



Thank You for Continuing to Help Us to Help Students

It is no surprise to us that so many Canadians, and particularly Torontonians are struggling more than ever to make ends meet, and more adults and children are relying on food banks and other charities to help them with every day basic essentials. Thankfully, with the support of our generous donors and corporate partners, during the period of September to December 2023, we were able to provide students with assistance through the following:

- Arts Fund \$470
- Extreme Needs Funds \$6,900
- Reliable Life Fund \$2,950
- Peggy Project \$16,280 (to offset the cost of application fees to Ontario colleges and universities)
- School Allocation Expense \$4,500
- Camp Fund \$900
- Loretto Fund for Newcomers \$1,850
- Social Work Emergency Fund \$16,050
- Vouchers for school uniforms \$2,200

A Message from the Executive Director

"For it is in giving that we receive"

St Francis of Assisi

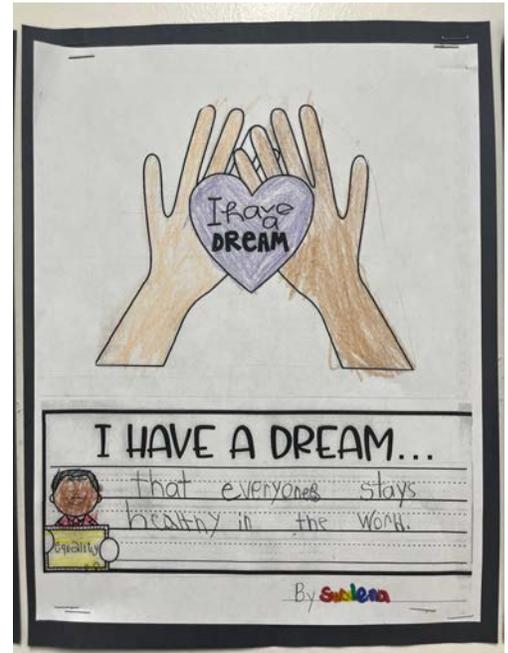
Dear AFL Friends,

It's an honor to begin my role in service as the Angel Foundation for Learning's new Executive Director. I follow a long legacy of leaders who have built AFL into the strong organization that it is today; focused on service to our youth and children and charitable care for every student.

As a teacher, principal and most recently superintendent of education in the TCDSB, I have witnessed how our schools can be beacons of hope and places for personal development along the educational journey for our children. However, when that experience is overshadowed by hunger, poverty or inequality; learning can be difficult. The Angel Foundation shares in the mission to stand on the right side of social justice and embrace the neediest of children and young people.

In our own lives, we are called to give generously in many ways. We have an opportunity to share our money, time and advocacy by giving back to our most vulnerable students through the important works of the Angel Foundation.

In his homily on the occasion of the World Day of the Poor last November, Pope Francis echoes this important call to share our charity with others. It's a challenge to do more, demanding true charity in what we share, how we give and the way we approach others: "Showered with gifts, we are called in turn to make ourselves a gift. Those of us who have received many gifts must make ourselves a gift for others."



How can you help? What difference can you make?
Thank you for being a companion to those we all serve.

Sincerely,



John Wujek
Executive Director, Angel Foundation for Learning

A-Team Believe Initiative

What an incredible experience this has been. Last year we had just 7 ATeams participate, and this year a total of 16 teams were involved from across the TCDSB. Each team worked through a number of assignments and online training sessions on the road to coming up with ideas for projects/initiatives in response to identified needs in their schools.

The amazing talent, creativity and passion of these student leaders blew us away at pitch day on February 23rd. Our guest judges were suitably impressed with the incredible pitches presented.

Our thanks to our judges, to the staff mentors who provided supervision and guidance, Mike Consul and the student leadership team and co-op students who helped make the day a huge success, and of course to the hundreds of students who stepped up to make their pitches in the hopes of winning some money to help with executing their ideas.

All teams received \$1,000 to help them initiate their projects and they are all winners in our books. The top three Marshall McLuhan-1st, Loretto College-2nd and Neil McNeil-3rd walked away with an additional \$2,500, \$2,500 and \$1,000 respectively.

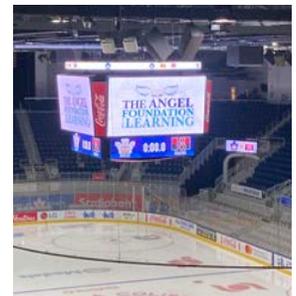
Congratulations to all the angels who made this year's ATeam Believe initiative a tremendous success.

Marlies School Day Game

Close to 7,000 students were on hand to cheer on the Toronto Marlies to victory at the annual TCDSB-AFL-Marlies School Day Game on March 6th. AFL is grateful to MLSE (the Marlies) for donating more than \$21,000 to help us support urgent student needs.



Marc Lira from the Marlies presents the cheque to TCDSB Chair Nancy Crawford, Director of Education Brendan Browne and AFL Executive Director John Wujek.



Ceremonial puck drop.



Marshall McLuhan
Packs for Backs
1st Place



Loretto College
Bloom Boutique
2nd Place



Neil McNeil
School Chapel
3rd Place

Joining in the Great Big Crunch

AFL staff visited a few schools to celebrate student nutrition by biting into apples and other crunchy nutritious snacks. Picture below: Student Nutrition Program Coordinator Angela Olmstead participated in the Great Big Crunch at St. Roch.



Toonies for Tummies

AFL was pleased to support the Ontario launch event for the annual Toonies for Tummies campaign. Participating grocery stores and corporate sponsors help to raise funds annually through the campaign initiated by the Grocery Foundation more than a decade ago. AFL appreciates their support and partnership in the effort to fight hunger by supporting Student Nutrition Programs in schools across Toronto. This year's event was held at St. Augustine Catholic School in North York, with 90 volunteers helping to serve a nutritious breakfast to each and every student at the school. These included AFL's own Chair Don Walker, and TCDSB officials Director Dr Brendan Browne, Chair Nancy Crawford, Trustee Ida LiPreti and Executive Superintendent Shawna Campbell.



Loretto Sisters Day

AFL Executive Director John Wujek represented the Foundation at school events commemorating the 176th anniversary of the IBVM in Canada, to pay tribute to their legacy of leadership and giving. This included a Youtube broadcast focusing on the newcomer experience and the support that is provided through AFL's Loretto Fund for Newcomers. Schools raised approximately \$2034 to support the Loretto Fund.



iLITE

AFL was delighted to participate in four of the five iLITE sessions, which brought together more than 500 elementary student leaders from across the Board. It was a great opportunity for us to highlight the work of the Foundation, and what students can do to raise awareness and support all that we do to help TCDSB students. We count on these leaders of tomorrow to help make the world a better place for everyone.



CSLIT Hoodies

The new Catholic Student Leadership Impact Team (CSLIT) hoodies have arrived. Proceeds from the sale of the hoodies and other merchandise will be donated to The Angel Foundation for Learning. We are blessed to have so much support from TCDSB student leaders. They truly are

#AngelsAmongUs. Order yours here: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfhkuJCEcCLRqePbxPW7jJq1IeqrhHsZONkVtj9ASEXVctvgQ/viewform>

Once An Angel, Always An Angel

We invite everyone to stay in touch. Follow us on our social media platforms:

- <https://twitter.com/AFLToronto>
- <https://www.instagram.com/angelfoundationforlearning/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/angelfoundationforlearning>
- <https://www.linkedin.com/company/83950371/admin/feed/posts/>
- <https://www.threads.net/@angelfoundationforlearning>

Recently retired? Join our email distribution list:

<https://form.jotform.com/231783703488061>

Are you a TCDSB graduate? Sign up to receive updates:

<https://form.jotform.com/23186349523062>

You can opt in to receive only the information that is of interest to you whether that be volunteer opportunities, raffles, contests, special events or quarterly newsletters. We will only send you the information that you request and you can notify us at any time if you change your mind and no longer want the information.

Let's Make 40

the New 20

Did you know that currently just 20% of all eligible staff have opted in to Cents Off their pay cheques in support of The Angel Foundation for Learning?

Let's double that to 40% so we can help twice as many students every year.

What is Cents Off?

Opt in, and literally just a few pennies will be deducted from each pay cheque throughout the year, which can amount to as little as 2 cents, with an occasional maximum deduction of no more than 99 cents. You won't even notice the difference in your take home pay, but our students will definitely notice as all those pennies will add up to huge support for those who need assistance.

You could win a prize every two weeks just for signing up. And our next **grand prize draw is coming up March 22nd** with three great prizes. You have to be signed up in order to automatically be entered into the bi-weekly draws as well as the grand prize draws. **Already signed up? Check your pay stub. If you don't see the deduction, please sign up again.**

Never has your help been needed as much as it is today. Opt in by scanning the QR code and **Let's make 40 the new 20!**

THE ANGEL FOUNDATION FOR LEARNING

40 IS THE NEW 20



The need for funding is greater now than ever before. Only 20% of TCDSB Staff are signed up for CENTS OFF. At 40% we would double the number of students we help every year. Sign up now with the QR code for a chance to win.

angelfoundationforlearning.org

Ready for a New Car?

If you think your car has had its day, please consider donating your vehicle and the value of the vehicle or its parts can be turned into a donation to help us in the fight against hunger.

The Angel Foundation for Learning has partnered with Donate a Car Canada to accept your car donation.



You will be provided free towing, or you can drop off your vehicle to maximize your donation.

When you donate your car, truck, RV, boat, or motorcycle to The Angel Foundation for Learning through Donate A Car Canada, it will either be recycled or re-sold (depending on its condition, age and location). Your vehicle may not be a junk car, and they can help with that, too!

Donate a Car Canada will look after all the details to make it easy for AFLToronto to benefit. You will receive a tax receipt after your vehicle donation has been processed!

Ready to donate? Or need more info? Visit [Donate A Car](#)



Calling All Sports Lovers!

Discounted Tickets

Thanks to MLSE for their continued support of The Angel Foundation for Learning. They are once again offering a promo code to AFL supporters to purchase discounted tickets to any home game this season for the **Marlies** and **Raptors905**. They are also offering similar promo codes to **TFC** home games and Toronto **Argos** home games. Save up to 40% on the regular ticket price, and \$3-\$5 from every ticket purchased will be donated to AFL. Get all the details here: <https://angelfoundationforlearning.org/discounted-sports-tickets/>

There are only a few games remaining in the regular season for the Marlies and Raptors905 so get your tickets before they are gone.

And if your school, or school team, is interested in a group experience at an upcoming Argos game, please contact MLSE at Rebecca.Vellianis@MLSE.com

Chance to Win Big--AFL 50-50 Raffle is on Now

Put a Spring in your Step with our next [50-50 cash raffle](#) on now. Tickets are available until noon on March 25th. Draw happens just in time for Easter. Proceeds from the raffle go to help students in need throughout the year. Our last winner took home over \$21,000. You could be our next big winner.



General Donation Reminder

Remember the Angel Foundation for Learning with your memorial donations, or tribute donations when you, or someone you know, is celebrating a milestone. Donate online any time at <https://angelfoundationforlearning.org/donate/>

CanadaHelps throughout March is running its annual “Make it Monthly” campaign. For each new sign up for monthly donations to support AFL during March, CanadaHelps will donate \$20 to AFL. For every monthly donor who increases their donation to AFL, the Foundation will receive an additional \$10.



NEW EVENT!

Join Us for AFL's Spring Fling Pub Night

Friday, May 3, 2024 6-9 pm

Nickel 9 Distillery

90 Cawthra Ave #100, Toronto, ON M6N 3C2

(Maximum capacity: 150)

Your ticket price of \$70 includes:

Light refreshments and non-alcoholic beverages

Live entertainment featuring “Discount” (student band from Michael Power/St Joseph CSS)

Silent auction so you can pick up those gifts for Mother's Day or Father's Day

50-50 Cash Raffle Door prizes A tax receipt for the charitable donation portion of your ticket price

Standard Ticket \$90: includes all of the above PLUS your choice of a trio tasting of spirits

Or two standard bar rail drinks (ie vodka soda, rum and coke)

Enjoy a casual evening with colleagues, friends and family and know that you are making a positive impact on the lives of many students who need a hand.

Get your tickets here: <https://form.jotform.com/240514311609245>

Special thanks to Nickel 9 Distillery for sponsoring this event to help us raise funds for student needs.

Family Bowling Event Coming in the Fall

We are still in the preliminary planning stages, but this will likely happen in October 2024. Watch for information coming your way later this year about a fun-filled event for the whole family.

Starting on Your Spring Cleaning?

If you are thinking of selling any of your unwanted new or gently used items, consider setting yourself up as a vendor on [GiveRise](#), the buy and sell platform with a heart. All vendors designate a charity of their choosing as the recipient of a percentage of each sale (the vendor decides how much or how little they wish to donate). You are of course encouraged to consider the Angel Foundation for Learning as the beneficiary of your kindness, but you are free to choose from a wide range of charities featured on the GiveRise platform.

You are also invited to browse the items that are up for sale on AFL's own GiveRise online store: <https://giverise.ca/the-angel-foundation-for-learning/>



Deadline for Award and Bursary Applications is April 26, 2024

Check out the many student bursaries and awards, as well as school awards that are available. This year, AFL has more than \$50,000 worth of bursaries and awards up for grabs. Visit our website for further information about:

Student Bursaries/Awards

- **NEW!** AFL Student Bursary for Filipino/A/X Youth Proudly Pinoy Student Education Bursary (2 bursaries \$5,000 each)
- AFL Bursary for Studies in Mental Health (\$1,000)
- AFL Music Bursary (\$1,000)
- AFL Student Bursary for Indigenous Youth (2 bursaries \$5,000 each)
- AFL Skilled Trades Bursary (\$1,000)
- AFL Visual Arts Bursary (\$1,000)
- Bachelli Family Bursary for Newcomers (\$1,000)
- Exceptional Student Bursary (\$1,000)
- Murdocca Family Bursary (\$1,000)
- Tom Leon Student Bursary (4 bursaries of \$5,000 each)
- Spirit of Inclusion Award (\$500)

School Awards

- AFL Literacy Award to Support Resources for Exceptional Students (\$1,000)
- AFL Literacy Award to Support Literacy in the School (\$1,000)
- AFL Library Award in Honour of Kathy Harding (\$1,000)

Detailed information about each award, and application forms are available on our website at <https://angelfoundationforlearning.org/bursaries-and-awards/>

Send in your applications to iris.martinez@tcdsb.org by no later than April 26, 2024.

The Return of the Snow Ball Gala--An Evening to Feed Dreams

It's been four years since our last Gala, and we were more than delighted to welcome over 450 sponsors and guests (including over 40 students and nutrition program volunteers) to celebrate the start of the holiday season with us at a new venue, Chateau Le Jardin. We are truly grateful for the incredible generosity of our sponsors and donors, and all who participated in the raffle and auction, which helped us raise record funds to support student needs. We are particularly grateful to MayStar, Poetry Living and AEC Group for donating tables so that some of our amazing SNP volunteers and student leaders could attend. Check out a few of the highlights below:



Dancers from St Mother Teresa Catholic Academy, under the leadership of Wendy Jones (left), guest violinist Sofia (centre) and the string quartet from Cardinal Carter Academy for the Arts under the direction of Daniela Gassi (right) delighted the crowd with beautiful performances.



Registration area (left) and a portion of our silent auction (right).



Retiring Executive Director John Yan (left) marked his final Gala as head of the Angel Foundation. A look at the seating at this year's venue (right) before guests arrived.

We invite you to visit our website to check out all the amazing sponsors and donors who, together with our volunteers, helped to ensure the success of this hallmark event.

<https://angelfoundationforlearning.org/gala-sponsors-and-donors/>

SAVE THE DATE!

The Angel Foundation for Learning Charity Golf Day

Thursday, July 4, 2024

Location: Glen Eagle Golf Club 15731 Peel Regional Rd 50, Bolton, ON



**Early Bird Ticket Price: \$275
until May 3rd**

We are returning to a shot gun start (best ball scramble format) beginning at 8 am.

Your ticket includes buffet breakfast, sit down lunch after your round of golf including two alco-

holic beverages, silent auction, door prizes, prizes for longest drive, closest to the pin, team with lowest score etc., a putting contest, hole in one contest as well as other activities, raffles and games with chances to win.

Tickets on sale now: <https://www.jotform.com/>

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

2024 Angel Foundation for Learning Gala: An Evening to Feed Dreams

Friday, November 29, 2024

Location: Venu Event Space, 2800 Hwy 7, Vaughan

We can't wait to see you there!

