



The Clothes Line | Vol. 2 | 2024

Our 2,000 Milestone

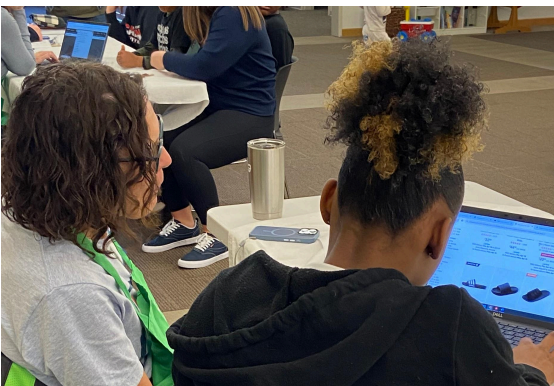
Luke's Closet reached a significant milestone in April: 2,000* children served! Since our founding in 2018, Luke's Closet has distributed approximately 30,000 clothing items to children in Dane County foster, kinship and adoptive families. We're honored to reach this milestone and to help fill a gap in the existing support network for Dane County's families in need.

Each child typically receives a week's worth of clothing. This is especially important for families who may not have laundry in their homes. We aim to provide 5-7 mix-and-match outfits so children have clean clothing for each school day. This can include tops, bottoms, sweatshirts, new socks, new underwear, pajamas, and winter outerwear (jacket, snow pants, hat, gloves/mittens).



**Data includes Luke's Closet children who are repeat users.*

Spring Shoe, Shop & Eat Hosts 98 Children



Our April 13 event hosted 98 kiddos who stocked up on spring gear including shorts, t-shirts and new shoes. Thanks to multiple grants, children were able to shop online for the shoes of their choice. Luke's Closet paid and sent the shoes directly to their homes. The children were just as excited for the new shoes as they were to receive a package in the mail.

Here's some of the comments families shared:

- "I love Luke's Closet staff. I love the fact that you can feel the love and concern they have for you. I always feel comfortable

and safe when my family comes here. Thank you for being non-judgmental, helpful and generous. Much appreciated!"

- "Everyone is so nice and this is such a great outreach."
- "Today our family visited Luke's Closet. As always we felt so welcome and supported by the wonderful volunteers. When we went to grab something to eat I recognized a foster mom. Turns out that she 'had dropped off' a baby years ago. Now she has another baby and I had my "babies" too. Our 3 kids played so nice together and enjoyed each other's company. It was so sweet to see them!!"

Months of planning go into each event. We're incredibly thankful for:

- 50+ volunteers who helped at the event.
- Donors who provided food and pizza for breakfast and lunch buffets to help our families recharge and refuel.
- Bloom Bake Shop's bakery donations.
- UW-Physical Therapy students who hosted games so children could play while guardians shopped.
- St. Luke's Lutheran Church for housing Luke's Closet and welcoming the families with open arms.



Mark Your Calendar

>>> Back-to-School Shop & Eat / August 24, 2024

If you're not already on our Shop & Eat volunteer list and would like to receive this sign-up, please email lukesclosetsignup@gmail.com. Events are 9a.m. - 1p.m.

>>> Culver's Night / June 24

Mark your calendars for Luke's Closet Culver's Night on June 24 from 4-8 p.m. Culver's on Parmenter St. in Middleton will donate a portion of the proceeds that night to Luke's Closet. Dine in or take out! It's always a fun night with lots of familiar faces.

Key Needs ->

- Men's and women's underwear for teens.

Shop our [Amazon wish list](#) or buy from your favorite store.

Special Donor Thank Yous

GRANTS:

Longtable Beer Cafe, Middleton, donated \$1 from sales of their “Longtable Burger” earlier this year resulting in a \$1,931 donation.

Luke’s Closet is always on the lookout for new grants to apply for! If you are part of a grant-giving organization, please consider contacting Kirsten Pedersen, Luke’s Closet co-chair at kirstenpedersen_30@msn.com.

CLOTHING DRIVES:

We’re incredibly thankful for community partners that recently hosted clothing drives for Luke’s Closet: Heffron Homes, Basecamp Fitness, Madtown Juniors Volleyball Club, UW students, and Madison West high school students. If you’re interested in hosting a clothing drive, please email drives4lukescloset@gmail.com for more information.

Learn More

[Donating or volunteering](#)
[2023 Annual Report](#)

Mission Statement: *To serve and support foster, kinship and adoptive families residing in Dane County by providing free, high-quality clothing. Clothing is made available quickly and is easily accessible.*

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Our thanks to [St. Luke’s Lutheran Church](#) for housing and supporting Luke’s Closet.

