Angels' Place
Nurturing Two Generations

CRIB NOTES

Winter 2021 ❄ Issue #145

Mission: Angels' Place, Inc. provides exceptional family support and quality early childhood education to help parents in need and their children become lifelong learners and create a brighter future.

NORTH SIDE
2615 Norwood Avenue • Pittsburgh, PA 15214
412.321.4447

SWISSVALE
2538 Woodstock Avenue • Pittsburgh, PA 15218
412.271.2229

info@angelsplacepgh.org
www.angelsplacepgh.org

Angels' Place, Inc. is an approved 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization – contributions to which are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. The official registration and financial information of Angels' Place, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement

"LET IT SHINE!"

Dear Friends,

How glorious to be sharing another holiday season with all of you and what a remarkable year it has been. Your continued expression of compassion and love is heartwarming, especially as the season gets colder. This time of year reminds us of the spirit of giving when the world received the greatest gift of all- a child- the symbol of hope for our future. Our mission at Angels' Place embodies the spirit of hope and possibilities through our early childhood education and family support programs. We encourage every parent and child to **let their inner light shine**.

Recently we were able to enjoy each other's company at our annual Halo Award Dinner. Wasn't it lovely to come together once again to celebrate the work that we do and the awesome people who make it happen? I was captivated by our parent speaker Meg and moved by her comment: "Having a daughter at 17 puts you at a severe disadvantage when it comes to the opportunities that you have in life and your options. The roadblocks are in place every step of the way, and Angels' Place is part of the solution in my personal story... They know what they're doing, they know how to address this specific population and they know how to help us achieve goals and, very importantly, achieve goals with dignity." Meg and many other parents have overcome substantial obstacles to achieve their dreams. The wonderful example being set by our alumni parents reinforces our dedication to helping more families. Our wish for all our parents is to **"Let it shine!"** and follow in Meg's footsteps.

Coming to the close of another year together, we're so fortunate that you remain a steadfast member of our Angels' Place family. We extend our warmest holiday wishes for the new year by sharing this beautiful poem by Ralph Waldo Emerson:

This is my wish for you
Comfort on difficult days,
Smiles when sadness intrudes,
Rainbows to follow the clouds,
Laughter to kiss your lips,
Sunsets to warm your heart,
Hugs when spirits sag,
Beauty for your eyes to see,
Friendships to brighten your being,
Faith so that you can believe,
Confidence for when you doubt,
Courage to know yourself,
Patience to accept your truth,
Love to complete your life.

May your days be bright and wonderful, and as you snuggle in your home during the chilly days ahead please keep our families in your prayers. We have been able to serve parents and children for over three decades which is entirely possible thanks to your gifts.

On behalf of everyone at Angels' Place, I thank you for **letting your light shine**! May God bless you and your family abundantly during this Christmas season and throughout the New Year.

With gratitude,

Beth E. Banas
Executive Director

Donate to Angels' Place Today!

Three ways to get the job done:

- Online at rebrand.ly/LetItShine
- Send a check with "let it shine" in the memo line
- Credit card, call Cari at 412-321-4447

Shine a light on why you give to Angels' Place! Tag us @angelsplacepgh on social media and use #LetItShine to share why supporting Angels' Place is important to you!

WINTER 2021

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever." (1 Chronicles 16:34) During this wonderful time of year and always, we have much for which we are thankful as we continue to be blessed by the amazing support of the Pittsburgh community and many dear friends who devote their time, talent and resources allowing Angels' Place to provide high-quality programming for the parents and children in our program.

The back-to-school season is always such a busy time at Angels' Place as new families come into our program and the children are becoming accustomed to their new classroom and daily routine. The teachers planned many activities for the children to learn about kindness, friendship, and caring for others, evidenced in our celebration of International Day of Peace on September 21st each year. Everyone makes a pinwheel which is displayed for the community to see that Angels' Place is committed to peace and tranquility. The children at both centers received their annual vision screening courtesy of the **Blind and Vision Rehabilitation Services of Pittsburgh**. We are always grateful to them for providing this important service as we are dedicated, as an organization, to promoting the health and wellness of our families. The North Side children published their second book thanks to The Student Treasures Free Publishing Project. This year's book is entitled, "How Our Garden Grows," and the children drew pictures and talked about their experiences gardening this past summer.

Autumn lends itself to a wealth of learning opportunities for the children. The wonder of the leaves changing colors, the migration of the birds and the cooler temperatures provide many hours of excitement and conversation with the Pre-K children as they are observing and learning about their changing world this time of year. Activities such as apple tasting, pumpkin exploration and leaf collages are just some of the traditional fall activities the children enjoy. Halloween was a fun and festive time filled with trick-or-treating, games, and carving pumpkins. The children were so excited to show off their costumes to their teachers and friends. Thanks to the kindness of **Hayley Baranowski**, who continued her tradition of collecting Halloween costumes to share with Angels' Place, the children were able to "shop" and select the perfect attire for the holiday.

Hope and **Allison** from **Attack Theatre** have started a weekly creative movement program for the children at both centers that promotes self-awareness, physical development, and overall wellness. Attack Theatre will also be hosting a monthly family workshop in which parents can come and participate in the program with their children. This wonderful partnership will continue throughout the school year. Parents and children continue to enjoy the **"Raising a Reader"** program led by **Mary Denison** and the children at Swissvale always look forward to a visit from **Gene**, our monthly volunteer reader.

This year, we once again hosted our annual Thanksgiving Dinners, and we are so grateful to **Angela Gaughan and friends at St. Michael the Archangel Parish** for cooking and providing dinner for our families. We are looking forward to the Christmas season as it always a special time for the children. Angels' Place is filled with appreciation for the following churches, businesses and individuals

(Building a house for my people.)

(Concentrating on making my picture.)

(Practicing my fine-motor skills.)

(Reading to our babies.)

(Not sure what I think of this slimy stuff.)

(Look at me sitting up independently!)

(Making leaf angels.)

(Trick-or-Treat!)

who are donating to our families this year: **St. Thomas the Apostle Parish**, **St. Joseph the Worker Parish**, **Corpus Christi Church**, **St. John Fisher Ladies of Charity**, **Resurrection Parish**, **Divine Redeemer Parish**, **St. Paul Cathedral**, **St. John Neumann Church**, **the Evans family and friends**, and **PNC Grow Up Great**.

Thank You/Special Acknowledgments

Thank you to **Three Rivers Quilters** for the beautifully crafted homemade quilts for the children. This has become such a special tradition for the families at Angels' Place as children take them as a keepsake when they graduate from our program.

Mr. & Mrs. Belcher shared another large donation for the children at both centers of clothing, shoes and supplies for the winter and spring months.

We thank our **Special Events Committee** for all their hard work planning and executing the Halo Dinner, we couldn't do it without you.

We are grateful to **Early Head Start** for their donation of outdoor play equipment, toys and supplies for the classrooms. The children have been enjoying all the new items and experiences. Early Head Start continues to help with diapers, supplies and monetary funding.

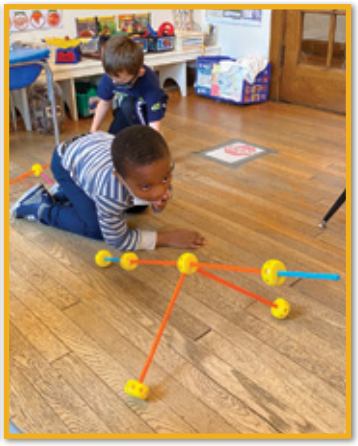
Our weekly volunteers continue to be a beloved part of the Angels' Place family: **Bonnie Banas**, **Jessica Dewit**, **Eileen Gelet**, **Lynda MacMurchy**, **Joan McElhinny**, **Gene O'Sullivan**, and **Jane Tolley**.

Special thanks to all our door donors who continue to think of Angels' Place for a multitude of items including cleaning products, paper products, art and office supplies, children's snacks, clothes, toys and many other wish list items.

(Meeting the therapy dog.)

(Enjoying the beautiful outdoors.)

(Learning creative movement with Hope from Attack Theatre.)



(Wow, look at the direction my creation is pointing.)

(Parachute play with friends.)

(Working together we can do great things!)

100% Tax Deductible

DONATE YOUR CAR

Benefiting the babies, moms, and dads of

Angels' Place, Inc.

Call: (855) 500-7433 | www.angelsplacepgh.careasy.org

HALO AWARD DINNER

We were overjoyed to return in-person for a rockin' evening at our 2021 Halo Award Dinner at the beautiful LeMont Restaurant. Kathy and Richard Yost were honored for their support of Angels' Place which has spanned two decades. Special thanks to our honorary chair couple Peggy and Richard Watson who are long-time friends of the Yosts and who also offered a touching invocation to start the evening. Additionally, we would like to offer gratitude to Meghan Schiller of KDKA-TV who emceed the event.

Meg Walker shared the story of her time as a student parent. She was accompanied by her two daughters, Victoria (Tori) and Rosalind (Lindy). Tori celebrated her 21st birthday on the day of the Halo Dinner and was surprised with a cake and rousing rendition of "Happy Birthday" from the crowd!

The Halo Award Dinner was sponsored by SSB Bank, de Fer Coffee and Tea, Altany Walter Loynd & Lindquist, the Hinnebusch Family, and PNC Bank.

Halo Dinner Photo Credit: Amy Pischke

(Congratulations Kathy and Richard!)

(Celebrating Tori's 21st birthday.)

(Our founder connects with Angels' Place alumnae.)

(Enjoying a rockin' evening.)

(Eileen and friends smile for the camera.)

(Friends having fun.)

(Honorary Chair Couple speak about Yosts.)

(Kathy and Richard receive the Halo Award.)

(Kathy shares an acceptance speech.)

(Happy to be together.)

(Board members enjoy the evening.)

(Lucky winner of the Hawk Painting.)

(Emcee, Meghan, announces the winning ticket.)

(Mary and Megan are happy to see each other.)

(Meg shares her touching story.)

(Parent and child graduates join us for the fun.)

(Parent speaker, Meg, and her family.)

(Paul's family celebrates his 32 years of board service.)

(Pittsburgh Zoo friends join the festivities.)

(Staff smiles for success.)

(Tables set for a rockin' evening.)

(Take a chance on auction baskets.)

(Yearly guests at the Daller table.)

(What a beautiful venue.)

PARENT SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT: MEG WALKER

Meg Walker came to Angels' Place as a student parent in the early 2000's with her daughters Victoria and Rosalind. While at Angels' Place, Meg completed an undergraduate degree in molecular biology and a Master's in Physician Assistant Science at Duquesne University. After graduation, Meg got her first professional job in West Virginia at a clinic for the uninsured. Leaving Angels' Place was bittersweet, but she left with the confidence of knowing they were moving on and going to do well. A couple of years later she returned to Pittsburgh after receiving a call for her dream job as a Physician Assistant in medical oncology. She has since moved into a leadership role and supervises a team of fifty physician assistants and nurse practitioners. This year we were privileged to hear Meg speak at the Halo Award Dinner. Meg shared that Angels' Place gave her "the confidence to really pursue my interests; and the skills and the knowledge and the wisdom to know how to execute my dreams."

Meg's daughter Lindy is a high school junior and visiting colleges. She hopes to one day get a degree in social work. Tori is currently attending college and interested in obtaining a nursing degree. Tori's passion for horses has grown throughout the years; as an equestrian she dreams of owning her own stable one day.

(Meg, Tori and Lindy then...)

(and now.)

HALO AWARD DINNER DONORS

SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS
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Beth E. Banas
Cari Goss Quinn
Carnegie Science Center
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Choo Choo Barn
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City Grows
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Nancy and John Daller
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Outback Steakhouse
Peggy Cantwell
Peggy and Richard Watson
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Pittsburgh Steelers
Pittsburgh Winery
Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium
Pub in the Park
Railways to Yesterday, Inc.
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Target, Waterfront
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The Andy Warhol Museum
The Bob O'Connor Golf Course
The Park House
The Pittsburgh Playhouse
The Skin Center
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Trader Joe's, North Hills
Trader Joe's, South Hills
Wal-Mart, Greensburg

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PNC Bank
SSB Bank

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People Concerned for the Unborn Child
Phyllis and Chuck Hartman
William F. Gross Funeral Home

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Barbara and Gary Bowser
Eileen Gelet
Lisa and George Gardner
Veronica and Charles Anchors

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Brian Donnelly
Nancy and John Daller
Peggy and Paul Hinnebusch

HALO DINNER ANGELS
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Amalia Paltan
Ann Cristofano
Bishop Thomas Tobin
Bonnie Anton
Bridget and Jack Ellsworth
Chris Lamagna
Dayle and William Salsgiver
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Edith and Daniel Harshbarger
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Maureen Seskey
Pat and Chuck Foley
Patrick Lanigan
Raymond Wiehagen
Rose and John Evosevic
Sandy and Gene O'Sullivan
Sanford Leuba
Suzanne and David Hall

SPECIAL THANKS TO
Alison Hoffman
Amy Pischke, Photographer
Bonnie Banas
Butter Bakery
Cara Halloran
Cassie Lavella
Erin Zeigler and Bill Sparks, Plaque
Joan McElhinny
Kathy and Richard Yost
LeMont Staff
Mary Farrell
Meg Walker, Parent Speaker
Megan Grefenstette
Meghan Schiller, Emcee
Mike Weber, DJ
Peggy Cantwell
Peggy Watson, Invocation
Stephanie Cullen

(Using a leaf as my paintbrush.)

DONATION LIST

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Cross Roads Presbyterian Church, *Monroeville*
Bethany Presbyterian Church, *Bridgeville*
Christ the King Parish, *Aspinwall*
Dollar Financial Golf League, *Murrysville*
Bethany Presbyterian Church, *Bridgeville*
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart High School, *Coraopolis*
Blessed Trinity Parish, Blessed Trinity Christian Mothers, *Carrick*

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Three Rivers Quilters

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De Fer Coffee & Tea
Evereve Boutique
Starbucks
PA Partners for Education
AmerisourceBergen Services Corporation
PNC Bank
Early Head Start
KeyBank National Association
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Wilson J. Farmerie & Karen A. Farmerie Charitable Foundation
The Carole A. Frisch Charitable Gift Fund
Ampco-Pittsburgh Charitable Foundation

(Oh, it's apple peeling time in the fall.)

DONATED BY:

Ms. Sharon M. Connelly

Mr. and Mrs. James F. Fyda
Mr. Lawrence Domencic
Ms. Laura Penrod Kronk
Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Hartman
The John & Kathleen Schreiber Foundation

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Mr. and Mrs. Frank Casorio's 50th Wedding Anniversary
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The Arch and McElhinny Families
Florence Allen
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Mr. John Arch

DONATED BY:

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IN MEMORY OF:

Mr. John Kostiuk
Mrs. Winifred Burdette
Mr. Clement Bauer
Mr. Paul LeRoy and Ms. Michelle Menzietti
Mr. Fred Colbert
Ann Quinque
Ms. Marcella Mroavich

WORKPLACE GIVING

LIVE UNITED United Way

Support Angels' Place through **United Way's Contributor Choice** program. Designate your contribution to Angels' Place by using code **#1200** *North Side* or **#3977** *Swissvale*.

Many other businesses encourage giving through **America's Charities** (**EIN #: 25-1450489**).

Federal employees can give through the **Combined Federal Campaign**, for which the Angels' Place code is **#44139**. The code for the **State Employees' Combined Appeal** is **#5000-0017**.

ADOPT AN ANGEL: #GIVEANANGELWINGS

We invite you to participate in our Adopt an Angel monthly giving program. In becoming a monthly donor you are symbolically empowering our little angels and their parents to reach their full potential. Go to angelsplacepgh.org/donate/other-ways-to-give/ to sign up. **Commit today and give an angel wings!** Following your first donation, you'll receive a Welcome Package, monthly acknowledgments and updates. Giving levels include:

Friend	Supporter	Champion	Advocate	Guardian
$10 Monthly	$25 Monthly	$50 Monthly	$100 Monthly	$250 Monthly

Our monthly giving program, **Adopt an Angel**, continues to grow! We are so thankful for the following people (listed in alphabetical order) who have committed to giving our families the resources and education to reach their full potential.

Mr. & Mrs. Gary J. Agate
Mr. Michael Aquilina
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Bailey
Ms. Mary Kathryn Banning
Bethany Presbyterian Church
Mr. & Mrs. John A. Blohm
Mr. & Mrs. John A. Bonacci
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WISH LISTS

North Side

- Assorted Birthday Gift Bags
- Assorted Graduation Gift Bags
- School Decorations (All Occasions-Seasonal)
- Assorted Greeting Cards
- Assorted Art Materials
- Assorted Cleaning Products
- Febreze Spray and Plug-ins
- White Copier Paper (8.5"x11")
- Post-It Notes
- Pens
- Command Strips
- Sticky Tack
- Duct Tape
- Master Locks (Assorted Sizes with Combination or Keys)
- New Travel-Size Pillows
- Dixie Cups
- Napkins
- Paper Plates
- Paper Bowls
- Facial Tissues
- Hand Soap
- Dawn Dish Liquid
- Paper Towels
- Energy Saving Light Bulbs
- 30 Gallon Trash Bags
- 13 Gallon Trash Bags
- Mops and Brooms
- Toddler-Size Bibs
- Washcloths
- Graham Crackers
- Animal Crackers
- Fruit Cups
- Ritz Crackers
- Cheese Crackers
- Breakfast Syrup
- Peanut Butter
- Assorted Stage 2 and up Baby Food (Fruits and Vegetables)
- Infant Cereal
- Cheerios, Kix, Corn Flakes
- Infant Puffs- Crackers

(Creating homemade masks.)

Swissvale

- All Purpose Cleaners
- Toilet Cleaner
- 39 Gallon Trash Bags
- Dixie Cups
- Pump Hand Soap
- Lysol Spray
- White Copier Paper (8.5"x11")
- Postage Stamps
- Liquid Dishwasher Soap
- LED Light Bulbs
- Large Paper Plates
- Dessert Size Paper Plates
- Paper Towels
- Paper Napkins
- Latex Gloves
- Mops and Brooms
- Crayola Broadline Markers
- Tall Kitchen Trash Bags
- Gallon Zip Loc Freezer Bags
- Greeting Cards
- Candelabra Light Bulbs
- 9 Volt Batteries
- Clorox Wipes
- Disposable Children's Masks
- Command Strips and Hooks
- Sticky Tack
- Graham Crackers
- Animal Crackers
- Wheat Thins
- Boxed Cakes and Icing
- Pepper/Salt
- Ketchup
- Whole Grain Ritz Crackers
- Sprinkle Parmesan Cheese
- Goldfish
- Salad Dressing (Not Light or Reduced Fat)
- Dried Fruits
- Fruit Cereal Bars
- Baby Food
- Birthday Candles

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Visit www.smile.amazon.com, search and add Angels' Place as the benefiting nonprofit and that's it! You will only need to do this once. You must see the Amazon smile logo for Angels' Place to benefit.

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