

The Anglican Charitable Foundation for Children

The Chairperson's Annual Report 2022

It gives me great pleasure to present to you my 5th Annual Report as the chairperson of the Anglican Charitable Foundation for Children (ACFC). I cannot emphasize enough the value of this ministry within our three provincial dioceses, and even though COVID-19 caused many challenges, we have continued to fulfill our mandate to assist our children within our guidelines. We are very proud to be a part of the ongoing vision Bishop Feild had, when on Ash Wednesday, March 21st, 1865 he opened a home to help orphans and widows. In time our Diocese was able to open the Church of England Orphanages for boys and girls which became Exon House until its closing in 1969. The building was sold to the provincial government in 1971. Just three years later the Anglican Charitable Foundation for Children was created.

The Articles of Association provides three levels of administration:

- Our current eighteen members of the Charity consists of the three Bishops (or designates) as ex-officio members, the four members of the Executive, Chairpersons and elected members from the three Trustee Committees.
- The ten member Board of Managers is elected at the Annual General Meeting and manages the financial resources of the Charity and implements policies. The AGM and the two Board of Managers meetings have been held via Zoom.
- Each Board of Trustees is appointed by the diocesan bishop. This is the body which meets regularly to review applications for assistance following the guidelines set by the Charity under the categories of clothing, medical assistance, emergency and special circumstances for demonstrated need from newborn to age 19 and in school and education bursaries for full time, first degree individuals up to the age of 25.

For the second year in a row, we have seen a decline in the number of applications received. This may be attributed to the rapidly changing demographics in smaller areas of our province, the decline in church attendance and to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This table shows the work of the ACFC three Boards of Trustees for 2020 and 2021:

2020	Families	Children	Bursaries
Central	21	51	4
Eastern	96	187	5
Western	58	97	5
Totals	175	335	14
2021			
Central	20	26	5
Eastern	47	95	5
Western	42	65	5
Totals	109	186	15

Over our long history of the ACFC, our records show 40,000+ children have received clothing allowances, educational bursaries, medical assistance, camps and emergencies totalling in excess of \$5,000,000. This does not include contributions over the years of \$3,000,000 to assist Diocesan Church Camps, Diocesan Counselling Centres, Shelters, Transition Houses, Group Homes, Iris Kirby House and the School for the Deaf. In recent years contributions have been primarily directed to recipients according to our current guidelines. It is truly a blessing when we consider it was with a five pound donation to Bishop Feild in 1855 began this ministry. We have been and continue to be blessed and be a blessing to others.

As always I thank all members of the Anglican Charitable Foundation for their commitment and faithfulness in carrying out the vision of Bishop Field and the good work of the charity. This is a very important outreach ministry of our Anglican Church throughout the province. I also thank those who have made financial contributions either directly or through their estate planning c/o Kevin Smith at kevinsmith709@gmail.com. Every donation continues the legacy of Bishop Feild which continues to this day as we continue to reach out to those who require assistance.

For those interested in learning more about the history of our orphanages you may purchase a detailed history written by the late Bishop Geoff Peddle from the ENL Church House at 22 Church Hill, St John's, NL 709-576-6697 or by emailing adminassistant@anglicanenl.net

In His Service,

Father John+

The Rev Canon John Courage
ACFC Chairperson
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