



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Buddy Bench Program Starting at Area Schools**

In an effort to eliminate loneliness on the playground and foster friendships, Angelic Kindness has partnered with Valley View School District #365U and Plainfield School District #200 to bring the Buddy Bench program to the area. 12 schools will receive a bench, each being sponsored by a business, organization, or individual in the community. When a child is looking for a friend to play with, whether they are new to the school, their friends are not there that day, or they want to make new friends, they will sit on the bench to let others know they are looking for a buddy. Other kids on the playground will take notice and new friendships will be made. This program has also been found to reduce bullying at elementary schools.



“Angelic Kindness has been an outstanding partner.” said Mayor Noak. “The Buddy Bench program aims to foster new friendships and help address bullying in our local schools.”

If you would like to learn more about Angelic Kindness, you can visit their website at [angelickindness.org](http://angelickindness.org) or find them on Facebook at [akcharity.inc](https://www.facebook.com/akcharity.inc). Angelic Kindness is extremely grateful to their community partners who have sponsored the Buddy Benches:

<u>SPONSOR</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>
Romeoville Police Department	Irene King Elementary

Romeoville Professional Firefighters Local 4237	Mitchem Early Childhood Center
Fat Ricky's & The DiPego Family	Hermansen Elementary
Uncle Bub's BBQ	Beverly Skoff Elementary
Mayor John Noak & The Village of Romeoville	Lakewood Falls Elementary
Trichardt Family Wellness Gareth & Melinda	R.C. Hill Elementary
KOC Bishop Kaffer Council 10944	St Andrew's School
Steve Quigley & Family	B.J. Ward Elementary
Hampton Park SAC Club	Oakview Elementary
Roger Claar, Pat Claar and Lindsey Claar	Wood View Elementary
Mayor Mary Alexander Basta & The Village of Bolingbrook	Pioneer Elementary and J.R. Tibbott Elementary