Angels' Place
Nurturing Two Generations

CRIB NOTES

Spring 2022 ❄ Issue #146

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.

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Dear Friends,

Hoping that you had a spectacular entry into 2022. Each year, as it dawns, holds the promise of amazing opportunities. For the children in our program who are five years or younger, half or all of their lives have been somewhat uncertain and stressful with their important adults experiencing the same feelings as well. Remembering that this too shall pass provides the motivation to remain positive.

A review of the previous year provides the perfect reminder of the strength that we possess to have traveled through uncharted waters. Our experiences teach us that we are resilient and can persist in the pursuit of happiness despite what we encounter. Strong support systems and having the opportunity to witness others' ability to succeed fortifies us each step of the way. **A COMMUNITY WHERE WE ALLTHRIVE**- embodies the very essence of Angels' Place.

Recently staffing vacancies have provided me the pleasure to work more closely with the children. Our close-knit family, brought together by circumstance, has bonded and gotten stronger as we approach and confront each hurdle. Despite these obstacles, Angels' Place keeps sunshine in our hearts.

One day on KP duty I made chicken nuggets, typically a lunch item that the children relish. Pleased with myself and the desirable menu being served, I was sure the children were going to praise my cooking. But alas, only a few were nibbling, and many were searching the items on the table. Finally, one spunky child asked for the ketchup. In our world, ketchup makes everything more palatable and could be an entree. I explained it was a day without ketchup, allowing us to experience chicken in a new way. Trying to build intrigue and excitement, I went on to explain that if we put ketchup on everything, we never discover the unique flavors of different foods.

The children very kindly listened. My little friend patiently shared, "We like when everything tastes like ketchup; it is yummy and good." Hmm, I was baffled so I relied on an adage from my Mom: "it is my job to make sure that everyone can learn about new and healthy foods." With wide eyes she sweetly said, "I don't mind learning about new food, but could your job also be to make sure we get ketchup?" I validated her opinion and promised to consider the option in the future. I returned to extoling the virtues of the various lunch foods. Undeterred my friend requested that I tell her more about the delicious attributes of ketchup. 😊

Well, I didn't pony up with the ketchup, but we made it through the meal and children napped with full bellies. Upon reflection, I was mystified as I am not a fan of ketchup but then a wonderful realization blossomed. Something more powerful was happening than just the discussion of ketchup. Everyone who supports Angels' Place honors the importance of education for two generations and respects every individual's right to have a voice, becoming a valuable and contributing member of our community. My little friend knew that she had a safe space to express her thoughts. She witnessed firsthand how to effectively manage her world, and it doesn't stop there. In our program, everyone has the chance to experiment with their voice and to develop tools necessary to navigate relationships effectively.

Thanks to all of you, for over 37 years Angels' Place's vision has developed an effective workforce for tomorrow while focusing on family values. I am grateful for you and your commitment to making this vision a reality. We are part of the solution to solving the dilemmas our society is currently addressing. Stay with us and consider how you can keep the momentum going, the opportunities are endless. We all deserve a world where everyone feels accepted, valued and respected- let's keep making it happen. Wishes for a spring filled with joy and hope.

Abundant Blessings,

Beth E. Banas
Executive Director

HONOR ROLL 2021

This issue of Crib Notes is dedicated to recognizing the friends who kindly donated to support our centers in 2021. This installment is our way of proclaiming our sincere and heartfelt appreciation to the generous people who make Angels' Place a reality. It means a great deal to us that you help our children and their student parents complete their education and achieve their life goals. Each gift you share throughout the year is a message of encouragement to the families enrolled, and we hope you feel blessed by the impact of your contributions.

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All of us at Angels' Place continue to be grateful for all the drop off donations of clothes, toys and wish list items. These donations put supplies into our programs so we can continue offering free services to children and families. While we wish to be all inclusive in our appreciation there always exists a margin of error. Please accept our apologies if we have inadvertently overlooked any gesture of kindness and know that you are valued.

COMMUNITY PARTNER: PENN STATE NUTRITION

Angels' Place is delighted to announce a partnership with Penn State Extension Nutrition Links. Research-based educational classes are offered free of charge through this program. The aim is to help participants develop knowledge and skills for a healthier lifestyle on a limited budget.

In January, Nutritional Education Adviser Cynthia Stevans offered classes to parents enrolled at Angels' Place. Hour-long virtual sessions are offered two times each week to accommodate as many people as possible and the class continues for five weeks. Cindy discusses a variety of topics around healthy eating such as meal planning, shopping on a budget, smart drink choices, portion sizes, and how to prepare food safely.

Cindy became interested in childhood nutrition and food safety after working as a group supervisor in a child care center. She joined Penn State Extension and in 2010, became a nutrition adviser with the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program.

Angels' Place is grateful for this opportunity offered through Penn State Extension Nutrition Links. We are excited our parents can take advantage of this wonderful resource and especially pleased to help our families lead healthier lives! To learn more about the program, please visit: https://extension.psu.edu/nutrition-links

PennState Extension

(That worm looks really slimy.)

(Working hard to build my blocks.)

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Join our Adopt an Angel monthly giving program. You are symbolically empowering our little angels and their parents to reach their full potential. Commit today and give an angel wings! Following your first donation, you'll receive a Welcome Package, monthly acknowledgments and updates. If applicable, it is time to renew your monthly giving campaign. Giving levels include:

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$10 Monthly	$25 Monthly	$50 Monthly	$100 Monthly	$250 Monthly

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Mr. & Mrs. John E. Schmidt
Dr. Mary Sciulli
Mr. & Mrs. Mark A. Smallwood
Ms. Kelly Szejko
Ms. Danielle M. Torisky
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas G. Tuchnowski
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce T. Walker
Mr. & Mrs. Michael R. Woshner
Most Reverend David Zubik

(Excited for our visit with Jonah.)

(I wish I could get in with the fish.)

(Saucer snow fun.)

DONATION LIST

MONETARY

Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, *Division #21*
Bethany Presbyterian Church, *Bridgeville*
Center Presbyterian Church, *McMurray*
Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church, *Fox Chapel*
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart High School, *Coraopolis*

NON-MONETARY

Pittsburgh Quilters Guild
Church of the Atonement, *Carnegie*
Community of the Crucified One, *Homestead*
St. Joseph the Worker Parish, *Forest Hills*
St. John Fisher Parish, Ladies of Charity, *Churchill*
Resurrection Parish, *Upper St. Clair*
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, *Munhall*
Corpus Christi Parish, *Bridgeville*
St. Paul's Cathedral, *Oakland*
St. John Neumann Church, *Ross Township*
St. Joseph the Worker Parish, Ladies of Charity, *Forest Hills*
Divine Redeemer Parish, *Sewickley*
Woodland Hills High School, *Churchill*

FOUNDATIONS & GRANTS

Allegheny County Airport Authority Charitable Foundation
Allegheny County Medical Society Foundation
Ayers Foundation
CentiMark Foundation
Donahue Family Foundation, Inc.
Federated Investors Foundation, Inc.
Howard & Nell E. Miller Foundation
Jacob A. and Frieda M. Hunkele Charitable Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation
John E. & Sue M. Jackson Charitable Trust
Kate M. Kelley Foundation
Key Bank Foundation
Mary J. Donnelly Foundation
McElhattan Foundation
Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation
Richard King Mellon Foundation
Rite Aid Foundation
The Cameron Heyward Foundation, Inc.
The Grable Foundation
The PNC Foundation- Grow Up Great
The Wildenhain Family Charitable Fund
Thomas Marshall Foundation
Tippins Foundation

BUSINESSES

Allegheny Recycled Products
Care Pro
De Fer Coffee & Tea
Early Head Start
Elmhurst Group
Evereve Boutique, *South Hills*
Highmark Health
PNC Grow Up Great
Starbucks, *Banksville Road*
The Selario Agency, Inc.
UPMC Health Plan

DONATED BY:

Mr. and Mrs. Alan J. McElhinny
Mr. Lawrence Domencic
The Barnes Family
Mrs. NatalieCichoski
Mr. and Mrs. James F. Fyda
Mr. Herbert A. Jones
Mr. Herbert A. Jones
Ms. Betsy Hetzler
Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Feldman
Mr. and Mrs. Michael P. Mooney, Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Hinnebusch
Mr. Jordan Ziemski
Ms. Lauren Seiple

IN HONOR OF:

Mr. Lawrence Domencic
The Arch and McElhinny Families
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hinnebusch
The Smusz Family
Mrs. Mary Winter
Mrs. Bridget Ellsworth
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Ellsworth
Dr. Norman "Chip" A. Hetzler
Ms. Eileen Gelet
Mr. and Mrs. Paul F. Hinnebusch

Ms. Judith Price
Ms. Francesca Oviedo

DONATED BY:

Mr. Richard Gimigliano
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Buches
Mr. John M. Burdette
Ms. Eileen Gelet
Mr. and Mrs. James J. Rodgers

Mr. and Mrs. Alan McElhinny
Mr. Norbert Connors
Mrs. Judith O'Connor
Mrs. Diana Nordeen
Mrs. Catherine C. Rutter
Mr. and Mrs. John A. Blohm

Ms. Mary Eva Marshall
Ms. Beth E. Banas
Ms. Bonnie Banas and Mr. Keith Rhodes
Mr. and Mrs. Andy Gawlas, Ms. Laura Nedley, Ms. Nancy McGill, Ms. Megan McGill, Ms. Laura Pasky, The Gochnour Family, Mr. and Mrs. Alan J. McElhinny, Ms. Beth E. Banas

IN MEMORY OF:

Mrs. Theo Gimigliano
Mrs. Donna Winter
Mrs. Winnie Burdette
Mrs. Yolanda M. Gamrat
Mr. John Rodgers and Ms. Joyce Wildauer
Mrs. Gerry Domencic
Mrs. Carole M. Connors
Mayor Bob O'Connor
Ms. Leslie Sparks
Mr. Charles Rutter
Mrs. Kimberly Blohm and Mr. Michael Graziano
Mrs. Evelyn McLaughlin
Ms. Leslie Sparks
Mrs. Margaret Gamrat
Mrs. Diane Mazza

(We love when volunteer Jane comes for her weekly visit.)

SHOPPING THAT GIVES BACK

AMAZON SMILE
Shop for all of your favorite products and Amazon will send a portion of the purchase price to Angels' Place.

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

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 as Amazon will save your selected nonprofit.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF DIANE MAZZA

We would like to celebrate the life of our beloved colleague, who we had the honor to work alongside for 28 years. Diane was one of the most positive people we had the pleasure to know. In the face of any crisis her first words were always "we can do this, we will be fine." Whenever anyone asked how Diane was doing she used one of our favorite Diane phrases- "just peachy." Diane had the ability to make everyone feel special and she brought joy to everyone with whom she interacted. Possessing many talents, beyond being the perfect employee, Diane was very crafty and created beautiful gifts for all the people she loved. Her family was very important to her and she lovingly shared the joy they brought to her life. She will be dearly missed by all those whose lives she touched. Diane will always be a cherished member of the Angels' Place family. We are blessed to have been part of her life and were deeply saddened by her passing on February 11, 2022.

(Playing in the snow minus the cold.)

(Aren't I a perfect angel?)

(Weekly time movement time with Attack Theatre.)

(Making snow balls.)

(Creating our masterpieces.)

(Enjoying a neighborhood walk with friends.)

(Look at my red hands.)

BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: JESSICA WINGERTSAHN

Jessica recently joined the Angels' Place Board of Directors and will serve as Treasurer.

What brought you to Angels' Place?

Initially, it was through a referral from a colleague of mine at Schneider Downs who encouraged me to meet with Beth to learn more about Angels' Place. I knew right after the first meeting that I wanted to be involved with the organization. Beth is very passionate about the mission and work of Angels' Place, which aligns closely with where I focus my time and efforts in my personal life.

What are some goals you hope to accomplish as a member of the Board?

I hope to be able to bring ideas from not just a financial aspect, but also organizational and operational angles to help Angels' Place operate at a full capacity in order to be able to provide assistance to as many families as possible.

What do you feel is most unique or special about Angels' Place?

The desire to support families in all aspects of life is what I find to be the most unique aspect of Angels' Place. I am a firm believer that raising a child takes a village. Angels' Place does not solely provide child care but is a big part of that village for many families. From assistance with job placement to parenting classes, Angels' Place looks at the big picture and tries to help with all facets of the journey.

Who is Jessica outside the role of Angels' Place?

I attended Washington and Jefferson College, where I received my Bachelor of Accountancy degree. Since then, I have worked as a certified public accountant at Schneider Downs as an audit manager. I grew up south of Pittsburgh in the small town of Claysville. I still reside in Washington County with my husband, Ted, and our two little boys, six-month-old Clayton and two-year-old Eli.

We are very involved with our local church and spend a lot of our time there. I teach Sunday school to kids ranging from toddler age to third grade. I am also involved in Awana, an international, Bible-centered program for children in grades 2 through 5. At Schneider Downs, I actively participate with our United Way Campaign and am a member of our Focus on Women: Sponsorship and Leadership Committee.

(Wingertsahn Family.)

Angels' Place
Nurturing Two Generations

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

WISH LISTS

North Side

- Assorted Birthday Gift Bags
- Assorted Graduation Gift Bags
- School Decorations (All Occasions-Seasonal)
- Wrapping Paper
- 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 (Blue Goo)
- 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

WORKPLACE GIVING

LIVE UNITED

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**.

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
- 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
- Children's Toothbrushes (Non-electric)
- Painters Tape
- Child Safety Latches
- 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

(The look of pure joy.)