

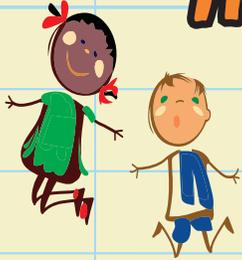


COK VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

CLOTHING OUR KIDS - FALL 2023

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HAPPY THANKSGIVING



THE KIDS ARE SO VERY THANKFUL FOR COK'S INCREDIBLE VOLUNTEERS



As of the end of October, COK provided over **203,000 items** of clothing to **34,000 KIDS** since its inception.

As Founder Mary Rio said: *It's not just about new clothes. It's about a new life.*

COK BELIEVES EDUCATION IS KEY TO PULLING KIDS OUT OF POVERTY

Poverty increased sharply last year in the U.S., particularly among children, as living costs rose and federal programs that provided aid to families during the pandemic were allowed to expire. Hence, clothing purchases have increased considerably at Clothing Our Kids this year to keep up with the demand as Sussex County households struggle to clothe their kids for the school year. Requests for clothing started to come in before the Volunteer Center was fully staffed and stocked for Fall. It continues to be COK's Mission to offer an opportunity for every child to achieve excellence no matter what their family's financial situation might be.

CLOTHING DRIVES GALORE

COK truly appreciates the effort from these neighbors:

- Everlasting Hope Ministries
- Fairway Village
- GMB Architects
- Knights of Columbus Bishop Burke Council
- Long Neck Methodist Church
- Lutheran Church of Our Savior
- Mountaire Cares
- Polka Dot Powerhouse
- Rehoboth Beach Library
- Seabrook Community
- Stonewater Creek Ladies Club
- TCC Sneaker Drive

COK 2023 9TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING



Thank you to all the Sponsors (businesses, families, and individuals), Golfers and the dozens of Volunteers – under the leadership of Chairman Mike Wezel – who gave so much of their time and talents to the Sussex County school kids in need during this year's event on Monday October 9. The Golf Outing is COK's largest fundraiser providing most of the financial support to clothe our kids.

FROM ONE OF OUR KIDS!

"Thank you, guys, for the shoes and clothes. I love all the stuff. I appreciate you for doing nice things. It put a smile on my face when I got the shoes and clothes. I just want to say thank you for helping me with the things I was struggling with. Thank you so much."

