



The mission of Shoes and Clothes for Kids is to break barriers to education by providing new shoes, clothes, and school supplies to students in need.

15500 South Waterloo Road  
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## House Children and Human Services Committee

### House Bill 96

**Monica Lloyd, Executive Director**

**Shoes and Clothes for Kids**

**February 27, 2025**

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Chair White, Vice Chair Salvo, Ranking Member Lett, and members of the House Children and Human Services Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill 96. My name is Monica Lloyd, and I am the Executive Director of Shoes and Clothes for Kids (known as SC4K). Founded in 1969 as Shoes for Kids, 2025 marks our nonprofit's 56th year of service to the Greater Cleveland community. The mission of SC4K is to break barriers to school attendance by providing new shoes, clothes, and school supplies to students in need. In 2024, SC4K provided 315,655 new items with a total value of 2.7 million dollars to 28,548 students.

I joined SC4K 15 years ago to manage the organization's programs, service delivery, and volunteers. With a background in finance and program operations, I helped increase SC4K's distribution partner network, double the volunteer corps, and added the Teacher Resource Center program, which today serves thousands of teachers with new supplies each year.

I oversaw the Classroom Guarantee Program and its expansion, which was funded by the State to help positively impact student attendance by providing entire classrooms of students with necessities such as shoes, clothes, and school supplies. This program helped improve attendance by as much as 24%.

In 2020, SC4K received an invitation and opportunity to become an anchor partner in the Greater Cleveland Food Bank's innovative and new Community Resource Center. Fueled by our move to the Community Resource Center in late 2023, SC4K added our Direct Service Program last year to provide families facing economic hardship with access to our 5,000 square foot Free Store, where they can receive new shoes, clothes, and school supplies for their children. In our inaugural year, we served 668 families and 1,641 students, providing a total of 19,930 new items.

In the past nine years, we've amplified our services and program impact, serving thousands of students by supplying them with the tools they need to improve their school attendance and achieve better academic outcomes. We are asking you to continue and increase 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 would allocate \$500,000 per year, an



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increase of \$200,000 over the \$300,000 that was included in the current biennium operating budget back in 2021.

I appreciate your time today. I encourage your support of our TANF allocation included in the House version of HB 33 which would use TANF dollars to continue the expansion of our Direct Service Program at the Community Resource Center that can help 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.

# Breaking Barriers to School Attendance

SHOES AND CLOTHES FOR KIDS

MORE THAN NEW OUTFITS  
NEW OUTLOOKS

## Shoes and Clothes for Kids Programs

### NEW - Direct Service

For families referred by the Community Resource Center and its partner organizations.

### Legacy

Works through our network of 24 strategically-located nonprofit distribution partners.

### Teacher Resource Center

For teachers in schools where at least 60% of the students qualify for the National School Lunch Program.

## Mission

To break barriers to school attendance by providing new shoes, clothes, and school supplies to students in need.

## Vision

A community where the basic needs of all children are met.

## Collaboration

Individuals, partners, supporters, and volunteers working together to empower low-income families.

## Who We Serve



Providing new clothes is not an option in our household. My kids are so excited when they see that SC4K bag--They know there's something new in there! As a parent, it's hard to make decisions about either grocery shopping or purchasing new shoes or clothes for the kids, and just knowing that there are programs like this relieves a lot of stress!

Veronica Rosario, mother of 3, who shopped at the SC4K Free Store

# 56 YEARS

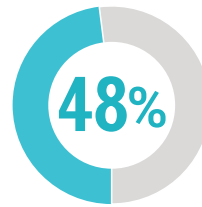
For 56 years, SC4K has been the only non-profit organization in Greater Cleveland providing new items at no cost to students, families, and teachers year-round!



## Our Impact

# 28,548 STUDENTS

In 2024, SC4K provided 315,655 new items with a total value of \$2.7M to 28,548 students

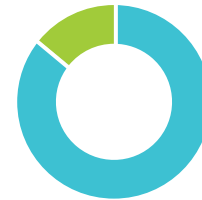


# 48% OF STUDENTS

Our programs are designed to assist the 48.4% of children in Cleveland who live at or below the Federal poverty level and reach into 32 communities in need.

# 16.7%

Inner-Ring Suburbs



# 83.3%

City of Cleveland

Our Legacy Program works through nonprofit distribution partners strategically located in neighborhoods with the highest need.

## SC4K's Direct Service Program: On the Front Line with Families

Connecting families to a holistic network of support at the CRC to address:

- Healthy Family Relationships
- Job Readiness and Placement
- Continuing Education
- Food Security
- Healthcare
- Technology Access
- Financial Literacy
- ...And More

In 2024, new items valued at \$244,073 helped:

# 668

New Families

# 1,641

Students

# 19,930

Items Received

With funding, SC4K is on pace to keep at least 6,500 students in class over the next 3 years.



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