

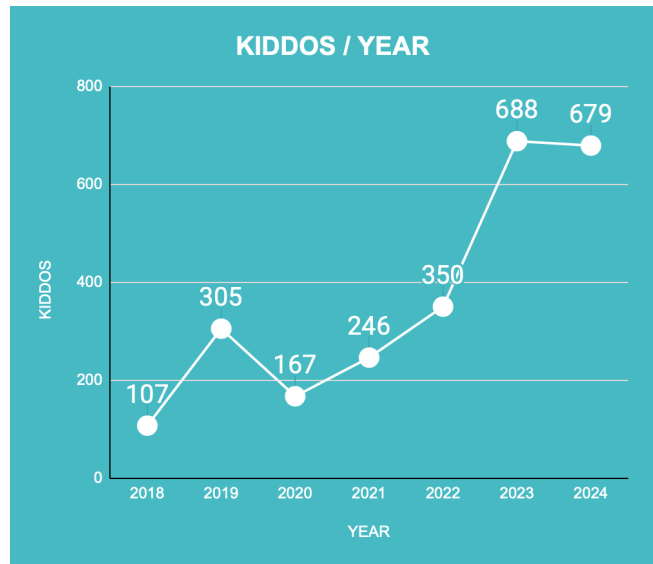


2024 Annual Report

In 2024, **Luke's Closet served 679 Dane County foster and kinship care children*** which was very similar to the number of children served in 2023. After the nearly doubling the children served from 2022 to 2023, a year of stability was needed and welcomed.

Luke's Closet is possible because of the ongoing support of St. Luke's and our incredibly dedicated volunteers and donors. Having St. Luke's house and provide many of our needed support services (i.e, accounting, office supplies) is critical and we want the St. Luke's community to know how important their support is to the Luke's Closet mission.

Because of St. Luke's, all of our financial donations can go directly to serving the children and families (see expense chart).



HIGHLIGHTS

- Honor Our Mission** – We continue to provide 5-7 outfits per child through our Shop & Eat events, personal shopping appointments, and by delivery which meant over 13,000 clothing were distributed in 2024.
- Shoes** – Thanks to grants and fundraising, we were able to meet this need at two of our three 2024 Shop & Eat events and also through a program we established for emergency needs with Dane County Human Services foster and kinship social workers. We are thrilled to have earned a grant to provide shoes/boots for all three of the 2025 Shop & Eat events and to continue the emergency needs program.
- Events** – Our Shop & Eat events are a welcome respite for often overwhelmed guardians. In addition to selecting clothes and enjoying a meal, St. Luke's is enabling the foster/kinship families to network and form connections in what can be isolating family situations. We've enhanced the events with UW Physical Therapy students who play games and activities with kiddos while guardians shop. We also partner with the Madison Reading Project to provide books. The St. Luke's building is a familiar and welcoming space for our families who look forward to coming.
- Volunteers** – We have an amazing team of volunteers who plug in as they are able to share their time and talent.

THANK YOU'S

- **VOLUNTEERS** – Luke’s Closet is thankful for everyone who chooses to share their time with us. Your support at fundraising events like Culver’s Night and Ironman doubles the impact. If you’re interested in learning more about Luke’s Closet and the many volunteer opportunities we have, visit <https://www.stlukes-elca.org/lukes-closet> or email lukesclosetcommunications@gmail.com.
- **CLOTHING DONORS** – It takes a lot of donations to clothe nearly 700 children – over 13,000 clothing items. ! In addition to clothing donations, we received generous donations of pillowcases, fleece blankets, reusable bags, food for Shop & Eat events, and hand knitted hats and gloves from many individuals. We are continually amazed at the support of our community. We do our best to thank our donors but some are sent anonymously. To all our donors, please know how thankful we are and how impactful your donations are!
- **FINANCIAL DONORS** – We are blessed with regular financial donors. Thanks to these funds, we are able to fill the emergency gaps in our inventory and help build our shoe fund. In addition to individual donors, we are grateful for the grants, company donations, and Culver’s Night attendees that come from the St. Lukes and Luke’s Closet community.



TESTIMONIALS

“She came to me with nothing. Her parents have been homeless and have been drug addicts for years....thank u for the clothes for my granddaughter. It was an unexpected and fast transfer of her into my home. All the help we can get for her to keep her stable and safe is appreciated.”

“It’s the greatest place ever. Organized, clean and absolutely amazing group of people.”

“Luke's Closet has helped me a lot when times were hard preparing me to take the next step caring for grandson re-entering in school clothes and gift cards. You are well appreciated. Thank you.”



MISSION: To serve and support foster, kinship (typically a Grandma-led family) and adoptive families residing in Dane county by providing free, high-quality clothing. Clothing is made available quickly and is easily accessible.

**Numbers reflect single and repeat users as kiddos may receive clothing seasonally and/or as they grow.*