

### Bless Your Soles

Bless Your Soles is a back-to-school shoe drive that occurs in the summer time that helps provide brand new shoes for the kids and families in need before heading back to school from the summer. Curt's Closet partners with local businesses, churches and individuals to work on this summer project, serving about 1,500 kids between July 1 to August 15. Ways that individuals can help with this project is by donating new tennis shoes, donating via PayPal on the organization's website, shopping from the Amazon or Walmart wish list and sending them to Curt's Closet directly, or mail donations to its PO Box.



### Curt's Christmas

Curt's Christmas takes place during the holidays every year. Curt's Closet allows individuals to sponsor kids and families by gathering names and contact information from children and families who are in need, sending out packets to these families and allows the children to make a Christmas wish list as well as asking the guardians to make a list of needed items and then going out and buying the items on the lists. The organization makes it a point to provide the kids and families with items that are new and not old. Different ways that individuals can help with Curt's Christmas is hosting toy drives at places of business or churches, donating wrapping paper, bags and tape or buying and donating items from the organization's Amazon Wish List.

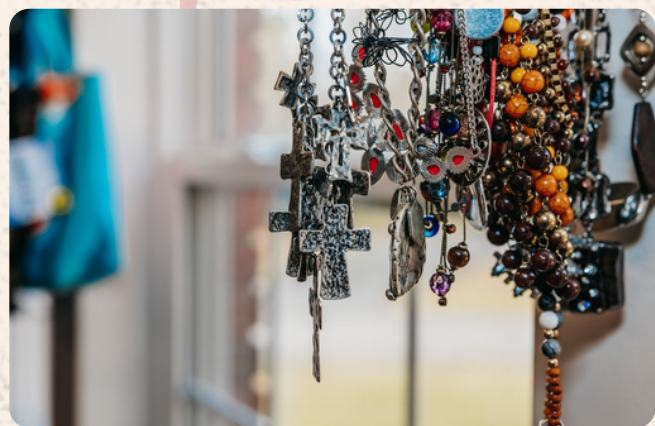


### Captain Underpants

Captain Underpants is a competition held every February between each Cullman city and county elementary schools in which the organization sees who can bring in the most underwear. Every classroom is provided with a box where students can drop off packs of underwear throughout the week. At the end of week, Curt's Closet goes around to pick up the boxes and count every pack in each box, making one pack worth one point. The classroom that collects the most points wins a cupcake party thrown by the organization. They also have an overall winner from every class within the city and county, and that class wins the big prize of the newest version of the Captain Underpants book and a pizza party at a given location.









On May 7, 2017, Curtis Wilson of Cullman, Alabama, tragically lost his life in a head-on collision with a drunk driver. Curt was only 15 years old when his life was taken. In the wake of this heartbreaking tragedy, his mother, Ashley Wilson, channeled her grief into something positive, founding Curt's Closet as a way to honor her son while giving back to the community he loved so dearly.

Curt's deep love for God, his family, and his community inspired Ashley to create an organization that would serve as a living tribute to his memory. What began in the living room of Ashley's home gradually grew into something much larger. In 2018, Ashley opened the doors of Curt's Closet to the public, operating out of a small church on Saint Joseph Street in Cullman. For three years, the organization thrived there, before relocating to its current home on Third Avenue in 2021.

The early days of Curt's Closet were challenging. The organization experienced rapid growth, overwhelming Ashley as she worked tirelessly, often putting in 60 to 80 hours a week. Today, Curt's Closet continues to grow—expanding its reach with more members, volunteers, and generous donations each year.

In 2024, as a response to the increasing demand, the organization opened a second warehouse, further supporting its growth. Ashley credits the organization's success to God, believing that every step forward and every blessing is a reflection of His work in their lives. Now, almost seven years later, Curt's Closet remains steadfast in its mission to support children and families in need, receiving over 32,000 donations, 3,202 client visits and 1,465 back-to-school clients in the 2024 year.

## The Cullman Tribune

SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874

“The warehouse doubles the amount of onsite storage space, and creates a new and larger sorting area for donated goods.”

Home › News › Local › Curt's Closet opens 2nd warehouse for growing programs

News Local

### Curt's Closet opens 2nd warehouse for growing programs

<https://www.cullmantribune.com/2024/04/17/curts-closet-opens-2nd-warehouse-for-growing-programs/>



“There is a special place in Cullman where families can come to make sure their kids are clothed and cared for.”

### How Curt's Closet is sharing clothing, confidence and care

<https://www.waff.com/2022/07/14/how-curts-closet-is-sharing-clothing-confidence-care/>



“...as the sole annual fundraising event for the organization which makes providing clothing for low-income and distressed families its top priority, Wilson said the service it provides has become increasingly important.”

The Cullman Times, Ala.

### Clothed in Cullman returns Thursday, May 9

Patrick Camp, The Cullman Times, Ala.

Wed, May 8, 2024 at 5:19 PM CDT · 2 min read



<https://www.yahoo.com/lifestyle/clothed-cullman-returns-thursday-may-221900005.html>



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