Dear Friends,

Greetings! I feel as if I comment on this every year, but I am always amazed at how quickly summer passes and, in the blink of an eye, we are entering into autumn. The seasons mark the passing of the year and fall reminds us that we are well on our way to 2024. Entering our 39th year, I wonder where the time has gone?

At Angels’ Place we have our own catch phrases that the children and teachers use. Frequently our parents comment on their children’s extensive vocabulary and how they can use the words in appropriate context. One of our children declared that with the “change of season” she will be transitioning to kindergarten. I asked her what season it was, and she replied, it is the “Change Season.”

Questioned by one of our children about her length of time at Angels’ Place she asked me, “If I knew her last year.” I explained that I have known her since she was a baby. She contemplated my statement and then said, “You must be so proud of yourself.”

I was prompted to think of all the other phrases I hear regularly. A mom shared that her daughter reported that another child was “so suffering.” Mom was at first concerned that there was a child in pain, so she reached out to me. For years our children have associated clean up time with suffering and then the term extended to any time a child didn’t want to do something. Our children compassionately validate that their friend is “so suffering” and then ask how they can help them feel better.

During my workday when my windows are open it brings me joy to listen to the children play outside. I can hear their conversations as they navigate their day-to-day relationships.

I thought it would be fun to entertain you with some of the children’s phrases. Here are a few of my recent favorites:

“We are having bikinis (zucchini) for lunch that we picked from our garden.”

“Your dog son looks like you.” (upon meeting my new puppy).

“Me love you!”

“I have the most excellent spider in my sifter.”

“Literally, I am telling you the truth.”

“Actually, the butterfly used to be a worm.”

“You are flogging (drooling) on me.”

“When I used to be a fish I swam in the water.”

“Be gentle.” (our #1 rule)

“Don’t be a bucket dipper!”

“Are you going home to live in the office with your mother?”

“Is your poop big like an elephant?”

“You just have to focus!”

Adult “Could you please pass the peas?” Child “Could you please help yourself?”

“Beth when I grow up will I turn into a boy like you and have short hair?”

I am sure that we can all agree that kids say the darnedest things, but it is laced with innocence and truth! When something is super fantastic at Angels’ Place we respond with “Ooh, la, la!” Everyone knows that it is the ultimate compliment. In closing, I would like to share that your generosity, kindness and compassion deserve a resounding “Ooh la, la!” I hope that you stay with us as we journey through this next year and prepare to celebrate our 40th anniversary. Angels’ Place’s accomplishments are a result of our alliance. We thank you for your continued support. God bless and enjoy the spectacular splendor of autumn.

With sincere appreciation,

Beth E. Banas
Executive Director

(Fresh air yoga.)
FALL 2023

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

“A fallen leaf is nothing more than a summer’s wave goodbye.” – Unknown

As we take time to enjoy the last days of summer, the memories we created will last a lifetime; this is our sincere wish for the children in our program. Our dedicated teachers planned many creative and exciting summer activities for the children to enjoy at both centers. In June, “Summer Fun” was the theme at our North Side center where everyone enjoyed healthy and homemade summer snacks. The children made smoothies, freshly squeezed lemonade, pizza muffins, and friendship fruit salads. The children at Swissvale planted vegetables in their garden and cared for them all summer. After months of observing the plants’ growth, they got to sample the “the fruits of their labor.” The children created special gifts for loved ones for Father’s Day and enjoyed many other art activities such as sun prints, mural painting, wet chalk collages, coffee filter turtles, and a bubble wrap octopus. We celebrated Juneteenth and International Mud Day where the children participated in some good, old-fashioned play in water and mud.

While the children have been spending a great deal of time outside, they are still learning important social and school-readiness skills. Children engaged in science activities including water experiments and water challenges, pouring and dumping, and playing in the sprinkler. The North Side Pre-K children did a fizzing ice experiment and made ocean discovery bottles. Swissvale parents and children enjoyed the “Raising a Reader” book lending program, hosted by Mary Denison. Gene, our volunteer monthly reader, shares his time reading to the children who always look forward to his visit. “Raising a Reader” once again held their summer reading program with all children receiving a new book.

Thank You/Special Acknowledgments

Thank you to Community of the Crucified One for providing the children special gifts to celebrate the 4th of July and to Saint Joseph the Worker Ladies of Charity who so generously held a diaper drive.

Dana Cornelius and volunteers from the Pack A Purse program once again collected an amazing donation of purses stuffed with household supplies for all the parents in our program.

We are grateful to our longtime good friends who kindly donated backpacks and school supplies to all the children to kick off the new school year.

With appreciation to Dave Spicuzza and Knepper Press Printing who underwrote the cost for printing our Annual Report.

We are incredibly thankful for the overwhelming support for Angels’ Place for the recent Critical Needs Event hosted by The Pittsburgh Foundation.

Thank you to our special event committee members for donating their time in a variety of ways. In addition, we are grateful to the many businesses who have been sending in donations to support our Halo event in October.

Early Head Start continues to partner with our program and we appreciate the many ways they support our organization. They also continue to help with diapers, equipment in the classrooms, and monetary funding.

We are very appreciative of our continued partnership with PNC Group Up Great. Volunteer groups came throughout the summer and did yardwork, painting, and repair/maintenance projects at both centers.

We are grateful for all our door donations of clothes, toys, and wish list items.

Weekly volunteers

We thank our weekly volunteers who are a beloved part of the Angels’ Place family: Bonnie Banas, Eileen Gelet, Lynda MacMurchy, Joan McElhinny, Mary Kate Opferman, and Gene O’Sullivan.
each week for eight weeks to add to their libraries at home. Families were also able to enter to win tickets to Sandcastle or Kennywood. At the North Side, families received activity packets from Reading is FUNdamental and a book from our community reader, Cynthia Battle. At the end of June, parents, children, and staff at Swissvale enjoyed an ice cream social together and they held a goodbye party for good friend and volunteer, Jane, who is moving away. She will be dearly missed by everyone as she was a wonderful help and the children looked forward to seeing her each week.

In August, we started a new school year filled with excitement and joy at the possibilities that lay ahead. We said good-bye to six children who started kindergarten, and while we miss them greatly, we know they are ready for their new adventure. The children are settled in their new classrooms and are happily learning. Weekly yoga classes with the E.S.T.E.E.M. group will resume giving the children the opportunity to focus on yoga poses, self-regulation, social emotional skills, and mindful techniques.

With autumn approaching, we often lament the passing of summer, but with the dawn of a new season, we find joy in the beauty of nature and in the relationships we share with others. Thank you so much for your dedication to Angels’ Place, we are truly grateful for you.

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Monthly Giving</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friend</strong></td>
<td>$10</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Supporter</strong></td>
<td>$25</td>
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<td><strong>Champion</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Advocate</strong></td>
<td>$100</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Guardian</strong></td>
<td>$250</td>
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</tbody>
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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. Michael Aquilina
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Bailey
Ms. Mary Kathryn Banning
Bethany Presbyterian Church
Mr. & Mrs. John A. Blohm
Mr. & Mrs. John A. Bonacci
Mr. & Mrs. Robert F. Burns
Ms. Kristine Callender
The Rev. & Dr. David B. Carver
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Mr. & Mrs. Kevin J. Cordera
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph A. Cummings
Mrs. Jessica Dewit
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Mr. & Mrs. Michael J. Duer
Ms. Hodda El-Iskandarani
Ms. Shannon Evans
Mrs. John P. Finke
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Finley
Mr. & Mrs. Dan Flatz
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Foley
Dr. Heather Fry
Mr. & Mrs. James F. Fyda
Mrs. Brittney Galish
Mr. & Mrs. George Gardner
Ms. Laurie L. Garvey
Ms. Angela Gaughan
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Ms. Tamara Wyatt
Mr. & Mrs. Michael R. Woshner
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Wright
Most Reverend David Zubik
Angels’ Place is proud to honor the Knights of Columbus Our Lady of Olives Council 3907 at the upcoming 2023 annual Halo Award Dinner. As longtime friends and donors of Angels’ Place for the past 32 years, Council 3907 has faithfully embraced our mission.

The main principles of the Knights of Columbus are charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. They certainly practice what they preach being involved in helping many community and charitable efforts including pregnancy centers, family support agencies, and various local, national, and international disaster relief efforts.

Through the Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) initiative, their council has blessed the mothers and children of Angels’ Place through significant donations of new items. It is their mission to strive to provide aid and support to neighbors in need, affording them the dignity they deserve, while working to create a brighter future for all.

We are privileged to have the Knights committed to serving our community and invite you to join us at the 2023 Halo Award Dinner on October 19, 2023, at the LeMont Restaurant to celebrate their contributions.

“We each have all the time there is; our mental and moral status is determined by what we do with it.” - Mary Blake
(Emotions scan.)

(My Uber.)

(Celebrating our Foster Grandparent Marlene.)

(Turning lemons into lemonade.)

(The next generation of architects.)

WE ARE HIRING

OPEN POSITIONS
- DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
- EARLY EDUCATION TEACHERS
- FAMILY SUPPORT DIRECTOR
- NUTRITIONAL COORDINATOR

Learn More on Our Website: www.angelsplacepgh.org

Send Your Resume & Cover Letter to us at angelsplacepgh@gmail.com
DONATION LIST

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Our Lady of the Sacred Heart High School, Coraopolis

NON-MONETARY
CentiMark Corporation
Community of the Crucified One
Knepper Press
Pack A Purse
Reading Ready Pittsburgh
Saint Joseph the Worker Parish
Ladies of Charity
Saint Matthew Parish
University of Pittsburgh - Pitt Law

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The John & Kathleen Schreiber Foundation
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Mr. & Mrs. Paul Myron
Mrs. Saundra O'Sullivan

DONATED BY:
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Ms. Kathleen Gavigan
Knights of Columbus Pittsburgh Council 491
Mr. Robert Poydence
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Massey Charitable Trust
PNC Foundation - Grow Up Great
Portiuncula Foundation
University of Pittsburgh - Pitt Serves
Washington Financial Charitable Foundation

BUSINESSES
De Fer Coffee & Tea
Early Head Start

IN HONOR OF:
The Arch & McElhinny Families
Mrs. Mary Winter
Mr. John Arch

Ms. Eileen Gelet's Birthday
The Anniversary of the Dobbs Decision
Mr. Gene O'Sullivan for Father's Day

IN MEMORY OF:
Mrs. Ruth Buches

Mrs. Carole M. Connors
Mr. William B. Dixon
Mrs. Barbara Ann Rozzo

Hatch & Michele Poydence
Ms. Lisa Simpson
Tony & Margaret Constantine
Ms. Lillian Tate
John F. Weldon M.D.

WORKPLACE GIVING
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.

(Where did my feet go.)
(We won't let rain spoil our picnic.)
(We are going places.)
(The more the merrier.)
**North Side**

- Febreze Spray/Air Fresheners
- Mops and Brooms
- Vacuum Cleaners
- Fabric Softeners
- Dreft Baby Detergent
- Liquid Laundry Soap/Pods
- Assorted Cleaning Products
- 13 Gallon Trash Can with Lid (Foot Pedal or Touchless)
- Fish Flakes (Goldfish)
- Fish Rocks - Accessories
- Plastic Name Tag Badge ID Card Holders (Amazon)
- Facial Tissues
- Dixie Cups

**Swissvale**

- Black Sharpies
- Tall Kitchen Trash Bags (13 Gallon)
- Command Strips and Hooks
- Sticky Tack
- Lawn Rakes
- Clorox Bleach
- Scrubbing Bubbles
- Playground Balls
- Gardening Gloves (Adult Size)
- Love Seat and Sofa - Gently Used
- Chalkboard Markers
- Graham Crackers
- Wheat Thins

**Wish Lists**

- Plastic Cups (Assorted Sizes)
- (Non-Styrofoam)
- Paper Towels
- Paper Plates (Non-Styrofoam)
- Paper Bowls (Non-Styrofoam)
- Fish Flakes (Goldfish)
- Fish Rocks - Accessories
- 13 Gallon Trash Bags
- 30 Gallon Trash Bags
- Batteries (AA, AAA, C and 9-volt)
- Washcloths
- Child Size Toothbrushes
- Chalk Board Markers
- Command Strips
- Dry Erase Markers
- Chalk Board Marker Post-It Notes
- Lamination Paper
- Graham Crackers
- Cheese Balls
- Fruit Snacks
- Animal Crackers
- Fruit Cups
- Ritz Crackers
- Cheez-Its Cheddar - White Cheddar
- Black Sharpies
- Tall Kitchen Trash Bags (13 Gallon)
- Command Strips and Hooks
- Sticky Tack
- Lawn Rakes
- Clorox Bleach
- Scrubbing Bubbles
- Playground Balls
- Gardening Gloves (Adult Size)
- Love Seat and Sofa - Gently Used
- Chalkboard Markers
- Graham Crackers
- Wheat Thins

**DONATE YOUR CAR**

Benefiting the babies, moms, and dads of Angels’ Place, Inc.

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