



November 2022

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Dear Friends,

Each time Angelwood board, committees and program or leadership staff gather, we open our time with a 'Mission Moment.' This is when someone shares what they have seen or experienced that keeps them motivated to do their best to enrich the lives of the children, adults and families Angelwood serves.

Today, I would like to share a personal 'Mission Moment' with you. Ever since I came to Angelwood I have been telling our staff and volunteers to always assume that the person they are visiting or working with can understand everything they are saying even if the person doesn't appear to have the means to communicate. This way of thinking was confirmed this last month via my grandson, Caleb. Caleb is 18 years old and doesn't use words to communicate verbally. In fact, Caleb needs a lot of help to support many of his daily living needs. Most communication devices that had been tried in the past had minimal results, but last spring his school tested him on an eye gaze device. Pretty quickly he was showing remarkable promise with it. Last month Caleb's teacher sent a message home saying that Caleb came into the classroom and within 20 minutes was able to put 4 words together: "bathroom – now – help – now." The teachers were amazed because never before had Caleb been able to communicate his basic need for help. Obviously, there were many tears of joy in our family that Caleb could initiate expressing his needs rather than wait to respond if someone approached him.

All of this is more than just a personal story. It is an affirmation that just because someone doesn't look like they are aware of their surroundings, can't speak with their physical voice or use sign language doesn't mean they don't have thoughts, dreams and the ability to learn more about their world. It is a reminder for everyone at Angelwood; our board, staff, volunteers and community partners, that living out our core value of Dignity includes those who communicate differently.

Thank you for being part of a community that gives everyone a voice.

Have a Blessed Holiday Season,

Diane



Diane Tuttle
Chief Executive Officer

Welcome New Board Members



Bob Brigham is a semi-retired health care administrator having served with the Mayo Clinic and MD Anderson. Currently Bob teaches part time at both JU and UNF in Healthcare Administration and Leadership. He also provides some international consulting for the Mayo Clinic. Bob and his wife Karen have three children and are fortunate to have them living close to them in Florida.



Rob Loverich joined Smoak, Davis & Nixon accounting firm in 1988, the year he graduated from college. He earned his CPA license in 1991 and has been serving as managing partner of the firm since 2015. Rob is looking forward to using his experience in accounting and finance, as well as contract and tax compliance for Not for Profit Organizations, to serve Angelwood as a board member. He and his wife Lisa were born and raised in Jacksonville and continue to call the city home.

Camp is Back!

After a two year hiatus the **Angelwood Summer Day Camp** returned this summer for school-aged children living with differences and their siblings! Laughter, fun, and joy filled the air as the campers enjoyed participating in many fun activities, seeing old friends, and meeting new ones! The children had the opportunity to participate in basketball and recreation time, create a variety of original art, and learn tennis skills during 'Tennis for Everyone' sessions. Angelwood's Summer Camp helps support families so that parents are able to work or have some respite during the day while school based programs are not in session. Our dedicated Camp staff and volunteers assist each day to continue developing social skills throughout the summer sessions. CEO Diane Tuttle stated, **"We are so happy to welcome back our camp families. It has been such a pleasure to see campers learning, growing, and having so much fun!"**



Angelwood Community Explorers (A.C.E.)

We are excited to announce that the **Angelwood Community Explorers (A.C.E.)** program for adults and young adults is back! The first outing took place at Top Golf at the end of September where the group played golf games, enjoyed lunch, and had the opportunity to socialize with peers. A.C.E. is a part of the Parents' Night Out program with the dual goal of giving individuals an opportunity to participate in community activities with peers and giving parents a few hours respite. One participant said of the fall outing, **"It was fun and I enjoyed being with people that I know and meeting new people."** Another person noted, "I liked the food, view, venue, and company!"



Parents' Night Out Program

Angelwood is offering parents of school-aged children with intellectual, physical, and developmental differences and their siblings some off-time during the year through the **Parents' Night Out** program. Arts and crafts, music, recreation, and holiday specific activities will be provided at each upcoming session. This is a great opportunity for parents to get some much needed time off while trained staff and volunteers engage their children in fun activities and provide for interaction with peers. School-aged children and siblings are eligible to attend.

If you know someone that may be interested in participating in upcoming Parents' Night Out or A.C.E. activities, please call the office at 904-288-7259.



A grant was awarded from the Robert T. and Carol R. Shircliff Charitable Trust at the Community Foundation of Northeast Florida to support our A.C.E and Parents' Night Out initiatives for 2022-23.

Angelwood Annual Celebration

The 2022 Angelwood Annual Celebration: Soaring Possibilities was our most successful fundraiser to date thanks to the generous support of our sponsors, donors, volunteers, and attendees! The event took place at the Sawgrass Marriott as well as being live streamed on Angelwood's Facebook page. The event included a live and silent auction, games, dinner and dessert. Thank you to the committee and event chairs (pictured below on right). The highlight of the evening was the awards program. **Hagan ACE Hardware** was awarded 'Corporate Partner of the Year' for their enduring commitment to serving Angelwood and the local community. **Tyler Anderson** (pictured left with parents) was met with a standing ovation as he accepted the 'Soaring Possibilities Award' for his many accomplishments as a member of The Bells of Angelwood and his growth as a participant in the Angelwood basketball program. Congratulations to both deserving winners!

To view this year's award videos visit AngelwoodJax.org/Celebration



We are grateful to the companies and families who sponsored the 2022 Angelwood Celebration.

Presenting Angels

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The Broome Legacy Group
Buehler Air Conditioning
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Ponte Vedra Recorder

Save the Date

We hope you will join us in 2023! If you are interested in learning more about sponsorship opportunities, donating auction items, or would like to volunteer, please contact Damara Farwell at dfarwell@angelwoodjax.org. Visit AngelwoodJax.org/angelwood-events for more information.



Thursday, February 16
Jacksonville Clay
Target Sports



Wednesday, March 29
The Golf Club
at South Hampton



Saturday, August 19
Sawgrass Marriott
Ponte Vedra Beach

Corporate Visionaries \$20,000 & Above

Gramling Investments
Hagan ACE Hardware
Wahby Financial Group

Corporate Champions \$10,000 & Above

904 Home Guide
Arlington Toyota
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AC Masters Cooling & Heating
Allstate Steel Company
Arrow Exterminators
BB&T - McGriff
The Bearded Pig
Bill Wilson Inspections
The Broome Legacy Group
Buehler Air Conditioning
Claude Nolan Cadillac, Inc.
Coastal Equipment Systems of FL, LLC
Corporate Traffic
Coverall Warjon
Critical Fuel Services
David Tuttle, Piano Tech
Dex Imaging
Enhanced Recovery Group (ERC)
Faver Gray
Florida Blue
Gemlux Fishing
HCA Florida Memorial Hospital
Q BBQ Fest Jacksonville
Jaguars Foundation
JP Perry
Kinney & Moore
Limbaugh Electrical Contracting
Lynch's Irish Pub
Nader's Pest Raiders
Nimnicht Chevrolet
PGA TOUR/Red Coats
Ponte Vedra Recorder
Publix Super Markets Charities
Secure SI
Shorstien & Kelly, P.A.
Sight & Sound Productions
Smart Body Physical Therapy
Sports Pub
St. Johns Bar Pilot Association
Stellar
Sunoptic Technologies
Thigpen Heating & Cooling, Inc.
Trees, Inc.
UBS Financial Services
Underwood Jewelers
US Assure
Valley Bank

Visionary Angels \$20,000 & Above

Cavan Family Foundation
Nadine Gramling

Riverside Hospital Foundation
United Way of Northeast Florida

Champion Angels \$10,000 & Above

Cheri & Mark Brock
Melanie & Morgan Busby
Suzanne & Martin Flamm
Leann & Eric Howard
Natalie & Mike Rolewicz

Congressman & Mrs. John Rutherford
Corrine & Erik Sharpe
Ivy & Tom Suter
The Thomas M. and Irene B. Kirbo
Foundation

Benefactor Angels \$5,000 & Above

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Rick Doran
Community Foundation
Angela & Travis Cox
Gillian & Roi Dagan
Debra & Jeff Harrison
Kelly & Scott Gramling
Stephanie & Brian Krug
Tash & Andy Mayer

Rachel DuBois & Kevin Padgett
Jan & Mike Parrish
Persbacker-Wyman Family Foundation
Meg Rose
Ann & Geroge Sabbag
Diane & David Tuttle
Billie & Angelo Volpe
Robin & Dan Wahby

Ambassador Angels \$2,500 & Above

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Charly & Jason Buehler
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Katrina & Stafford Cassell
First Housing Foundation
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Denise & Mike Graves
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LynMarie & William Grub
Sandra Hanania
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Tera & Jeff Lageman
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Georgia Reed
Kathy & Gary Reynolds
Whitney & Richard Ricci
Valli Rieder
Stephanie & Joe Santore
Terri & Mick Stuebben
Barbara MooreWedow & Dave Wedow

Mission Partners \$1,000 & Above

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Sharon Dowe
David Emanuel
Mike Gay
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Anna Jensen
Denise & Steve Judd
Brendan Keough
Susan & Russ Lucas
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Lindsay & Alex Pantinakis
David Rieger
Riverside Presbyterian Church
Janet Shuman
Shelia & Ken Stroud
Jennifer Sullivan
Suzie & Spyros Syrmis
Lila Tahnoose
Stephanie & Nick Trefry
The Utz Family
The Vergenz Family
Dianne & John Wagner
The Wainer Family
Michelle & John Watt
Kim Wheeler
Andrew Winner
Tracie Wolford
Susan & Richard Zumwalde



Memorials

Mal Buckey

Susan Buckey

Dan Groce

Tracey Shirley

Jahvaun's Legacy

Joyce Carriere

Palmer Kelly

Joy Camp

Cindy Berardi MacCoy

Sara Jane Rogers

Betty Swann

Tammy Brown

Brenda Thornberg

John Wagner, Sr.

Betty & James Hess

Colleen Wiggins

Barbara & Warren Beagle

Lori & Steven Cannon

Jane Cassidy

Charles Mauter

Jo Ann & Wilson Smith

Mike Stukel

Women of Greater Boca

Colleen Wiggins & Lindsay Watt

The Bal Family

Mary Brewer

Suncoast Team Services

Paul Woods

Alexis Woods

Thank you to the following individuals and families for their contribution in memory of Curry Close:

Jessica Acuna, Geddes Anderson, James Ashurst, Laura Barnickel, Donna Bateh, Tarik Bateh, Leslie Bicksler, Susan Callender, Adriana Cantville, Hugh Carithers, Matthew Carlucci, Ashley Chastain, Chris & Jeff Claxton, Julie Cloney, Caroline & Jeff Close, Peggy Close, Charles Close, Travis Cummings, Garel Curry, Kate & Jim D'andre, Michelle Delgado, John Downey, Brenna Durden, Ann Evans, William Eyler, Patrick Forquer, Will Foundation, Douglas Gatlin, Lisa Goddard, Mariah Goelz, Tessa Gottlieb, Alex Graham, Field Gudenrath, Stephanie Harden, Amy Hardman, Elisabeth Holdorf, James Hoover, Melissa Hopple, The Hurst Family, George Israel IV, Shannon Kelley, Ashely & Robert Landers, Eric Leach, Heather Lewis, Bridget Markley, Bart McBride, Michael Milton, Betsy & Glenn Nick, John Owen, Heather Peters, Daniel Reeves, Sara Riner, Alice Rolen, Jenna & Ianier Roton, Meg & Jon Sacks, Caitlin Sargent, Melissa Schauer, Shannon Schott Rainka, Grant Sexton, Jessica Shaver, Erin Stancill, Chad Stevens, Cindy & Dan Stover, Brett Turnbull, Cameron White, Joshua Whitman, Annie Wilder, Hunter Williams, Clark Worrell, & Daniel Zyski.

Tributes

Linsey Altman

Tammie Altman

Stephanie Brannan

Geraldine Gibbons

Irene Farwell

Damara Farwell

Ryan Flamm

Steven Flamm

James Goodbread

Chase Cole

Lisa & Henry Goodbread

Mandy Nesz

Lisa & James Goodbread

Donald Woods

Christopher Griswold

Craig Peat

Tera Lageman

KirbyCo Builders, Inc.

Svendi Oversen

Karen Weir

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Nanette Hughlett

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The Kenneth V. Meyer

Family Fund

Diane Tuttle

John & Jean Grant-Dooley

Robin Wahby

Pam Ervanian

William Grub

Robin & Dan Wahby

John & Billie Rawot

Selah Wainer

David Wainer & Family

Joanne & Ernie Winner

Andrew Winner

Donations from October 1, 2021 - September 30, 2022.

All efforts were made to ensure inclusion and accuracy in recognition of gifts at the time the newsletter was printed.

We regret any unintentional omissions or errors.

Volunteer Partner Spotlight

Joe and Linda Smid have been making the holidays bright for Angelwood residents since 2014. After learning about Angelwood through an outreach ministry at their church, they were able to sponsor individuals by buying gifts from their wish list for the holiday season. Over the years the Smids, along with their company and church "army of elves," have also supported Angelwood with volunteer workdays. At the outbreak of the Covid pandemic, they were able to share some hard-to-get hospital-grade disinfectants and paper towels when everything was in short supply. Joe believes that this has been possible because they were willing to ask others to help support Angelwood's residents and families. He recently shared, **"We are looking forward to our ninth year in a row of fulfilling Christmas wishes. We love being part of a program that remains personal and intentional. Every list has a name, and every name receives prayers for love and joy this Christmas - fulfilled wish lists are a plus!"** Angelwood Volunteer Coordinator, Alexis Woods said, "The Smids have been steadfast in their dedication to those we serve. We are so grateful for their love and support."

If you are interested in helping Angelwood by donating in-kind items or volunteering, please contact Alexis at awoods@angelwoodjax.org.

You can also find our wish list at angelwoodjax.org/wish-list



November 2022

Dear Friends,

Let me introduce myself and share with you how Angelwood has impacted our family for over 17 years. I am Sharon Dowe, mother of Danielle “FiFi” Dowe. Yes, that is one of my favorite roles in this life.

My daughter Danielle was born with a lot of difficulties, more than most people see in a lifetime. **But she lights up my world and brings joy wherever she goes.**

Our journey with Angelwood began when Danielle attended the Angelwood Summer Camp. As a child she was able to enjoy a summer camp program back when children who were differently abled were often left out. Angelwood included her and it made my heart sing.

Over the years we were also blessed to have the opportunity to benefit from Angelwood’s Respite services, Parents’ Night Out events, parties and many social events. Today Danielle enjoys attending the Adult Day Training program where she has made many friends who recognize her by her distinctive humming even before she rounds the corner on her way down the hall. She is given opportunities to develop skills, socialize and work on her personal habilitation plan in a caring environment. **“Danielle has such a bright spirit. Even in her silence she speaks volumes with her eyes and body language. She inspires all of us who know her.”** Felicia Stover, Angelwood DSP.

As a mother of two and needing to work full time, I can tell you that life has many stressful times. Finding someone I can trust to care for my now adult child, who isn’t able to communicate with words to tell me about her day, or what hurts, or if she had some bumps along the way has been difficult and stressful. The supports that Angelwood has had in place for Danielle helps enrich her life and has saved my sanity!

Once I recognized the quality of Angelwood and the value of the works being done, it became important to me to become a monthly supporter, community advocate, volunteer, and a member of the Board of Directors. I want to help Angelwood stay ready to assist, not just my daughter, but the many children, adults and their families today and for years to come.

Will you join me in giving to this very special organization? **Your gift when joined with mine and others can be just what is needed to impact families in our community.** If you already give, please accept this as a heartfelt thank you from us to you.

Yours in service,

Sharon & FiFi Dowe



Angelwood has many opportunities for giving, whether it is monetary gifts, stocks and other investments, volunteering, serving on the Board or various committees. Shopping Amazon Smile and selecting Angelwood as your charity or checking to see if your employer has a matching donation program, it all helps!

For more information on how to give Angelwood visit our website at AngelwoodJax.org/donate

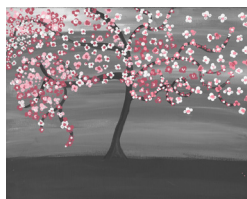


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Angelwood Note Cards

Angelwood has note cards available featuring work from our artists attending the Career Development and Education Center. Creating these cards helps build valuable life and work skills, boosts self-esteem, and provides some income for our artists. Note cards are blank inside.

Donation Amount:

10 cards & 11 envelopes: \$15.00 per pack
4+ packs: \$10.00 per pack

Visit AngelwoodJax.org/Buy-Angelwood-Products to see all available note card options.

For questions or to order please call the office at 904-288-7259.

In 2023, Angelwood will be celebrating 30 years of service to individuals and families right here in our community. **We are excited to celebrate this milestone year with you!** If you are not already on our monthly e-newsletter distribution list, please sign up at AngelwoodJax.org/newsletters so we can share plans for upcoming 30th anniversary events!

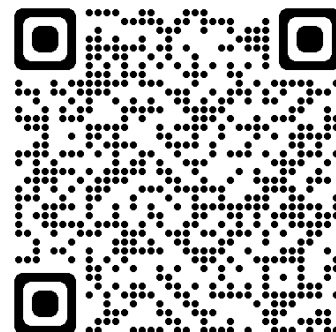


Do you have a story to share?

We would love to hear the ways that Angelwood has made an impact in your life or the life of someone that you know. We will feature these stories as part of our 30 Year Celebration. Please send your stories to Sara Wagoner at swagoner@angelwoodjax.org, or email to arrange time for a call or visit. Thank you for sharing!

Please help us by making a donation today!

Support from individuals, community members, religious and civic organizations is crucial in providing needed services and programs to the children, adults, and families we serve. Thank you for being part of our caring community!



AngelwoodJax.org/donate