Angels' Place
Nurturing Two Generations

CRIB NOTES

Fall 2023 ❄ Issue #152

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,

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 floggering (drooling) on me."

"When I used to be a fish I swimmed 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 darndest 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

(Family meals are the best.)

(Channeling my inner artist.)

(Searching for treasures.)

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.

(Celebrating the 4th of July!)

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.

(North Side's PNC volunteers.)

(Swissvale's PNC volunteers.)

(Ice cream for mom and me.)

(Volunteers modeling hard work.)

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. 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
Ms. Paula M. Cline
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin J. Cordera
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph A. Cummings
Mrs. Jessica Dewit
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence M. Diersen
Ms. Elizabeth DiSalle
Ms. Sarah DiTommaso
Mr. Lawrence F. Domencic
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
Ms. Eileen Gelet
Mr. & Mrs. Andre R. Giroux
Mr. & Mrs. David K. Gray
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur H. Green
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Grimes
Mr. & Mrs. David R. Gusmar
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel J. Harshbarger
Ms. Mary Kate Healey
Ms. Amber Hinnebusch
Ms. Kelly Hinnebusch
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew P. Hinnebusch
Alice Hirsch, Ph.D.
Mr. & Mrs. David P. Hoydick
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Jamison
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth D. Janowitz
Ms. Catherine Jeremko
Ms. Kelly Kellett
Dr. & Mrs. John Kokales
Mr. & Mrs. Richard A. Kraski
Ms. Laura Penrod Kronk
Rev. Edward J. Kunco
Mr. & Mrs. Eric L. Lackner
Mr. Benedetto A. Lavella
Mr. & Mrs. James Leck
Ms. Gina L. Lison
Mr. & Mrs. Harry C. Lydic
Ms. Michelle Lynch
Mrs. Lois H. MacDonald
Ms. Christina Machi
Mr. & Mrs. Richard G. MacMurchy
Ms. Michelle Masters
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald J. McCormick
Mr. & Mrs. Alan J. McElhinny
Mr. & Mrs. Clarence P. McFadden
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Miller
Ms. Marjorie Mills
Ms. Erin Mooney
Ms. Mary F. Morgan
Mr. & Mrs. Martin E. Mueller
Ms. Katie O'Toole
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart High School
Ms. Frankie Peterson-Burch
Mr. & Mrs. Jordan Ritchie
Mr. & Mrs. James J. Rodgers
Ms. Morgan Ruffing
Ms. April Scassera
Mr. & Mrs. Ira J. Schmeltz
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. Ted Wingertsahn
Ms. Tamara Wyatt
Mr. & Mrs. Michael R. Woshner
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Wright
Most Reverend David Zubik

(Before. . .)

(. . .After.)

(Pouring and dumping.)

(Experimenting with nature.)

(Dancing in the mud.)

INTERNATIONAL MUD DAY

World Forum Nature Action Collaborative for Children

JUNE 29

(Better than a slip and slide.)

(Practicing the Karate Kid's crane pose.)

(Try it you'll like it!)

(Mudpies require patience.)

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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

(Cooling off in the sprinkler.)

(Our friend Jane makes everything fun.)

SAVE THE DATE

FOR OUR ANNUAL

Celebration of Knights

HALO AWARD DINNER

October 19, 2023

at the LeMont Restaurant

2023 Halo Award Dinner

Kindly respond on or before October 12, 2023.

☐ **YES!** I plan to attend the *Halo Award Dinner - October 19, 2023*
Please reserve ___ individual reservation(s) at $100 per person.

☐ I am unable to attend but would like to contribute $_____
toward the continued success of Angels' Place.

Please make checks payable to Angels' Place, Inc.

Name _____ Phone Number _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

VISA/MC/AMEX # _____

CV (3 Digit Code)/Expiration Date _____

Scan QR code to register online.

Please call Sarah Dargay at (412) 271-2229 for additional information.

Angels' Place
Nurturing Two Generations

Dyson V8 Origin
Cordless Stick Vacuum
$5 per Raffle Ticket

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Quantity of Raffle Tickets: _____

Fill out your contact information and send Angels' Place a contribution of $5 (per ticket). You may be the lucky winner! The drawings will take place on Thursday, October 19, 2023.
Winner need not be present.
No donation is required to enter.
Mail your check and ticket(s) to Angels' Place, Inc.
2615 Norwood Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15214
or call Sarah Dargay at (412) 271-2229 to pay by credit card.

(Emotions scan.)

(Here, let me help you.)

(Turning lemons into lemonade.)

(My Uber.)

(Celebrating our Foster Grandparent Marlene.)

(Mondays are rough.)

(The next generation of architects.)

Angels' Place
Nurturing Two Generations

WE ARE HIRING

JOIN OUR TEAM

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
angelsplacepittsburgh@gmail.com

DONATION LIST

MONETARY

Bethany Presbyterian Church, *Bridgeville*

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

FOUNDATIONS & GRANTS

CentiMark Foundation

Irene C. Shea Charitable Foundation

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

DONATED BY:

Mr. Lawrence Domencic

Mr. & Mrs. James F. Fyda

The John & Kathleen Schreiber Foundation

Ms. Joan Gorczyk, Mrs. Therese Kaiser

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Myron

Mrs. Saundra O'Sullivan

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

DONATED BY:

Mr. & Mrs. Bart Biamonte, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Buches, Mr. & Mrs. William Jeffcoat, Ms.Monica Zewe, Ms. Dorothy B. Zewe

Mr. Norbert J. Connors

Ms. Kathleen Gavigan

Knights of Columbus Pittsburgh Council 491

Mr. Robert Poydence

Mr. & Mrs. Kim Schreck

Mrs. Judith Ann Schrecker

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Tuchnowski

Mrs. Dorothy Weldon

IN MEMORY OF:

Mrs. Ruth Buches

Mrs. Carole M. Connors

Mr. William B. Dixon

Mrs. Barbara Ann Rozzo

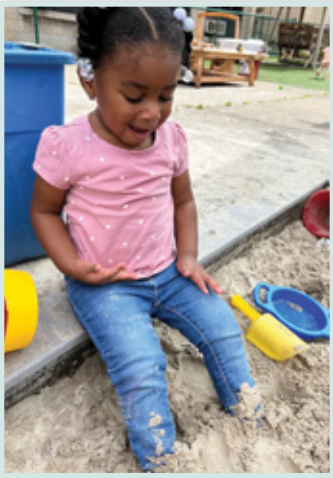
Hatch & Michele Poydence

Ms. Lisa Simpson

Tony & Margaret Constantine

Ms. Lillian Tate

John F. Weldon M.D.



(Where did my feet go.)

(The more the merrier.)

(Playing catch.)

(Restaurant's open.)

(We are going places!)

(We won't let rain spoil our picnic.)

(We love our teachers.)

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**.

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WISH LISTS

North Side

- Febreze Spray/ Air Fresheners
- Mops and Brooms
- Vacuums
- Toilet Bowl Brushes
- 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
- Plastic Cups (Assorted Sizes) (Non – Styrofoam)
- Napkins
- Paper Towels
- Paper Plates (Non – Styrofoam)
- Paper Bowls (Non – Styrofoam)
- Plastic Utensils (Forks - Spoons)
- Indoor Potting Soil
- Assorted Plastic Soil Trays
- Hand Soap with Pump
- Dawn Dish Liquid
- Dishwasher Pods - Liquid Soap
- 30 Gallon Trash Bags
- 13 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
- Cheese Crackers
- Cheez-its Cheddar - White Cheddar

Swissvale

- All Purpose Cleaners
- Toilet Cleaner
- 39 Gallon Trash Bags
- Dixie Cups
- Pump Hand Soap
- White Copier Paper (8.5"x11")
- Postage Stamps
- Liquid Dishwasher Soap
- Cascade Liquid Dishwasher
- Dessert Size Paper Plates
- Paper Towels
- Paper Napkins
- Mops and Brooms
- 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
- Boxed Cakes and Icing
- Pepper
- Ketchup
- Whole Grain Ritz Crackers
- Sprinkle Parmesan Cheese
- Pepperoni
- Dried Fruits
- Fruit Snacks
- Rice Cakes (Carmel or Cheese)
- Vanilla Wafers
- Kix Cereal
- Honey Nut Cheerios
- Life Cereal
- 100% Juice

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Benefiting the babies, moms, and dads of
Angels' Place, Inc.
Call: (855) 500-7433 | www.angelsplacepgh.careasy.org