

What is Shoes That Fit?

Shoes That Fit is a non-profit organization that was established to help build the self-esteem of needy school children, by providing them with new shoes and clothing. This is accomplished by pairing critically-needy children with individuals at businesses, and teachers and administrators at local elementary schools.



Shoes That Fit is a volunteer-run, grassroots organization.

Call Toll-Free
(888) 715-4333



Shoes That Fit

How Did Shoes That Fit Get Started?

Elodie Silva, a Financial Aid Coordinator at one of the Claremont Colleges in Claremont, California, had dinner one evening with a secretary of a Pomona, California elementary school, who told her about a little boy whose feet were being crushed by the constricting hand-me-down shoes he was wearing to school.

The child was in the nurse's office every day, complaining that his feet hurt.

The nurse would rub his feet and send him back to the classroom.

Ms. Silva asked her friend why no one at the school simply bought the boy new shoes, and she replied that there were so many needy children at the school, they could not possibly afford to buy each of them new shoes.

Ms. Silva couldn't forget about this boy's situation.

She thought of a way to help him, and others like him, by joining elementary schools with colleges, in order to match individual donors of shoes and clothing with individual needy children.

In April of 1992, with the help of two student volunteer organizations at one of the Claremont Colleges,

Ms. Silva established the prototype Shoes That Fit program.

During the first week of operation, students, faculty, and staff delivered 43 apparel items to needy children at Roosevelt Elementary School in Pomona.

After eight months, over 400 items had been delivered to this school.

Soon, the other Claremont Colleges asked Ms. Silva to link them with needy elementary schools.

She helped them establish Shoes That Fit programs on their campuses.



Shoes That Fit
Every child deserves them.

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Cedar Rapids Area **Shoes That Fit** Previous Years' Results

**Over the last 8 years,
in the Cedar Rapids area,
we have provided needy
children with over 1500 items!**

Shoes That Fit is changing lives
in thousands of schools across
the country and needs your help
to make that number grow.



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