DREAMS for KIDS
supported by
Edmonton Catholic Schools Foundation

December 5, 2025

Rotary Club of Edmonton South East (Casino Account)
c/o Victoria Ewert
866 Lee Ridge Road
Edmonton, AB T6K 0R2

Via: Victoria Ewert - marivic2@shaw.ca

Dear Vicky and honored Rotary Members:

On behalf of the Edmonton Catholic Schools Foundation and the children we serve, I sincerely thank the Rotary Club of Edmonton South East for the wonderful donation of $4,000.00 to our 2025 Dreams for Kids campaign, which raises funds in support of the children and youth—especially those in need— who attend Edmonton Catholic Schools. What a great gift! Your kindness, thoughtfulness, and faithful support are deeply appreciated. Our vulnerable children and youth will especially benefit from your goodness. As requested we have designated these funds to our *Guardian Angel Fund* in support of the students with mental health issues, who attend St. Elizabeth and St. Hilda Schools. (For your records, enclosed is the signed *AGLC Recipient Agreement)*

Unfortunately, family food insecurity, mental health problems, family violence incidents, and 'poverty' as a whole, have increased significantly for our children/families over the last several years. Nearly 20% of our 52,000 students live below the poverty line—with some of our schools having up to 70% of their students in this situation. The donation from the Rotary Club serves as a 'hand-up' so that students with serious mental health needs are given a fairer opportunity at mental and physical wellness, and thus, educational success.

With the support of the *Guardian Angel Fund,* students suffering from mental health problems like anxiety, clinical depression, physical cutting, and abuse get the professional support they need before it is too late. In 2025, we have spent more than $31,000 for emergency therapeutic counselling services targeted for youth at high risk of suicide and/or self-abuse. Here is a testimonial we received from a family who benefitted from a *Guardian Angel* grant:

> *"I cannot thank you enough for paying for the counselling my son and I badly needed after my husband took his life. Although we are still grieving, your support gave us the professional help and hope we needed to move forward."* (Low income mother and child who benefitted from a *Guardian Angel* grant for therapeutic counselling services.)

As well, the *Fund* continues to provide financial subsidies (i.e., approx. $3,000/eligible school/for twice weekly service) to eight schools (i.e., in 2025) for a therapeutic dog visiting program which helps young children who have severe autism, experienced trauma, and/or have significant behavioural issues---all of which affect their educational aptitude and communication skills. The *CAAWLS* program has proven to be highly successful and cost effective. Here is a testimonial from a Grade 4 student with autism, whose school received a CAAWLS pet therapy *Guardian Angel* grant:

> *"I like going to school when it was my day to see Lacie (dog). Lacie helps to calm me down before tests. I liked visiting with Lacie when I was upset. I feel happy when she is here. She makes me happy and relaxed."*

Again, we humbly thank all Members of the Rotary Club of Edmonton South East for choosing to help our Foundation in raising funds which can be targeted to address the mental health challenges that Edmonton Catholic School children and youth face today. Your great gift will be transformed into a beacon of hope and help to many young children and youth in need.

May God bless all of you, and your families, with a healthy, peaceful, and Merry Christmas!

Sincerely,

Marc Barylo
Executive Director

Thanks so much Vicky, and your Rotary club colleagues for unsung heroes in our community. Your leadership is inspirational. God bless

OFFICIAL DONATION RECEIPT FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES

DREAMS for KIDS

Edmonton Catholic Schools Foundation
9405 - 50 Street NW, Edmonton, AB T6B 2T4

RECEIPT NO: **20998**

Eligible amount of gift for tax purposes: $4,000.00

Date donation received: 12/05/2025

Date receipt issued: 12/05/2025

DONATED BY:

Rotary Club of Edmonton Southeast
866 Lee Ridge Road NW
Edmonton, AB T6K 0R2

Receipt issued in Edmonton, Alberta

Authorized Signature: _____

Charitable Business Registration Number: 81707 1442 RR0001

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