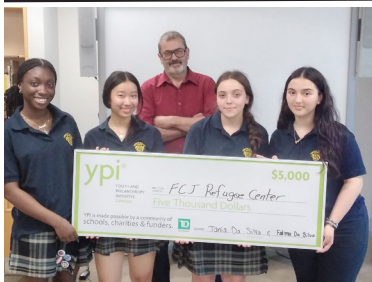
# Celebrating the Many Angels Among Us

## Stait Family Foundation

Our heartfelt thanks goes out to the Stait Family Foundation for providing us with a grant of \$10,000 to support the Student Equity Fund for Post-Secondary Education (aka The Peggy Project). This fund is meant to eliminate the first barrier to college or university by funding vouchers to offset the cost of applying to a post-secondary institution in Ontario for eligible students. Last year we distributed close to \$23,000 in vouchers.



**The Superintendent's Association:** They donated \$250 on behalf of each of the 10 retiring superintendents, Associate Director and Director.



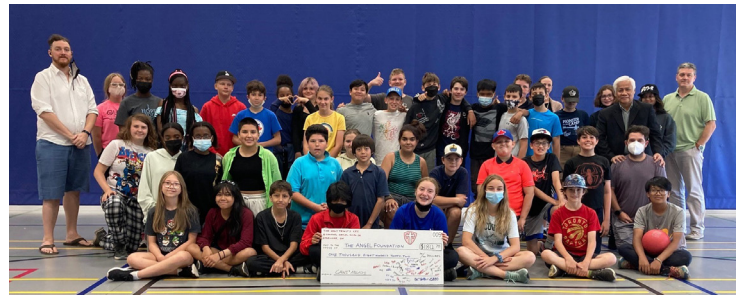
**Congrats to Tania D. and Fatima D from Loretto College for winning the 2021-2022 Youth & Philanthropy Initiative. They won \$5000 for the FCJ Refugee Centre. Though not raising funds for AFL, they are still doing the work of Angels in the community.**



**A huge thank you to Trustee Frank D'Amico for initiating a hockey pool this spring and raising \$1,240+ for AFLToronto. Congrats to Beau, the 2022 champion, and thanks to all who participated in this fundraiser.**

## Our Many Corporate Partners/Sponsors

Through their participation and support of major events and initiatives, donations of funds and merchandise, they make it possible for us to help many students and families experiencing difficulties. Check them out here: <https://angelfoundationforlearning.org/our-donors/>



**The Holy Trinity Catholic School: Their innovative Caine's Arcade raised a record-setting \$1,832.70 for AFL.**

**Student Voice:** A warm welcome to David Beshai from St John Paul II, who will join Stephanie de Castro as student trustee. We look forward to working with both of them in the year ahead. Our best wishes to departing student trustee Keith Baybayon for continued success in his post-secondary studies and beyond. Thank you Keith for your service on the AFL Board, and for all you did for your fellow students throughout your term!



## Become An Angel Among Us

Never has the need been greater for families in Toronto. More than 1 in 4 children live in poverty, and the disparity has been amplified in recent years. Thanks to our donors and sponsors we are able to say yes to all who come to us for assistance when the unexpected happens.

We know there are many Angels among us who want to share what they have with others who are less fortunate and we welcome all who are eager to make a difference in the lives of our students. There are many ways that you can get involved and make a positive impact on those who are experiencing hardships:

- Spread the word among your colleagues and friends about the important work that The Angel Foundation for Learning is doing to support students and families.
- Make a one-time donation to AFLToronto.
- Consider a monthly donation to AFLToronto.
- Celebrate a milestone, or honour a loved one who has passed away with an in memoriam donation.
- Consider a legacy gift in your will.
- Share your time and talent by participating in an upcoming fundraising event (either virtually or in person).
- Let us know about your fundraising ideas.
- Donate a gift or gift card to support our raffles/auctions throughout the year.
- Let us know about any business who might be interested in donating products or sponsoring one of our events.
- Volunteer at a Student Nutrition Program at your school.

Contact us for more information and ideas on how you can get involved: phone 416-222-8282 ext. 2205, email [angel.foundation@tcdsb.org](mailto:angel.foundation@tcdsb.org) or [AFL.Fundraising@tcdsb.org](mailto:AFL.Fundraising@tcdsb.org).



## Charity Golf Day a Huge Success

The school year ended with the traditional AFL Charity Golf Day. For this, our 25th annual Golf Day, we returned to Lebovic Golf Club for the second time.

We extend our sincere appreciation to Lebovic for co-hosting and sponsoring the event, as well as the other corporate sponsors/partners who helped us with the event. Thanks to them, as well as the many golfers who came out in support of AFL, this was the biggest and best Charity Golf Day ever. Together we raised more than \$46,000. These funds will go a long way to helping the many students and families who continue to experience challenges, including the many newcomers who are coming to TCDSB schools.

Our heartfelt thanks goes out to everyone who supported this event. We look forward to seeing you again next year!



## Cents Off Makes Good Sense

Newly hired or returning for another year at a TCDSB school or office? Sign up for Cents Off your pay cheque in support of The Angel Foundation for Learning. <https://form.jotform.com/82823432802251> You won't miss those few pennies, which will amount to less than \$25 per year, but those few cents will be put to great use helping students and families experiencing financial challenges, and your annual donation will be tax deductible.

As an added bonus we will be doing bi-weekly draws for small prizes from among everyone who is signed up. Learn more about the Cents Off program here <https://angelfoundationforlearning.org/cents-off-program/>

## Sweeten Your September

Don't miss out on the many contests, raffles, auctions and other opportunities initiated by the AFL throughout the school year. Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#). Every donor and/or new follower we get on those platforms in the first half of September will receive a small token of our appreciation (while supplies last), and all donors (including our monthly donors) and new followers will be entered into a random draw for a larger prize.

## TCDSB-AFL Toronto Marlies Health Action Day Game

After two years away from the arena, we are excited to announce the return of this wonderful fun-raising event in partnership with the Toronto Marlies (and MLSE).

We can't wait to get back to Coca Cola Coliseum for our annual TCDSB-AFL Toronto Marlies Health Action Day Game to cheer on our hometown boys in blue and raise some funds for students and families in need!



The School Day with the Toronto Marlies is happening:

March 1st, 2023  
Game Time 11 am  
Mark Your Calendars!

To confirm your participation, email us at [angel.foundation@tcdsb.org](mailto:angel.foundation@tcdsb.org).

More detailed information will be sent to schools soon.

## More Than \$40,000 in Awards and Bursaries Distributed by The Angel Foundation for Learning

The Angel Foundation for Learning has awarded more than \$40,000 in awards and bursaries to graduating students, and elementary schools this year.

New this year was the introduction of a bursary for Indigenous Youth. Jacob Bisson and Janice Sanderson-Wilson are the first recipients of the \$5,000 bursary, which were presented at the National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration scheduled on June 21, 2022.



Four students received the Tom Leon Student Bursary, valued at \$5,000 a piece: Shana Abraham, Ava Chau, Chloe Cusi and Quincy Okafor.



“We are immensely grateful for the partnership of the Equity, Diversity and Indigenous Education Department for co-funding the new bursary for Indigenous students,” says AFL Executive Director John Yan. “We extend our congratulations to the two recipients of this new award, and wish them well in their future studies.”

“This year, we not only set a new record for the number of bursaries and awards that have been awarded, but also received a record number of deserving applicants, which made it extremely difficult for our review panels to make a determination,” says Mr. Yan. “We take great pride in knowing that through our Bursary and Award program, we are able to

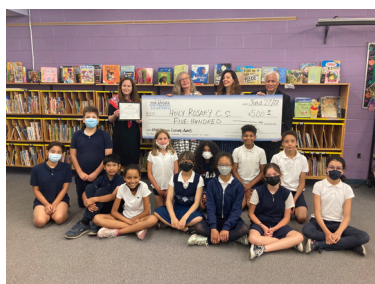
support the post-secondary aspirations of at least some students across the City of Toronto. We thank Connie Leon and the Leon family, as well as other donors who continue to support these bursaries for students who are facing financial challenges. We could not do all that we do without their assistance.”

Other Award and Bursary winners included:

- Bacchelli Family Bursary – Naomi Ibama
- Exceptional Student Bursary – Khayouri Johnson
- Mary Jane McKeen Bursary – Joy Ogonna
- Murdocca Family Literacy Bursary – Leon Li
- TANDIA Bursary – Jayla Houston
- AFL Music Bursary – Joshua Manrique
- AFL Visual Arts Bursary – Erica Barrientos and Amy Yan Zhou
- Spirit of Inclusion Award – Jahliya Price and Nanterre Evangelista

### Elementary School Awards

In addition to the student bursaries, The Angel Foundation for Learning also presented schools with awards to enhance literacy programs and materials, and purchase resources for school libraries. Receiving \$500 each this year are Holy Rosary, St Joseph and St. Robert Catholic Schools.



For all the details, see the news release: <https://angelfoundationforlearning.org/awardsandbursariesjune2022/>.

We will be reviewing all our bursaries and awards, with the hope that we will be able to provide a great level of support to our students and school communities. To make a donation, visit <https://angelfoundationforlearning.org/donation-canada-helps/>