

Foundations in Education, Inc is committed to strengthen and transform the mission of Catholic education in the Diocese of Bridgeport by supporting innovation in academic and extra-curriculum programs, fostering opportunities for the professional development of school leaders in innovation and leadership and providing tuition assistance to families in need.

Dear Friends,

We are well into the academic year and delighted to report our students and teachers are fully engaged in "in person" learning. The Diocese of Bridgeport Schools' classrooms may look different, and masks may have become the newest fashion statement, but rest assured - active and enthusiastic personalized learning is making a huge difference for our students.

Thanks to the selfless generosity of friends, Foundations in Education was able to award nearly \$2,700,000 in tuition assistance to more than 1,200 elementary school students through the Bishop's Scholarship Fund. Twenty-six donors sponsored 73 Leaders of Tomorrow this year!

By the grace of God, an anonymous donor contributed an additional \$1,000,000 in COVID-19 Emergency Funds to assist families suffering from hardships as a direct result of the pandemic. This provided an additional 457 awards! Our hats are off to the tireless efforts of the Scholarship Committee who worked overtime this summer to assure the funds available were distributed to those who needed it most. We are grateful to the donor(s) and volunteers who touched so very many lives.

A number of teachers submitted their applications for Innovation and Leadership Grants by the October 31 deadline and the Grants Committee anticipates an inspiring set of applications this year. We are eager to see if the lessons of last spring inspired new and innovative ideas for what instruction of the future may look like.

On behalf of the Foundations Staff and Board, we miss you! We missed celebrating Catholic Education with you, our friends, at what would have been our spring gala. We missed celebrating our amazing students at what would have been our Leaders of Tomorrow Reception. Absence does make the heart grow fonder and we extend our heartfelt gratitude to you as we anticipate reuniting with you again in 2021.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our teachers and students, especially through what has proven a terribly challenging time. Your contribution to Foundations in Education transforms lives and for this we are most grateful.

With appreciation and best wishes for your health and well-being.



Holly Doherty-Lemoine, CFRE
Executive Director

GALA - SAVE THE DATE



Foundations in Education's gala returns in May as we honor Lynn and Francis X. Mara (New York Football Giants, Inc.) and Dr. Julia M. McNamara (President Emerita, Albertus Magnus College). Chaired by Barbara Ripp and Xandy Duffy, the gala will take place on Thursday, May 6, 2021 at Woodway Country Club in Darien, CT.

Celebrity auctioneer Pat Tully will provide an entertaining evening of humor and high energy as guests bid on exclusive packages, including vacation homes, dinner, sports events, and a priceless experience with Bishop Frank J. Caggiano.

Please save the date, May 6, 2021, and join us anew as we celebrate a night of academic excellence, faith formation, extraordinary students, exceptional teachers and enrollment in Catholic Schools. Together, we can help realize Bishop Frank's vision of transformational, innovative and "best in class" Catholic education throughout the Diocese of Bridgeport.

For more information, please contact Megan Quinn at 203.414.1081 or mquinn@foundationsineducation.org.

The Annual Gala is our premier fundraising event. Proceeds support Foundations in Education and our mission of providing tuition assistance for more than 1,200 students through the Bishop's Scholarship Fund as well as Innovation and Leadership Grants for teachers.

We look forward to seeing you May 6, 2021!

**CHECK OUT OUR
NEW VIDEO**
starring David Diehl
of NY Giants Football



Visit our website:
[www.foundationsineducation.org/
foundations-in-education-videos](http://www.foundationsineducation.org/foundations-in-education-videos)

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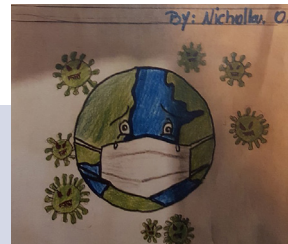
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COVID-19 EMERGENCY FUND

ANONYMOUS \$1,000,000 TO AID FAMILIES ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY THE PANDEMIC

Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, 365 students were able to remain in our Catholic elementary schools and 92 new students were able to join our Catholic School family. The Bishop's Scholarship Fund Committee of Foundations in Education's Board of Trustees worked tirelessly throughout this summer with Diocese of Bridgeport elementary schools to identify families most in need.

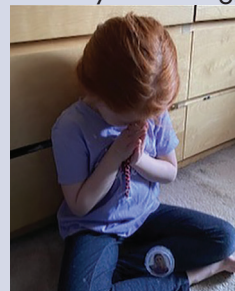
The contribution was given specifically for those who may have otherwise had to withdraw their children from school after experiencing hardship due to illness, death in the family, loss of job, loss of income or other circumstances resulting from COVID-19.



This donation was truly a blessing amidst the challenges brought about by the pandemic.

As one mom observed, "I have tears of joy in my eyes right now. This is a huge amount of stress lifted, as we were very worried about being able to make these full payments. We are so appreciative. If things change for us, we would be happy to pay this back or pay it forward."

Another recipient spoke on behalf of all of us by declaring, "To the person who was so kind and generous in helping our family in this time of need we are truly grateful and wish you and your loved ones true happiness and God's blessings. It is people like you that make our world a better place."



TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH EDUCATION

CAREER PATHWAYS

Kolbe Cathedral High School in Bridgeport, under the leadership of Camille Figluizzi, is working diligently to expand their "Career Pathways Program" started several years ago, thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor to Foundations in Education.

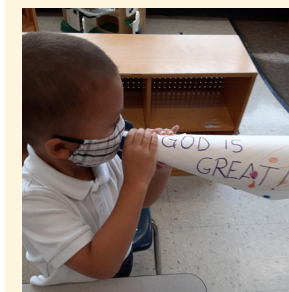
The current program includes a certificate in advanced manufacturing. The expanded program will include a pathway to certification in several careers in healthcare. In partnership with Housatonic Community College, Kolbe seeks to launch this newest initiative in January 2021.



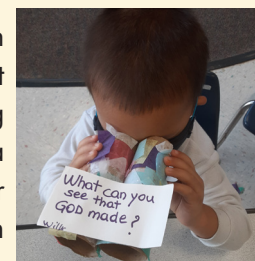
CHRISTOPHER RIPP EARLY LEARNING PROGRAM

All Saints Catholic School in Norwalk is the newest school to host the Christopher Ripp Early Learning Program. Established through a generous grant from Barbara and Peter Ripp, the Pre-K after school program piloted at St. Peter School in Danbury expanded to All Saints this year, under the guidance of Principal Linda Dunn.

The Early Learning Program assists parents of three and four year olds, as the primary educators of their children, by providing them with tools to help nurture social, physical, emotional, and academic growth, in a faith-filled, family-centered learning community. The program includes three parent sessions and family dinner.



Miss Rosa Milo, who teaches the program at All Saints, shared, "Every day children gather, sing, pray, learn, explore and experience new things. It is a joyful experience for the children and I am pleased to be part of it."



The 2020-2021 Numbers Are In!

4,685 students in Diocesan Catholic elementary schools



2,225 students applied for tuition assistance



1,262 students awarded \$2,675,950 in tuition assistance

\$6,023,537 overall calculated need



48% raised by single parents



\$56,293 average gross income



54% qualify for free/reduced lunch



\$40,144 median gross income

39% Hispanic, 31% White, 17% African American, 3% Asian, 1% Native American, 4% multiracial, 2% other, 3% not reported

EASY WAYS TO GIVE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

- ✓ Join us on Tuesday, December 1 for **Giving Tuesday**.
- ✓ Include Foundations in Education as your favorite charitable organization when shopping from **Amazon Smile**. 0.5% of your purchase can be donated, with no fees or extra cost.
- ✓ Make a gift through your **Donor Advised Fund**. Distributions may be made to Foundations in Education - EIN# 47-5130557

GIVING TUESDAY
amazon smile



"Giving a gift to Foundations in Education will dramatically change a child's life forever." – David Diehl

David Diehl, former New York Giants offensive lineman and two-time Superbowl Champion, recently sat down with Ella, Aria and Lamar to talk about Catholic education. As a Catholic school alumnus, David knows firsthand that our schools foster not only academic excellence, but also an environment of shared values and loving support.

"I was taught very early how important it was to go to a Catholic school and get a Catholic education - not just for the curriculum, but for the character it builds and instills in you as an individual," said David. His father and mother worked six days a week to put David and his two brothers through Catholic school. "The investment they made was an investment they would get in us being quality people, being people of God, and us going out and making a difference in our communities and being leaders." He also shared that his best friends in life are the very friends he made at his Catholic elementary and high school.

David talked with our students about the importance of education, prayer, and giving back – something he encourages us to do as well.

"It's very important for all of us to be able to give back," David remarked. "We've been granted so many blessings and so many gifts in our life that when you do have the opportunity to give back, it's one of the most important things you can do."

For the full video, please visit www.foundationsineducation.org/foundations-in-education-videos.

To make a donation to support students like Ella, Aria, and Lamar please visit www.foundationsineducation.org/donate or contact Megan Quinn at 203-416-1671 or mquinn@foundationsineducation.org.

73 LEADERS OF TOMORROW - A RECORD HIGH!

On behalf of the students and families, we humbly THANK our 2020-2021 Leaders of Tomorrow Sponsors:

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Lisa & Joe Purcell
Becky & Michael Shea
Valerie & Jeffrey Sprague
Patricia Zaccone

To sponsor a Leader of Tomorrow, please contact Holly at holly@foundationsineducation.org.





FOUNDATIONS IN EDUCATION

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HAPPY THANKSGIVING

*Transforming Lives Through Catholic
Education in the Diocese of Bridgeport*

www.foundationsineducation.org

IN THANKSGIVING

Foundations in Education is grateful for our corporate and foundation donors that recognize the enduring value and excellence of Catholic education. Together we can help create a brighter future for our students and our community.

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributors who support the important work of Foundations in Education.

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*To learn more about becoming a corporate sponsor, please contact Megan Quinn
at mquinn@foundationsineducation.org or call 203-416-1671.*