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CLOTHING OUR KIDS (COK) PRESS RELEASE – FEBRUARY 4, 2025 COK RECEIVES A CARL M. FREEMAN FOUNDATION GRANT

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The Carl M. Freeman Foundation, a private family foundation established in 1960, has a long history of supporting nonprofit organizations – both large and small. The Foundation commits its time, talent, and treasure to facilitate, support and promote innovative community-based leadership and giving. Carl M. Freeman believed that to whom much is given, much is expected.

This Grant is fitting since the children served by COK have so little, and it is the organization's goal to assist them with an equal start in their education and help them become successful students. COK has been blessed to be the recipient of Freeman Foundation Grants in the past, and the monies granted offer an opportunity for every child to achieve excellence. The ongoing support of good community partners such as the Freeman Foundation has allowed COK to expand into the Middle Schools and with the start of the new year, five High Schools – Cape Henlopen, Sussex Central in Georgetown, Woodbridge, Seaford, and Laurel. Those in higher grades are as vulnerable and as much in need as their younger counterparts.

We have learned from a School District Homeless Liaison about a 17-year-old High School Senior trying to keep his family together and stay in school. He is responsible for two younger siblings and works two part-time jobs. He is working so hard to continue his education and COK is supporting his difficult journey to overcome all these challenges. This is one of many examples as to why COK continues helping the Sussex County students with clothing insecurity once they reach High School.

As Founder Mary Rio recently said: "It's not just about new clothes, it's about a new life."

