

# Spring Updates/Highlights

March 2023

# **Feeding Hungry Students in Challenging Times**

The Angel Foundation for Learning's major activity remains the funding of Student Nutrition Programs. This has become more challenging throughout the recent lockdowns and now emerging out of the pandemic and entering a recessionary period where the cost of groceries is soaring. AFL has responded to local needs by providing emergency top up funding to many SNPs to ensure that they would be able to continue to provide nutritious snacks to students while they awaited the new instalment of their regular funding.

The support of our donors is key to our ability to provide the necessary funds to these important school programs, as well as the increased need for assistance from individual students/families who are experiencing hardships. AFL Executive Director John Yan has spoken with a number of media outlets to highlight the concerns, saying that some schools have seen participants in food programs double, and since these operations focus on fresh, healthy offerings and are required to follow specific nutritional guidelines, staff may have no choice but to pay higher food prices. In many of the schools, that single snack or meal may be the only nutritious food that student or child gets that day.

The Foundation is grateful for the support we receive from our corporate partners and individual donors throughout the year, which enables us to continue to say yes to the rising number of requests for assistance. This includes the distribution of 82 vouchers for school apparel, and 139 vouchers for college and university application fees to students in need. From the period of December 1st

through to February 28th, our donors provided more than \$90,000, which enabled us to disperse close to \$60,000 in additional support to students and families.



# March is Nutrition Month

#### Let's Celebrate Our SNP Heroes and Put the Spotlight On Our Dedicated Volunteers

We want to hear about your volunteers and all that they do to support the health and well-being of students.

Share your photos and stories on Twitter and Instagram. Follow The Angel Foundation for Learning on social media and tag us in your posts. We will be doing a random draw for prizes to show our appreciation to these incredible individuals who work so hard to ensure that all students have access to healthy food throughout the school day.

Not on social media? Not a problem. Send your stories/photos about what makes your SNP volunteer so special by email to angel.foundation@tcdsb.org so we can share on

social media and make sure they are entered into the draw. Prizes will be handed out during April (Volunteer Appreciation Month). **Deadline for submissions is Friday, March 31st, 2022 at 12 noon.** 



# Put a Spring in Your Step

A mini fundraiser was launched to start the season of Lent as we all begin to look forward to the rebirth and renewal that spring and Easter brings. To celebrate, everyone who makes a donation through to March 28th, is entered into a draw for three gardening packages valued at \$100 to \$200 to get you into the planting mood, as well as two Easter baskets of goodies. To sweeten the deal, the first 50 people to donate \$10 or more also receive a \$5 Dairy Queen gift card. https://www.canadahelps.org/en/

dn/79781?v2=true. Watch for more opportunities like this to help students, and have a chance to win.

# Coming Up...

#### Year-End Raffle

Your chance to win big is just around the corner. The last 50-50 draw brought in more than \$43,000--a new recordwhich meant one lucky winner took home almost \$22,000. Tickets for our next raffle go on sale May 23rd. Thanks to **Johnson Insurance**'s sponsorship, the bulk of the administrative costs associated with that year-end raffle will ensure that more of the proceeds can be directed to helping students in need. The draw will take place on June 28th, with early bird draws on June 9th and June 20th.

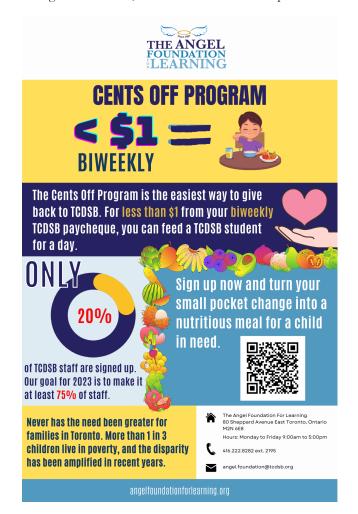
#### End of Year Auction

Watch for information about our spring auction, coming in late May. There will be lots of great items up for grabs including tickets to sporting events, sports memorabilia, tickets to local attractions, artwork, gift cards for dining and shopping and much more to suit every budget, thanks to the many individuals and corporate sponsors who donated. Special thanks goes out to **Edge Imaging** for sponsoring our auction.

#### **Cents Off Contest**

**Sign up for Cents Off** for a chance to win a 43" colour tv and other great prizes. Draw takes place in mid June and all who are signed up through to the end of the school year are eligible for this special draw to thank you for your ongoing support.

Draws are also held every two weeks for a small prize pack featuring MLSE merch, AFL merch and other surprise treats.



#### Charity Golf Day July 6, 2023

Get your golf clubs ready and start practising your swing. Our annual charity golf day will be held July 6th at Lebovic Golf Club in Aurora. This is our third year at Lebovic, and we have had lots of positive feedback about the experience, which includes your golf cart, food and beverages during the game and a take home meal to enjoy later.

Because this year, Lebovic is unable to offer additional free rounds, the ticket price has been reduced to \$350 for those who buy by June 1st and we are also adding a \$50 grocery card to each golfer's bag. Participants will be abe to return for another round at a discounted price (less than 50%) of the regular fee. Plus watch for details about the early bird draws for some great prizes including a large screen tv and other items of interest to golfers.



# Have Fun/Help AFL and Win:

#### May 4th Civvies Day

More great ways to help The Angel Foundation and have a chance to win some great prizes:

Participate in the May the 4th Civvies Day. If you are not in a school that is participating, simply make a donation on line for a chance to win a \$25 gift card. Show us what you are doing to celebrate May 4th Star Wars Day and tag us in your social media posts for another chance to win a \$25 gift card.

#### Mother's Day Promotions

Want to celebrate that special someone on Mother's Day? Make a donation of \$10 or more from April 17th to May 5th for a chance to win one of several gift baskets.

And/Or share your photos and stories about what makes this person so special on social media, tag us in your posts, and automatically be entered into a draw for a gift card. Watch for details coming soon.

# Our Thanks to the Many Angels Among Us Including...

#### The Grocery Foundation and Toonies4Tummies

The Angel Foundation was happy to once again support the Toonies4Tummies initiative, which helps raise funds for student nutrition programs, including those that operate in TCDSB schools. The Holy Trinity Catholic School hosted a special breakfast for students, coordinated by The Grocery Foundation with volunteers from participating grocery stores and suppliers. Local Trustee Teresa Lubinski was on hand to help feed the many happy children. John Yan presented the Grocery Foundation with a certificate of appreciation for all that they do to fight hunger.







### Toronto Marlies and MLSE--School Day Game Fundraiser

We were excited to return to Coca Cola Coliseum after a three year absence for the annual TCDSB

AFL-Toronto Marlies School Day Game on March 1st with TCDSB students, staff and special guests. It was wonderful to feel the excitement as the sold out crowd cheered the Marlies to victory. Our sincere thanks goes to all who purchased tickets for this funfilled event, and to the Toronto Marlies for their ongoing support. This year we set a new record, raising over \$21,000 for AFL. We are already looking forward to next year.









Left: MLSE's Marc Lira presents the cheque to AFL Executive Director John Yan, TCDSB Chair Nancy Crawford, TCDSB Director of Education Brendan Browne and AFL Chair Nancy Murdocca.

### Discounted Marlies Tickets Help Raise Funds for AFL

The support from the Toronto Marlies continues with a special offer which provides discounted tickets to most of the remaining home games with \$3 from every ticket sold donated back to The Angel Foundation for Learning. Save up to 35% on your tickets by using the promo code on the flyer or through the link

https://am.ticketmaster.com/marlies/promotional-page?filterType=NTU3

Cheer on your first place Toronto Marlies, save money and know that you are helping students and families in need. It's definitely a winning combination for Toronto hockey fans.

## The John C. and Sally Horsfall Eaton Foundation

A huge shout out for their recent donation of \$500 to help us in the fight against hunger and poverty.

We are truly grateful for the support we receive from private foundations just like this one, which enable us to help so many TCDSB students throughout the year.



## The Loretto Sisters: AFL Celebrates IBVM Day; Schools Raise Funds for the Loretto Fund for Newcomers

The Angel Foundation was proud to work in partnership with Sr. Evanne Hunter from the Loretto Sisters and the Toronto Catholic District School Board to declare January 23rd as IBVM day.

In honour of the 175th anniversary of the Order, civvies days were held in many schools, with \$3,260.80 raised to date from that endeavour. This fundraiser will be an annual event to support the Loretto Fund for Newcomers. Administered by the AFL, this fund has provided more than \$100,000 in assistance to newcomer students and families over the past year, including the many who came to the Board after fleeing the conflict in Ukraine. We look forward to continuing the celebration in the spring with a special Mass to honour this milestone with the Loretto Sisters.



Students and staff from Loretto Abbey joined Sr. Evanne and John Yan from AFL in a cheque presentation for more than \$5,700 to support the Loretto Fund.

### TCDSB Staff and Their Holiday Giving

AFL was blessed with a generous outpouring of support throughout Advent and Christmas, with special donations made by several groups of employees, as well as contributions from individuals and school communities.

Our in person Christmas market and raffle also brought in close to \$1,550. And the sale of Christmas cards brought in \$5,184. AFL was honoured to say a few words of thanks at the Advent/Christmas Mass to acknowledge the support of TCDSB staff, and to provide some light refreshments to those in attendance to show our appreication for the help that the Foundation receives on an ongoing basis throughout the year.







# Raptors905 Helping Raise Funds Through Ticket Sales

Calling all basketball fans!!!

Thanks to a new partnership with Raptors905 (MLSE) The Angel Foundation for Learning will receive \$5 from each discounted ticket that is purchased to the two remaining home games for the Raptors905, using the code ANGELFOUNDATION905.

Games are played at the Paramount Fine Foods Centre in Mississauga. Get your tickets here: https://am.ticketmaster.com/raptors/promotional-page?filterType=NTcx.

Don't miss out on more opportunities just like this.

Follow us on Twitter @AFLToronto and Instagram @angelfoundationforlearning.



### More than \$40,000 in Bursaries and Awards Available

Through the generous support of many private donors including Connie Leon, the Bachelli family and the Murdocca Family, The Angel Foundation for Learning is pleased to be able to provide support for students pursuing post-secondary studies, as well as schools needing help with purchasing resources for school libraries. Application deadline is April 28th, 2023. Visit our website for all the details: <a href="https://angelfoundationforlearning.org/bursaries-and-awards/">https://angelfoundationforlearning.org/bursaries-and-awards/</a>