

# The Anglican Charitable Foundation for Children

## The Chairperson's AGM Annual Report 2023

As chairperson of the Anglican Charitable Foundation for Children (ACFC) it is my great pleasure to present to you the Annual Report for the year ended 2022. This ministry of the church is invaluable within our three Dioceses. Bishop Edward Feild had a vision to help widows and orphans and on Ash Wednesday, March 2st, 1865 he opened a home to help orphans and widows which became the Church of England Orphanages for boys and girls. In 1969 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. At that time the Charity had 100 members, mostly from the St. John's area. In time, down sizing has reduced that number to the current 18 representatives from the three dioceses. It is my hope that at our AGM we will give a renewed look at our current Handbook 2013 to update language and revisit our current guidelines to be brought to the Board of Managers meeting in the Fall in preparation for the AGM 2024.

The current Articles of Association provides three levels of administration:

- The current eighteen members of the Charity consists of the three bishops (or designates) as ex-officio members, the four members of the Executive, the three chairpersons and appointed members from each Trustee Committee.
- The ten member Board of Managers is elected at the Annual General Meeting and includes the four member Charity executive. The Board of Managers are responsible for day to day financial resources of the Charity and implements the current Charity policies. In an effort to be fiscally responsible the Annual General Meeting and the two Board of Managers meetings are now held via Zoom.
- The three Board of Trustees are appointed by each diocesan bishop. This is the working body which meets regularly to review applications for assistance following the guidelines set by the Charity. Our five categories consist 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.

Each Board of Trustees has been faithful stewards of the legacy that has been handed to us. Generally each Board of Trustees meet regularly depending on applications from the parishes. This past year, the Board of Trustees (ENL) held their 400<sup>th</sup> meeting. Until the restructuring of the Diocese into three Dioceses, there was a single Board of Trustees for the Diocese of Newfoundland and administered primarily from St John's. Archdeacon Charlene Taylor joined us for a celebration gathering which was the first in-person meeting since COVID-19. This is indeed a milestone of a wonderful Tri-Diocesan ministry. We are ever thankful for the many who have served faithfully over the years.

This table shows the work of the ACFC three Boards of Trustees for 2020, 2021 and 2022:

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
2022			
Central	19	28	4

Eastern	71	149	5
Western	73	105	7
Totals	163	282	16

For the fourth year in a row, we have seen a decline in the number of applications received by our Trustee Committees. This continues to be attributed to the rapidly changing demographics in smaller areas of our province, the decline in church attendance and to the COVID-19 pandemic. Each Board of Trustees can only grant assistance with the co-operation of the local Priest/Deacon or appointed designate and we are thankful for those who regularly submit applications which has helped us see a slight increase in 2022.

Over our long history of the ACFC, our records show close to 45,000 children and young adults have received clothing allowances, educational bursaries, medical assistance, camp fees and emergency funding 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. More recently financial assistance has been directed to recipients according to our current guidelines.

This wonderful and generous ministry of the Anglican Church in our province has been a blessing to so many over the years. When we consider our long history it was with a five pound donation to Bishop Feild in 1855 that this ministry has grown and helped so many. I am proud to be a part of this ministry in which we have been and continue to be blessed and be a blessing to others.

My sincere gratitude to all members of the Anglican Charitable Foundation for their commitment and faithfulness in carrying out the vision of Bishop Feild and the ongoing good work of the charity. I cannot stress enough the value of this 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](mailto:kevinsmith709@gmail.com). Every donation keeps alive the legacy of Bishop Feild which continues to this day as we reach out to those who require assistance. For those who wish to make a legacy donation in estate planning please contact Mr Kevin Smith, Planned Giving Consultant at 709-739-5667 (h), 709 727-8700 (m) or [legacy@anglicanenl.net](mailto:legacy@anglicanenl.net). Your gift to ACFC will see this vision of Bishop Feild continue for years to come. Thank you for considering ACFC in your financial planning.

For those interested in learning more about the history of our orphanages you may purchase a detailed book written by the late Bishop Geoff Peddle from the ENL Synod Office at Church House, 22 Church Hill, St John's, NL A1C 3Z9 , by calling 709-576-6697 or by emailing [adminassistant@anglicanenl.net](mailto:adminassistant@anglicanenl.net)

Finally, whether you are new or an individual who knows about the work we do your prayerful support of this ministry in each of our three Newfoundland and Labrador Dioceses is very much appreciated.

In His Service,

*Father John+*

The Rev Canon John Courage  
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