

Help us make his

first day

a

great day



Our Mission:

To provide new school outfits and uniforms, backpacks and school supplies to children in need.

New Clothes, New Beginnings Annual Clothing Distribution
Stitches of Love

Student Attire for Education (SAFE)

www.backtoschoolclothingdrive.com

Back to School Clothing Drive



1212 East Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85034
623-842-1727

www.backtoschoolclothingdrive.com
info@backtoschoolclothingdrive.com
Executive Director: Karl Gentles

MISSION

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HISTORY

Back to School Clothing Drive was established in 1967 after a flood washed out migrant camps along the Salt River, leaving the families without any belongings, including clothes. Two women, Lucy Allen and Selma Shefler, supported by The Order of True Sisters and other agencies, were determined to help. They raised enough money to buy 871 children school clothes that year. Today, we proudly carry on their good work. Our three staff members, 15-member board of directors, and 2,500 volunteers help 20,000 children annually.

OUR PROGRAMS

SAFE

Student Attire for Education

Our exclusive matching grant program allows Title I public elementary schools to receive up to \$2,500 to buy clothes and school supplies from our online store. Net proceeds are reinvested into the program to fund additional matching grants and build sustainability.

New Clothes, New Beginnings

Annual Distribution

Our signature event helps almost 10,000 Arizona children get ready for school. Each July, we convert a gym into a store where 5,500 kids select new clothes, shoes, backpacks, school supplies, and hygiene items. Another 4,000 get backpacks and school supplies through our partnership with the BHHS Legacy Foundation Backpack Buddy program.

Stitches of Love

Our corps of 200 volunteer seamstresses is often referred to as the heart and soul of our organization. This talented group sews clothes, uniforms, and accessories year round for thousands of children. They also create one-of-a-kind items for our annual silent auction.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

New Clothes, New Beginnings

More than 2,500 volunteers are needed to execute this event each July. Volunteers set up, stuff backpacks, verify inventory, serve as "personal shoppers" and much more! Visit www.backtoschoolclothingdrive.com to register as a volunteer.

Host a Drive

Arrange a sock, underwear or school supply drive at your school, work, or place of worship. Call Krissy Miskovsky at 623-842-1727, option 3, to plan a drive.

Administrative Work

Spend time at our office helping with filing, mailing, sorting, and more!

Stitches of Love

Volunteers sew at home and gather once a month for open houses and workshops. Not only do our seamstresses sew clothes, they also create pieces for our silent auction, like baby items, quilts, throws, wreaths, holiday decor, Halloween costumes, and much more!

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- \$25 buys three backpacks
- \$50 buys five pairs of pants
- \$75 buys a full set of school clothes: two shirts, two shorts/skorts, three socks, three pairs of underwear, one belt, one pair of shoes, and a backpack
- \$100 buys a full box of school supplies
- \$250 helps fund a SAFE matching grant
- \$1,200 sponsors a class to attend distribution
- \$2,500 funds a full SAFE matching grant
- \$4,500 sponsors a school to attend distribution
- Attend our annual fundraising dinner "The Stitches of Love Gala"

We also welcome in-kind donations of printing, mailing, professional services, advertising, and fabric, as well as corporate donations and sponsorships, foundation donations, and planned giving. Back to School clothing Drive is a 501(c)(3) and donations of up to \$400 are eligible for an Arizona Working Poor Tax Credit. Please check with your tax advisor.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

SOCIAL VENTURE PARTNERS

Finalist, Fast Pitch Competition

RAY RAFFORD COMMUNITY AWARD FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPECIAL EDUCATION from Mesa Public Schools

12 WHO CARE AWARD from KPNX12 News

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO PUBLIC EDUCATION by Arizona Schools Public Relations Association

MAYOR'S PARTNERSHIP AWARD from the City of Phoenix Youth and Education Commission

BEST OF THE WEST AWARD from WESTMARC

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ken Jacobson - *President/Treasurer*
Sandy Black - *Vice President*
Vincent Payne - *Vice President*
Bonnie Smith - *Secretary*

Debbi Blean
Marie Brennan
Michelle Donaldson
Susan Kirsch

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