

# SAY YES! TO KIDS

CHRIST CHURCH ANGLICAN  
AMHERST, NOVA SCOTIA

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

ANGLICAN  
FOUNDATION OF CANADA 

2022

hope for our  
community  
youth



## **About the Anglican Foundation of Canada**

Since 1957 the Anglican Foundation of Canada (AFC) has been a champion for diverse ministries across Canada: providing abundant resources for innovative ministry. Thanks to the many loyal donors who support our grant program, we have helped to strengthen the church in Canada by serving vulnerable communities, encouraging the growth and development of dynamic leaders, giving life to buildings old and new, and increasing the church's capacity to pursue community-based ministries that are creative and compassionate.



**ANGLICAN FOUNDATION OF CANADA**  
80 Hayden Street, Toronto, ON M4Y 3G2  
[anglicanfoundation.org](http://anglicanfoundation.org)  
Email: [foundation@anglicanfoundation.org](mailto:foundation@anglicanfoundation.org)

# A message from AFC's Executive Director

Say Yes! to Kids projects are all different, but they share a common goal: to imagine more and to put that imagination into action to grow a brighter future for young people.



**Dr. Scott Brubacher, Executive Director**

Across the Canadian church, there are seeds of ministry waiting to be sown, green shoots taking root, and others growing stronger every day. They all need life-giving water to flourish where they have been planted: serving young people in their communities and energizing our church.

Since 2011 the Anglican Foundation of Canada (AFC) has awarded more than \$1.5 million in youth-focused grants across Canada.

In 2021 alone, after the launch of Say Yes! to Kids, AFC granted an astonishing \$470,000 in funding to 79 grant recipients. All the projects were different, but they shared a common goal: to imagine more and to put that imagination into action to grow a brighter future for young people, today.

In 2022 we are taking the next step in igniting a nationwide movement for children, youth, and young adults. By working in partnership with churches across Canada through Say Yes! to Kids, we will lead a national peer-to-peer fundraiser to create a sustainable, abundant, source of funding for youth-focused ministry.

**To the people of Christ Church Amherst, please accept my thanks for joining us on the Say Yes! to Kids journey. We wish you great success with this year's campaign.**

# Christ Church says Yes! to Kids

As awareness about the affordable housing crisis in our region grows, Christ Church Amherst is committed to taking action to support young people who are experiencing homelessness or who are insecurely housed. This year's Say Yes! to Kids campaign will champion a two-pronged response.

## Part 1: Addressing the need for flexible funding

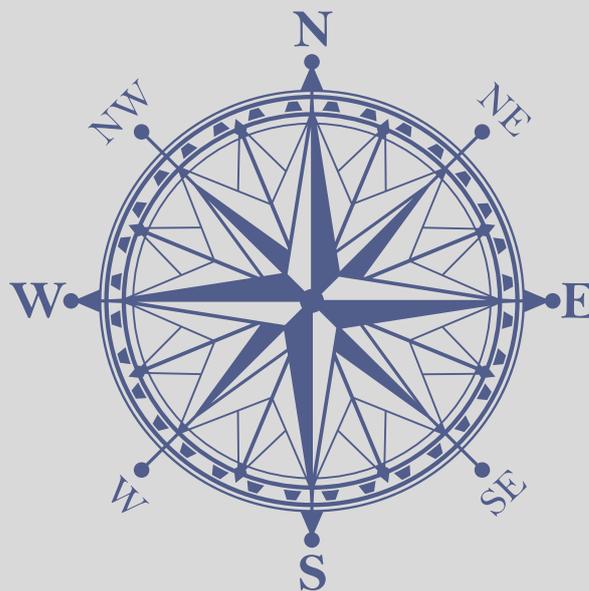
In consultations with our community partners, the Youth Development Centre (YDC) and Maggie's Place, it has become clear that as staff help young people navigate the challenges that they are experiencing, they often encounter needs for which there is no existing funding. In some instances, youth have a place that they could live if they were able to contribute to the cost of groceries. If staff were able to provide grocery store gift cards they could be securely housed. This is just one example but there are many more where flexible funding would be both compassionate and purposeful.

### Establishing a Youth Navigation Fund

Christ Church Amherst can demonstrate leadership in our community by establishing a Youth Navigation Fund—not unlike the discretionary funds managed by churches across the country—that will give YDC staff the freedom and flexibility to tailor their support to meet individual needs.

Funds raised this spring for the Youth Navigation fund will immediately be disbursed to YDC Management and staff. Our hope is that our parish can inspire the wider community to champion this compassionate response on an ongoing basis and continue to raise money so that the fund can be replenished as it is used.

**Flexible funding through the Youth Navigation Fund will send a clear message to the young people in our community that we care about the unique challenges they are experiencing and that we want to help in a way that meets their individual needs.**

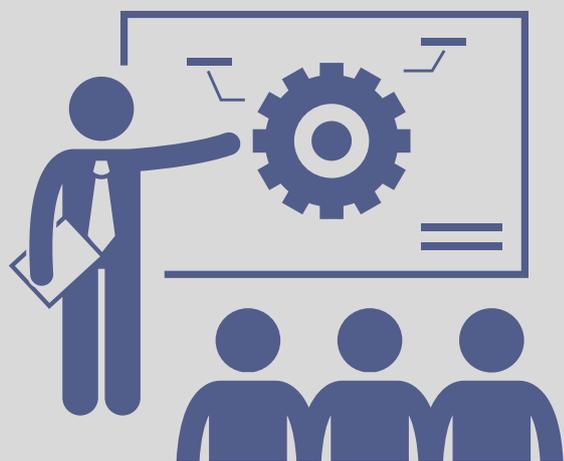


# Our Fundraising Goal: \$15,000

As a parish, we want to be engaged partners with the Youth Development Centre (YDC)—located right next door to us—and Maggie’s Place Family Resource Centre. Funds raised through Say Yes! to Kids will empower us to better support our expert community partners and shape a response that is compassionate and purposeful.

## Part 2: Responding to emerging needs through volunteerism

There is a strong desire in our parish to better serve young people who are experiencing homelessness. This includes offering our time and talent as compassionate volunteers in support of key programs and services. For example, some in our parish can imagine a parish-supported program in the realm of life skills: cooking, meal planning, budgeting, DIY skills and more. The YDC is relatively new, and beginning to establish a relationship with them now will help us to explore possibilities for this type of collaborative programming.



### Investing in volunteer training

Before these kinds of programs take shape, however, we need to be well-trained to volunteer with vulnerable youth. It is mission critical that our heads and hearts are aligned. We must honour the young people with whom we want to connect by making sure we are ready to do what is truly good and helpful in our service to them. With the right skills, we will be better equipped for a meaningful response.

Through Say Yes! to Kids we will invest in volunteer training: beginning this summer with the identification of training opportunities, followed by an anticipated fall rollout, resulting in our ability to mobilize program-ready volunteers in early 2023.

**Collaboration with members of our parish and the broader community to support youth-focused programs will help us strengthen relationships with young people, connecting them to adults in their community who truly care about their well-being.**

# Your gift to our diocese and beyond

For every \$10 donated to our parish campaign, \$4 will be shared between youth-focused ministry at the diocesan and national levels. This year's Say Yes! to Kids partners are:



The Rt. Rev. Sandra Fyfe  
Bishop of Nova Scotia & PEI

## Community Roots Day Camp

"The Community Roots Day Camp Program is designed to encourage young people to grow in their faith and develop leadership capacity in communities so that meaningful, local ministry can continue to happen for children and youth.

This year's proceeds from Say Yes! to Kids will grow our capacity to support this important diocesan program—enabling our staff to continue to travel across the diocese helping to facilitate fun, engaging, and creative camp programs. I am grateful to the people of Christ Church, Amherst, for your support of this important diocesan program."



The Most Rev. Linda Nicholls  
Primate, Anglican Church of Canada  
Chair, AFC Board of Directors

## National Partners: Support for Indigenous Youth

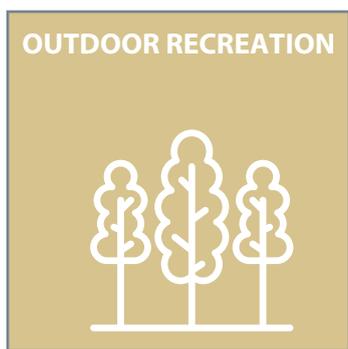
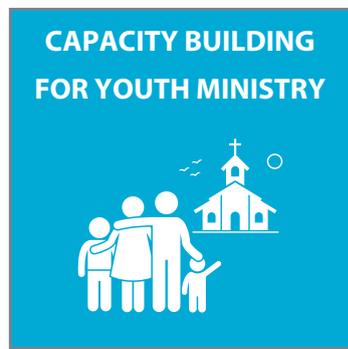
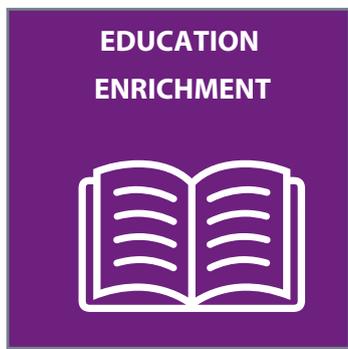
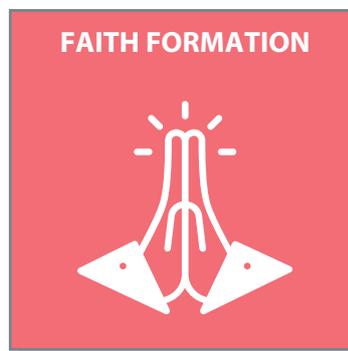
"We believe Indigenous youth across Canada have a unique ability to help point the way forward for our church: creating greater openness, and reclaiming Indigenous culture and traditions and further integrating them into the life of our church.

The Anglican Foundation of Canada will build on its long history of support for Indigenous-focused initiatives. Working through national partners—including the Primate's World Relief & Development Fund, and the Anglican Church of Canada—we will fund Indigenous youth initiatives that are national in scope, and that complement the transformational work being done at both the local and diocesan levels."

# The Say Yes! to Kids Movement

At Christ Church we are not alone. By joining the Say Yes! to Kids movement, we are among an increasing number of Anglican churches nationwide embracing creative, compassionate, youth-focused ministries.

Through youth drop-in centres, education enrichment programs, a renewed emphasis on hospitality, seasonal camps, weekend retreats, music clubs, hot lunch programs and more, Say Yes! to Kids grant recipients are growing a brighter future for young people. These are just some of the Say Yes! to Kids impact zones:



# The Say Yes! to Kids Vision



After ten years of funding for impact in youth-focused ministry and outreach, the Anglican Foundation of Canada has learned that churches and dioceses know how to show up for young people. We possess the creativity and innovation to imagine more. What we need is to be resourced faithfully and abundantly. Through Say Yes! to Kids, we can participate in a nationwide team effort that will help us raise more money than we could ever hope to raise alone. With God's help we will:

## See the big picture

Strengthen funding for local, regional, and national ministries while also growing awareness about the ways in which the church is taking collective responsibility—at all levels—for ministering to children, youth, and young adults.

## Change the conversation

Gradually change the conversation and the culture, growing a brighter future for young people that includes the abundant resources required to truly make them a mission priority: in principle and in practice.

## Provide sustainable funding

Provide seed funding to those who are branching out, and sustainable funding to those who are thriving. Say Yes! to Kids will play a leadership role in securing an engaging vision for ministry within reach of every young Canadian.

## Energize the church

Witness the flourishing of youth-focused initiatives here at home and across the Canadian church—feeling renewed with hope and joy and energized for ministry in all areas of our common life.

# Our Campaign Team

“We are so excited to partner with the Anglican Foundation, and help support young people in Amherst. Through the Navigation Fund and investing in volunteer training, we hope to be able to positively impact the lives of young people in our community. Your support for both pieces of our fundraising campaign will help us to reach our goals, and to make a difference here in Amherst.”

The Rev. Will Ferrey

Every donation to Say Yes! to Kids will grow a brighter future for children, youth, and young adults today. Please reach out to a member of our campaign team or visit our [online fundraising page](#) to learn more about how you can support this year's Say Yes! to Kids campaign for Christ Church, Amherst.

## Allie Colp

Say Yes! to Kids Team Captain  
Christ Church Amherst  
Phone: (902) 789-3481  
Email: acolp@nspeidiocese.ca



## The Rev. Will Ferrey

Rector  
Christ Church Amherst  
Phone: (902) 669-1145  
Email: rector@christchurchamherstns.ca



**CHRIST CHURCH ANGLICAN CHURCH, AMHERST**

5 Lawrence St., Amherst, Nova Scotia, B4H 3G4  
(902) 667-2415

[www.christchurchamherstns.ca](http://www.christchurchamherstns.ca)  
Email: [rector@christchurchamherstns.ca](mailto:rector@christchurchamherstns.ca)

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80 Hayden Street, Toronto, ON M4Y 3G2  
(416) 924-9199 x 322

[www.anglicanfoundation.org](http://www.anglicanfoundation.org)  
Email: [foundation@anglicanfoundation.org](mailto:foundation@anglicanfoundation.org)  
BN 119212405RR0001