

AMBASSADOR TOOLKIT

Our Program



*Turning taxes into tuition with the
Catholic Community Foundation*

Who are we?

ASF Ambassadors are volunteers who play an integral role in growing the Angel Scholarship Fund (ASF).

What do we do?

ASF Ambassadors work in partnership with the Catholic Community Foundation; the Diocese of Cleveland; and Parish and School staffs to secure local support for the Angel Scholarship Fund.

Every Ambassador

- Personally supports ASF with a Scholarship Tax Credit contribution.
- Participates in ASF Ambassador meetings.
- Participates in planning and implementing a local outreach/marketing plan.
- Encourages all Ohio state taxpayers to financially support ASF.
- Participates in and hosts ASF informational/cultivation events.

Why does it matter?

ASF allows donors to “turn tax dollars into tuition” by providing tuition assistance for Catholic School students in the Diocese of Cleveland. Donors may be designate their contribution to their school of choice. Undesignated contributions provide tuition assistance to those with the greatest need across the diocese.

ASF Ambassadors are encouraged to use these talking points in their conversations with potential ASF contributors-

they highlight the benefits of the scholarship tax credit program, and the huge impact that ASF supporters are making in other people's lives.

- Turn taxes into tuition
- Imagine what we can do with extra support
- Together, we can make a difference in students' lives and sustain school vitality.
- Directly impacts a family's ability to afford a Catholic education
- Helps provide an affordable, high-quality Catholic education to more children
- Can be directed to any Catholic school in the Diocese of Cleveland
- Allows you to choose what you want your tax dollars to support
- Creates a generous giving habit
- Receive a reduction in your tax liability equal to the amount of your gift of up to \$750/1,500 depending on how you file.
- What you give is what you get. Your credit is a reduction in the amount of tax you owe.
- Take control of your state tax dollars!

ASF PRAYER FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Father of every blessing, We thank you for the richness of our faith and for the gift of our Catholic education.

Bless the time before us, And give us hearts eager and generous in support of the Angel Scholarship Fund.

Bless our youth, As they receive these scholarships and are enriched with a high quality Catholic Education.

Bless our families, As they choose affordable Catholic education and come to know, love and serve God together.

Bless our parish communities, As they pledge their prayers and support for our Catholic schools and their mission.

Bless our benefactors, As they contribute with a generous heart in gratitude for all the Lord has given them.

Grant us the graces for which we ask, Through the intercession of Blessed Mother Mary, St. Joseph her spouse, and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

-Fr. Scott Goodfellow

Angel Fund Champion Narrative

ASF Ambassadors are
champions for the Angel
Scholarship Fund.

From Parish and School
staffs

To Parish Council,
Finance Council, future
Ambassadors

Distinctive:

We do this together

As leaders and council members, we care about our school's tuition, finances, and operational vitality.

To help secure our school's financial future, we must educate families and parishioners about supporting the Angel Scholarship Fund.

We understand that you have a hard time explaining how the Angel Fund works, making you feel like we're jeopardizing a significant amount of potential scholarship funding.

The Angel Scholarship Fund makes it possible for our school to access funding and rewards people for contributing to ASF when they claim their scholarship tax credit.

We understand how busy you are, and believe this is something we can do together. We need your help to promote and educate people about the Angel Scholarship Fund. We know that when Ambassadors from parishes and schools that educate eligible contributors, we raise three times more revenue than those that don't.

Here's how we can raise significantly more scholarship funds with less time and effort:

1. Participate as an ASF Ambassador to maximize awareness and support.
2. Help families, friends, and parishioners learn about and support the Angel Scholarship Fund.
3. Generate valuable scholarship revenue for students.

Our school needs Ambassadors like you! Get familiar with how to explain the Angel Scholarship Fund with the Ambassador toolkit or get coached on a webinar with the Catholic Community Foundation team.

With support from the Angel Scholarship Fund, we can make strides toward closing the gap between tuition and the actual educational cost to ensure all families have access to an affordable, high-quality Catholic education.

Who to share with:

This narrative is for Pastors, principals, business managers, advancement officers when talking with other leaders and council members who are not participating as an ASF Ambassador.

See page 6 & 7 for deadlines and school-specific talking points.

AMBASSADOR TOOLKIT



Angel Fund Changemaker Narrative

Changemakers are donors who support the Angel Scholarship Fund.

From school or parish leaders

To potential contributors, including family, friend, grandparent, and eligible Ohio taxpayers.

Distinctive:

Take control of your tax dollars!

Reminder! *The role of the ASF Ambassador is to educate and assist with understanding the scholarship tax credit program. However, Ambassadors should never offer tax advice! Instead, please encourage all those who are considering an ASF donation to consult with a tax preparer.*

As a parent, guardian, or grandparent, we know that access to a Catholic education is important to you and that you want to invest in your children and grandchildren to ensure the operational vitality of our school/all of our schools.

You wish you could do more to support the Catholic education you believe in. But between taxes and tuition, money is tight, which limits your ability to give as much as you'd like.

We believe families deserve to control where their tax money goes. We partner with the Angel Scholarship Fund, which allows Ohio taxpayers to direct their tax dollars to Catholic education through the Angel Scholarship Fund.

Last year, 4,300 households contributed \$4.5 million to their Catholic school of choice and received an Ohio tax credit.

Here's how you can participate:

1. Give a lump sum, or make monthly payments to fit your budget
2. Designate your ASF donation to our school/your school of choice.
3. Receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit up to \$750 when you file your State of Ohio tax return.

Contribute today at www.CatholicCommunity.org/angel-contribution

If this is the first time you are hearing about this scholarship tax credit program, talk with me or another member of our ASF Ambassadors team. Or, visit our FAQ page at www.CatholicCommunity.org/angel-scholarship-fund/frequently-asked-questions-faq for answers to questions we frequently hear.

Take control of your state tax dollars! Support the Angel Scholarship Fund and turn tax dollars into tuition that supports affordable, high-quality Catholic education!

Who to share with:

This narrative is for potential contributors, including family, friend, grandparent, and eligible Ohio taxpayers.

See page 6 & 7 for deadlines and school-specific talking points.

AMBASSADOR TOOLKIT

What do we do as Ambassadors?

We help the Angel Scholarship Fund grow. Here's how we do it:

PARTICIPATE

We participate as an ASF Ambassador to maximize awareness and support.

ADVOCATE

We help families, friends, and parishioners learn about and support the Angel Scholarship Fund.

SUPPORT

We commit our personal financial support to the Angel Scholarship Fund.

What's the role of an Ambassador?

- A generous culture creates ambassadors. Ambassadors have a connection to the organization and share their love of the cause.
- Ambassadors are advocates. They speak out passionately and enthusiastically, sharing the words and messaging that inspired them so others get inspired.
- Every organization has stories to share (not just a story to tell). What brings continuity to the stories are these narratives— one voice that weaves the stories together to create continuity and cohesiveness.

Useful Resources

For more information,
please contact

Kaitlyn Novicky
216-696-6525 x 1680

Fred Roberts
216-902-1312

For more information about the Angel Scholarship Fund, please
contact the Angel Scholarship Fund Office:

- asfinfo@catholiccommunity.org

Donate here:

- www.CatholicCommunity.org/angel-contribution

Get Answers Here

- www.CatholicCommunity.org/angel-scholarship-fund/frequently-asked-questions-faqs

Tax Preparer Documents

- www.CatholicCommunity.org/angel-scholarship-fund

Ambassador Resources

- www.CatholicCommunity.org/for-parish-leaders-volunteers/angel-scholarship-fund/asf-ambassadors

Marketing Toolkit

- www.CatholicCommunity.org/for-parish-leaders-volunteers/angel-scholarship-fund

ASF AMBASSADORS FAQ

What is an SGO and why is it important?

The Angel Scholarship Fund (ASF) is a scholarship granting organization, or SGO. ASF is a state approved organization that makes it possible for Ohio state taxpayers with state tax liability to receive a scholarship tax credit.

What is distinctive about ASF

- It gives supporters of Catholic education the opportunity to “turn taxes into tuition.”
- Donors give \$750, then get \$750.
- Turn up to \$750 into scholarship support into a \$750 credit- making it a no-net cost gift.

What are the ASF donation deadlines for 2023?

- **December 31, 2023**- for the donation to be available for a 2024 Angel Scholarship.
- **April 15, 2024**- for the donation to be eligible for a 2023 scholarship tax credit.

When will a tax receipt be issued to a donor that makes an ASF contribution between January 1-April 15, 2024?

If the donor indicates they plan to claim the tax credit on their 2023 tax return*, they will receive back an acknowledgement/thank you letter and a tax receipt. It is anticipated these will be mailed 5-7 business days from when the donation is received. If the receipt is needed sooner, the donor should contact the ASF office.

** The ASF office will be issuing a 2024 Q1 version of the ASF contribution form for donors to indicate if they plan to claim the tax credit for 2023 or 2024.*

What are the key benefits of this Scholarship Tax Credit program?

- The Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO) Tax Credit is a dollar-to-dollar reduction in your state tax liability up to \$750 per taxpayer or \$1500 for a married couple filing jointly.
- As an Ohio taxpayer, you control your tax dollars and support Catholic education through an ASF donation.
- If you have state tax liability, making a gift to the Angel Scholarship Fund, you help students get an affordable, high-quality Catholic education.
- If you have state tax liability, making a gift to the Angel Scholarship Fund you are eligible for a one-to-one tax credit, dollar for dollar, up to \$750 per tax payer.
- In 2022, more than 4,300 households provided \$4.5 million to the Angel Scholarship Fund for tuition assistance.

Will the recent expansion of other state scholarship programs (e.g., EdChoice) reduce the need for Angel Scholarship Fund dollars?

No!! Philanthropic programs like the Angel Scholarship Fund (ASF) help to ensure that all families are able to afford a Catholic education. It is important to remember that not all families will be able to receive a full EdChoice Scholarship, and that they could actually experience an increase in their tuition that can be offset through an Angel Scholarship. The availability of Angel Scholarship Fund dollars will also go a long way towards securing the operational vitality of our schools.

For more information please read this [School Choice FAQ](#).

ASF AMBASSADORS FAQ

What should I say about how ASF can help our specific school community?

- It costs about \$#,### per pupil to educate our day school students each year. Our posted tuition rate is thousands of dollars less than this. We make up that deficit through parish and diocesan tuition assistance, and a generous parish subsidy (\$###,### in YEAR).
- In 2022 our school received \$# in designated ASF dollars that made it possible for us to award # Angel Scholarships in 2023!
- Call to action: Our goal is for #individuals/couples to designate our school with an ASF contribution in 2023. Will you please help us get there?

What's at stake if we don't participate in this program?

- State taxes that could go to support tuition for Catholic school students will go to the state, instead.
- Local parish schools lose out on thousands of dollars in scholarship support.
- It will be more difficult for schools to close the gap between tuition and the real "cost to educate."