



**House Bill 33 Proponent Testimony**  
**Monica Lloyd, Executive Director, Shoes and Clothes for Kids**  
**Ohio Senate Health Committee**  
**May 10, 2023**

Chairman Huffman, Vice Chairman Johnson, Ranking Member Antonio, and members of the Senate Health Committee, thank you for allowing me to provide proponent testimony on HB 33, the state operating budget. I am Monica Lloyd, Executive Director of Shoes and Clothes for Kids, a 54-year-old basic needs non-profit organization serving some of the neediest kids in Northeast Ohio. I appreciate the opportunity to talk with you this morning about how our organization provides kids with the shoes, clothes, school supplies, and other important items they need to improve their school attendance, impact their performance on the state's third-grade reading test, and help give them the self-esteem needed to overcome the myriad of barriers they face on a daily basis.

I have been privileged to be a part of Shoes and Clothes for Kids since 2010, when I joined as Program Coordinator. As the daughter of a retired suburban administrator and an inner-city teacher, I knew from an early age how important education is and the struggles some families face. I remember hearing my mother tell my father countless times, "I can't teach if my students don't have what they need." Remembering her words fuels my passion to work even harder for Shoes and Clothes for Kids and the families we serve.

In the past seven years, we've more than doubled our size, served thousands more kids and teachers, and have shown that our programs have a direct impact on improving school attendance and student outcomes. We are asking you to continue your support for our programs through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) allocation that was included in the House version of the operating budget, which continues the same \$300,000 per year that was included in the the last operating budget.

Shoes and Clothes for Kids serves over 26,000 kids and almost 3,000 teachers annually through three programs, which are highlighted on the attachment to this testimony.

First is our Legacy Program where we work with 21 neighborhood and 32 community partner organizations to distribute new school-appropriate clothes, shoe passes and shoes, socks, underwear, personal hygiene kits, laundry detergent, and school supplies at least six times a year to the kids and families they identify and serve. You would be amazed at how new, well-fitting shoes, clothes, and school supplies can have a positive impact on kids' school attendance and outcomes.

Our second program is the Cleveland Kids in Need Resource Center, which is a free store where any qualified teacher in Cuyahoga County can shop several times during the school year for shoes, clothes, and school supplies to better equip their students and classroom.

Our third program, the Classroom Guarantee Program, is funded specifically with state TANF dollars and provides personalized student packages several times during the school year. Shoes, clothes, and school supplies are distributed to students in the inner-ring suburbs of Cuyahoga County and Lorain County. In 2022, an additional 1,103 students received packages through this program.

We know that what we do works. The last operating budget allowed us to grow our programs in Cuyahoga and Lorain County. We have done just that and more. Over the past seven years, we've gone from serving a couple thousand students a year to doubling our fundraising efforts in order to serve more than 26,000 students per year. We collaborate with organizations such as the Cleveland Browns, University Hospitals, Christ Child Society of Cleveland, and LT Apparel to start new programs that serve the neediest kids in the community.

To give an example of a collaboration, a few years ago we participated in a national Ford Motor Co. and Audacy Radio (92.3 The Fan, Q104, WDOK, WNCX) advertising campaign. The campaign put a spotlight on how we made significant adjustments to our programs during the pandemic to continue to meet our mission even when kids were attending school remotely. To show their support for our impactful community programs, Audacy Radio gifted us with a two-year lease of a Ford Transit van. The van allowed us to deliver more shoes, clothes, and school supplies to our partners.

We are working hard to expand our impact – a measurable, tangible impact – so that every day more kids have the chance to get to school and stay in school because they have the things they need.

I appreciate your time today. Your support would allow us to continue the expansion of our programs so more kids get to school, stay in school and have a better chance of a successful life. Thank you and I would be happy to answer any questions.



# 2022 ORGANIZATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Improving K-8 school attendance by eliminating lack of appropriate clothing, shoes and school supplies as barriers.

SC4K programs distribute BRAND NEW school supplies, clothing, socks, underwear, hygiene items, books, and shoes. These, along with special distribution events held in 2022, enabled us to help 26,003 students and 2,708 teachers.

## LEGACY PARTNERS

Working through our well-developed network of community partners who are located on the front lines within pockets of high poverty, SC4K is able to efficiently get shoes, clothes, and school supplies into the hands of students and families.

## CLEVELAND KIDS IN NEED RESOURCE CENTER (CKIN)

A "free" store where any qualified teacher in Cuyahoga County can shop multiple times during the school year for supplies to better equip their students and classroom.

## CLASSROOM GUARANTEE

With special state of Ohio TANF funding, personalized student packages that include shoes, clothes, and school supplies are distributed to students in the inner-ring suburbs of Cuyahoga County. In 2022, an additional 1,103 students received packages through this program.

## BE A CHAMPION FOR KIDS

You can lead the way to make sure students always have school supplies, clothes, and new shoes. We help you create a personalized fundraising page on our platform, so you can recruit friends, family, and colleagues to join you in reaching your goal.

Email [collectiondrives@sc4k.org](mailto:collectiondrives@sc4k.org) to get started.

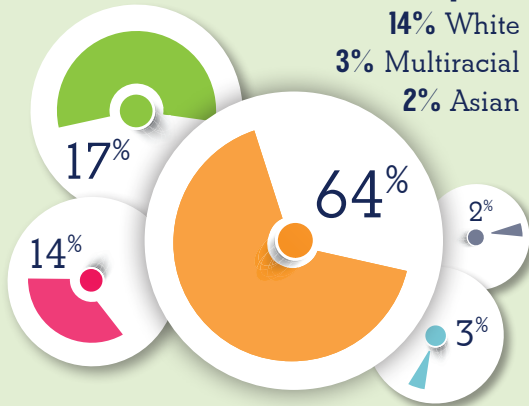


216.881.7463  
SC4K.ORG



## STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

64% African American  
 17% Hispanic  
 14% White  
 3% Multiracial  
 2% Asian



FOR MORE INFORMATION



## IN 2022 SC4K SERVED

 **2,708**  
Teachers

 **26,003\***  
Students

 **306**  
Schools

 **42**  
Districts

 **27**  
Distribution Partners

 **31**  
Community Partners

*\*Includes 1,103 NEW students served through state TANF funding*


## IN 2022 SC4K PROVIDED

 **6,811**  
Pairs of shoes

 **73,762**  
Clothing Items

 **69,502**  
Pairs of socks & underwear

 **360,668**  
Core school supplies

 **\$1,176.10** Average value of products received by a teacher every time they shop

## DISTRIBUTION PARTNERS

Bethany Baptist Church  
 Boys & Girls Club - King Kennedy Club  
 Cleveland Chesed Center  
 East End Neighborhood House  
 Famicos Foundation  
 Friendly Inn Settlement  
 Lexington Bell Community Center  
 May Dugan Center  
 Merrick House  
 Mt. Sinai Baptist Church  
 Murtis H. Taylor - East Cleveland

Murtis H. Taylor - Garfield Heights  
 Murtis H. Taylor - Mt Pleasant  
 New Sardis Primitive Baptist Church  
 St. Martin de Porres Family Center  
 The Centers - Cleveland Heights  
 University Hospitals - Rainbow Ahuja  
 Center for Women and Children  
 University Settlement  
 Urban Community School  
 West Side Catholic Center  
 William E. Sanders Family Life Center



**2023 ANNUAL FUND GOAL:**  
**\$1,540,013**



DONATE



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## VOLUNTEER

These essential team members sort and count donations, keep the shelves stocked, pack orders, and help with teacher shopping events. Ideal for students of all ages, adults, groups, workplace teams, and retirees wanting a meaningful experience.

Email [volunteer@sc4k.org](mailto:volunteer@sc4k.org) for more info

