Kids In Need Foundation (KINF) is committed to bringing together people who are passionate about equity in education to discuss and provide actionable inspiration to create positive change nationwide. The long-standing desired outcome of education is to be a critical equalizer, regardless of the circumstances into which a student is born. Well-established systemic issues of racism and inequity in our society have had a domino effect on education and widened the Opportunity Gap.

We believe every child in America deserves equal opportunity and access to a quality education. As the only national nonprofit that focuses on schools with a student enrollment of 70 percent or more participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), we work alongside our National Network of Resource Centers to distribute much-needed supplies.
ASK THE EXPERTS

Each year, Kids In Need Foundation works with its National Network of Resource Centers to survey the teachers we serve in our country’s most under-resourced schools and communities. This year, more than 11,500 teachers gave us a lens into their classrooms.

NEARLY 2 OUT OF 3 STUDENTS ARRIVE WITHOUT THE SUPPLIES THEY NEED

Our teachers shared with us that the majority of their students—more than 63 percent—arrive on the first day of school without all the requested and necessary school supplies.

Supplies Lead to Improved Student Outcomes

In under-resourced schools, students who are prepared for class perform better. Teachers report student improvements in the following categories:

WHEN SUPPLIES RUN OUT

The fall is synonymous with the back-to-school season, and the need for supplies is top of mind. But what happens when teachers and students in underserved schools head back in January for the second semester?

THE COST FOR TEACHERS

In this year’s teacher survey, 1 out of 3 teachers shared that they spend more than $500. Not only are teachers in under-resourced schools spending personal funds on materials for their students, they’re also making less than teachers in schools with a low rate of students living in poverty. According to an Economic Policy Institute study, teachers working in communities of high poverty are making 10 percent less - about a $5,600 gap. Additionally, 57.5 percent of teachers in under-resourced schools reported that they are moonlighting to earn extra money.

THE TAKEAWAY:

With your partnership, a collective vision of equality in education can be realized. By providing teachers and students with resources for learning, we can work to solve the Opportunity Gap for future generations.