



The Victor Zando Foundation Newsletter 2020-2021 Edition

Welcome 2021!

As we popped the champagne this past New Year's Eve, we did so with much hope, with optimism and with gratitude—not to mention a huge, collective sigh of relief that 2020 was finally over. This past year taught us all so many things about ourselves and hopefully we have all emerged stronger because of it.

The pandemic seemed to affect every aspect of our personal and professional lives. Just like the business community, non-profit organizations were certainly not immune and across the country and the world non-profits were negatively affected.

At the VZF, we started 2020 strong with a great turnout for the annual AOH Polar Plunge for Catholic Education. We had planned a new event for April—a Friday night cocktail party—and we were on "track" (sorry for the pun) to host our 13th consecutive fundraiser at Monmouth Park Racetrack. Well, you know the story...everything had to be canceled.

At the VZF we managed to stay busy and remain committed to our mission of helping students and our local communities. It was a true group effort from our VZF Board of Directors, our Events Committee members, families, friends and our generous donors who make it all possible.

We truly hope you and your families are well and safe. We wish you a 2021 filled with peace, good health, gratitude, and love.

The Annual Ancient Order of Hibernians Polar Plunge for Catholic Education January 2021

The VZF is very honored to be the only "non-school" organization that participates in this plunge. A great community event, the AOH Polar Plunge for Catholic Education draws schools from all over NJ. The day is filled with a festive atmosphere of camaraderie, food, drink -and bagpipes! This event has become a favorite for all of us at the VZF; we thank the Hicks Family for always showing up strong! While the plunge will not take place this year, be on the lookout for information on 2022! Plungers are always welcome to join the fun!



Helping Hungry Heroes Campaign - March and April 2020

Early on in the quarantine, our founder and president, Tom Ramhold, had a great idea. Tom's mission has always been to "do some good things" in Vic's name. And no one lives that mantra more than Tom. This particular great idea was to show appreciation to our hospital workers by providing lunch or dinner for them catered by local restaurants. Seemed like a win-win for all; we show our appreciation to our local hospital staff and we help out a restaurant while we do it. In order to fund this project, we created our first Facebook fundraiser. Thanks to so many generous people from all over the country (donations came from NY to IL to CA!), we were able to provide lunches or dinner to hospital staff at SI University Hospital and Riverview Medical Center. On Staten Island, we catered from foundation friend Ed Canlon of Canlon's Restaurant (one of Vic's favorite places) and in NJ we catered from Pat's Market (Lincroft), Tuscany Italian Market (Marlboro), and No Limits Café (Middletown).

The staff at the hospitals could not have been more appreciative of our efforts.

We were told by the coordinators that the staff was so grateful and felt the community had really rallied around them during an extremely stressful time. We were happy to play a small part in helping hospital heroes feel appreciated.

Simple acts of kindness can really go a long way...



In May, Joanne Colella of Colella Communications wrote a beautiful article on the VZF.

We are very grateful to Joanne for the coverage. To read the full article, visit:

<https://colellacommunications.com/victor-zando-foundation-helps-hungry-heroes-during-covid-crisis/>



Adopt a Family Project

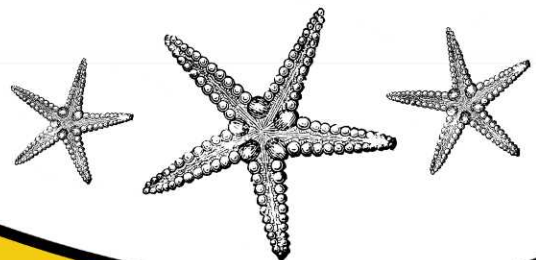
Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we were able to help two families who are going through a very difficult time. For this project, we worked in conjunction with Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School in Asbury Park, NJ. Our gifts of VZF merch and gift cards to Target, Walmart and ShopRite hopefully helped both families have a nice Christmas holiday. Thank you to Sister Jude Boyce and Vice Principal Katie O'Meara for their input on this project. Please keep these two families in your prayers.



The Starfish Tuition Assistance Program

Our Starfish Tuition Assistance Program helps families meet the ever-growing demands of Catholic school tuition. Financial burdens can have a huge impact on the students and their stress levels. Our financial assistance helps keep kids in the schools where they want to be; in the schools where they are thriving and happy in a safe and caring environment. We may never fully know the impact we have, but we are confident it can be life changing!

If you know of a Catholic school student in grades 6-11 who could benefit from our Starfish Tuition Assistance Program, please email, victorzandofoundation66@verizon.net



Little Red Bag Project 2020

The VZF elves made 204 Christmas gift bags for Lunch Break of Red Bank. Those in need received a gift of warm hats, gloves, socks along with candy and new toothbrushes. Thank you to Mr. Craig Palmer, Principal of St Mary School for letting us use the cafeteria to fill the bags. Thank you to Maria and Joe Buzzanco, DDS (Red Bank) for the donation of the toothbrushes. Great job by the VZF elves!!



Victor Zando Memorial Award

Congratulations to Peter Noble of Saint Leo the Great School.

Peter was chosen by his teachers after meeting the VZF criteria of academic excellence, commitment to community service, passion and dedication to sport and a reverence for Catholic education. Peter is continuing his academic career at Christian Brothers Academy, Lincroft, NJ. We wish him much success in high school!

Congratulations to Peter Gorman, Mater Dei Prep Class of 2020. A former VZF award recipient, Peter is an amazing scholar-athlete with a beautiful spirit! He graduated with high honors and will continue his academic and athletic (basketball) career at Ramapo College. We wish Peter all the best as he continues his journey.



In 2020, the VZF awarded \$9,000 in Scholarships and/or Tuition Assistance to four students in three different schools.

2020 The Year of the Mask

When wearing a mask became a necessity, the VZF decided right away we would create our own. Thanks to the help of Victor's nephew, Gregory Calkins, we were able to quickly get masks made with our logo. Greg coordinated the process and these comfortable, breathable masks were a big hit. Even better, they were made the USA, in Brooklyn, NY! Thanks to Greg for all of his hard work getting those VZF masks created and delivered.



The Victor Zando Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) public charity. Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.



We have a new look in 2020!

A HUGE thank you to our fabulous web designer!

Dawn Malinowski of Social Trend Marketing Solutions, LLC donated several hours of her time to the VZF by updating our website with new graphics and content.

Thank you, Dawn, for all you have done for us!!



If your website needs a new look, or your business needs help with marketing or social media content, contact Dawn at Social Trend Marketing, LLC

When you shop on Amazon, remember to log into smile. amazon.com and choose the VZF as your favorite charity.



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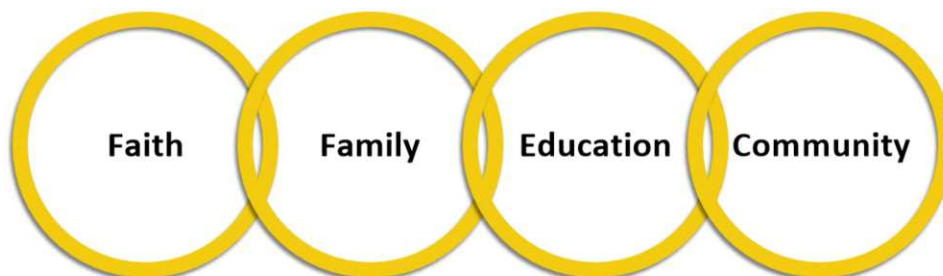
The Victor Zando Foundation



@victorzandofoundation66

Donations are accepted throughout the year at VictorZandoFoundation.org

At the Victor Zando Foundation, we are committed to continuing our two-fold mission of helping students and our local communities. We are humbled by your loyalty and generosity. We look forward to gathering together again for a VZF family event in 2021. Stay well; Stay safe.



Four simple, yet powerful words.
When combined, the results can change the life of a student or the course of a society.