



SHOES AND CLOTHES FOR KIDS

MORE THAN NEW OUTFITS
NEW OUTLOOKS

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Monica Lloyd

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Melissa Trzaska
Warren L. Wolfson
Elissa Wuliger

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

15500 South Waterloo Road
Cleveland, OH 44110-3800
216-881-7463
info@SC4K.org | www.SC4K.org

Chair Cirino, Vice Chair Chavez, Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson, and members of the Senate Finance Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Substitute 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. SC4K's mission is to break barriers to school attendance by providing new shoes, clothes, and school supplies to students in need. In 2024, we distributed 315,655 new items, valued at \$2.7 million, to 28,548 students. We accomplished all of this with a budget of just \$1.3 million, which included vital support from the State of Ohio.

We partner with schools and community organizations in Cuyahoga and Lorain counties, and plan to complement the Greater Cleveland Food Bank's footprint by expanding our services to the additional counties they serve, which are Ashland, Ashtabula, Geauga, Lake, and Richland.

I joined SC4K 15 years ago to manage our programs, service delivery, and volunteer engagement. I managed the Classroom Guarantee Program and its State-funded expansion, which provided entire classrooms of students with essentials like shoes, clothes, and school supplies. This program helped improve attendance by as much as 24%.

In 2020, SC4K was invited to become an anchor partner in the Greater Cleveland Food Bank's new Community Resource Center. Following our move to the Center in late 2023, we launched our Direct Service Program to provide families facing economic hardship with access to our 5,000-square-foot Free Store, where they receive new shoes, clothes, and school supplies for their children. In its first year, the program served 668 families and 1,641 students, distributing 19,930 new items. This "one-stop shop" model has proven effective, addressing multiple family needs while maximizing impact per dollar.

Alongside partners like the Food Bank, MetroHealth, Legal Aid, Diaper Bank, Digital C, College Now, Cuyahoga Community College, CHN Housing, Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging, Towards Employment, United Way, MAGNET, Family Connections, Ohio Means Jobs, and Cuyahoga County's Department of Health and Human Services, we work collaboratively to reduce duplication, streamline services, and extend the impact of every investment.



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Over the past nine years, we have significantly expanded our services and programming, helping thousands of students improve their attendance and academic performance. **We are respectfully asking you to continue your support of our programs through TANF funding at \$250,000 per year.** Last General Assembly, we were fortunate to receive \$300,000 per year in TANF funding. With these funds, we were able to provide these services directly to families and plan on expanding the reach as previously noted to the entire geographic territory supported by the Greater Cleveland Food Bank.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Your support of our TANF request will help sustain and expand our Direct Service Program at the Community Resource Center, giving more kids the chance to get to school, stay in school, and have a better chance of a successful life. I would be happy to answer any questions.