

## Angel Heart Pajama Project

The Kino Rotary Club, Tucson Sunset club, and Pantano club have all participated in the Project. If your club is interested, please contact Patti Lopez at [patti.lopez@ymail.com](mailto:patti.lopez@ymail.com)



Angel Heart Pajama Project is a 501(c)3 nonprofit agency founded in 2013 and based in Tucson, AZ. Recognizing a need in the community, our mission is to provide new pajamas and books and to foster literacy development to children who are abandoned, abused, removed from homes and placed in foster care or living in homeless shelters in the City of Tucson, South Tucson, and in surrounding Cochise, Santa Cruz, and Yuma counties in Southern Arizona.

Since 2013, Angel Heart has provided close to 35,000 children (about 70% of the seating capacity of the University of Arizona's stadium) with new pajamas and new books. In 2022 Angel Heart is projected to gift a new pair of pajamas and a new book to 5,500 underprivileged children ranging in ages from infant to 18 who represent 86% Hispanic, 5% African American, 7% Native American and 2% other.

Each year, 5,500 needy children benefit from the following programs:

- Distribution of pajamas and books to children living in foster care or in homeless shelters
- Placement of Little Free Libraries in neighborhoods served by Angel Heart.
- Provide an After School Club on Student Philanthropy at Wakefield Middle School
- Organize Saturday Community Service Days

Angel Heart, as the premier go-to resource in Southern Arizona for providing needy children with pajamas and books, conducts pajama drives organized and sponsored by local businesses, schools, and churches. Over 100 dedicated volunteers collect, sort, assemble, and distribute new pajamas and books to 85 local agencies serving children living in foster care facilities or homeless shelters to process and distribute the pajamas and books on behalf of Angel Heart.

Angel Heart also provides hundreds of pajamas to emergency closets located throughout the surrounding counties of Pima, Cochise, Santa Cruz, and Yuma for the children who come in with little to nothing, so they can get cleaned up and have a warm pair of clean new pajamas.

One of our agencies said thank you for always supporting our foster families and kids. What a joy it is to bring new pajamas to foster care children when they first arrive at their first foster care home. We appreciate the pajamas and books so much for the children!

In addition to gifting pajamas, books, and efforts to promote literacy through the love for books and reading, six Little Free Libraries have been stocked with books and placed in neighborhoods served by Angel Heart.

Angel Heart is investing in our young children by providing pajamas and books and supporting their socio-emotional, physical and learning needs. Angel Heart believes children have a right to wear new pajamas, own a new book, feel valued and loved, and have a goodnight's sleep.

The impact of an investment in Angel Heart Pajama Project will give children:

- a sense of ownership in new pajamas and a new book.
- an experience of a sense of self, comfort, and security.
- an opportunity to participate in literacy development activities.
- a love for reading, which is the first step to literacy.