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**Note to media:** These backpacks are not available to the general public. The backpacks are being donated only to the designated recipients named below.

**OFFICE DEPOT FOUNDATION DONATES 6,000 BACKPACKS  
TO HELP DELRAY BEACH CHILDREN SUCCEED IN SCHOOL**

*National Backpack Program Celebrates 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary;  
More Than 2.3 Million Backpacks Given Away Since 2001*

**Delray Beach, Fla., August 2, 2010** – What weighs as much as seven blue whales, stands taller than 10,000 giraffes, stretches from Denver to Kansas City – and gives children hope? The answer is 2.3 million backpacks, of course, which happens to be the number of backpacks that the Office Depot Foundation has given away to deserving children since it established its National Backpack Program 10 years ago.

On Wednesday, August 4, the Office Depot Foundation will donate more than 6,000 backpacks containing essential school supplies to children served by non-profit organizations and schools in the Delray Beach area. The Foundation, which serves as the independent charitable giving arm of Office Depot® (NYSE:ODP), will present the backpacks during a special “Back-to-School Backpack Celebration” beginning at 10 a.m. at the Office Depot store located at 14539 Military Trail in Delray Beach.

This year, the Office Depot Foundation is celebrating the 10th anniversary of its National Backpack Program. “Every year, we have seen our backpacks bring hope to children whose families might not be able to afford to buy them a new backpack,” says Mary Wong, president of the Office Depot Foundation. “Parents and teachers alike tell us that we truly are helping children to build self-confidence, boost self-esteem and achieve greater success in the classroom – all as a result of being properly prepared for school.”

Special guests scheduled to participate in the backpack presentations include City of Delray Beach Mayor Nelson S. “Woodie” McDuffie; City of Boca Raton Vice Mayor Susan Haynie and Assistant City Clerk Diane King, representing Mayor Susan Whelchel; City of Delray Beach Vice-Mayor Adam Frankel, City of Delray Beach Deputy Vice-Mayor Angeleta Gray, City of Delray Beach Commissioner Fred Fetzer, City of Delray Beach Commissioner Gary Eliopoulos, State Representative Maria Sachs and Mike Malone, President/CEO of the Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce.

The non-profit organizations, schools and agencies scheduled to receive backpacks during the August 4 donation event include:



- The School District of Palm Beach County
- Achievement Center for Children & Families (Beacon Center) & Achievement Centers for Children & Families Foundation
- AVDA - Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse
- Boynton Beach Police Department
- Caridad Center
- Congregation B'nai Israel, Kantor Family Center for Justice
- Delray Beach Police Department
- Hispano-Latino Cultural Alliance, Inc.
- Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County
- Milagro Center
- St. John Primitive Baptist Church
- S. D. Spady Elementary
- Spady Cultural Heritage Museum
- Spirit of Giving Network
- YMCA of South Palm Beach County

To distribute the backpacks in 2010, the Foundation is hosting 25 “Back-to-School Backpack Celebrations” in cities across the U.S. and Canada – five of which will include Tony Stewart, driver of the No. 14 Office Depot/Old Spice Chevy Impala in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series™. Thousands of backpacks also are being donated by Office Depot stores in hundreds of local communities and in collaboration with Office Depot’s Business Solutions Division in select cities.

Thousands more backpacks are being given to children through the Office Depot Foundation’s partnerships with national non-profit organizations – including the Tony Stewart Foundation, the National Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Association, Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA), Feed The Children, the Kids In Need Foundation, Nourish America, Zach Bonner’s Little Red Wagon Foundation and the National Foundation for Women Legislators, whose members once again will donate backpacks in all 50 states. For the third consecutive year, backpack donations will be made to children of the Navajo Nation in Arizona and the Rosebud Sioux Tribe in South Dakota.

You can find more fun facts about the National Backpack Program on the Office Depot Foundation page on Facebook and follow the Foundation on Twitter by visiting [www.twitter.com/officedepotfndn](http://www.twitter.com/officedepotfndn). For more information on the Office Depot Foundation and its initiatives, go to [www.officedepotfoundation.org/](http://www.officedepotfoundation.org/).

### **About the Office Depot Foundation**

The Office Depot Foundation is an independent foundation (tax exempt under IRC Sec. 501(c)(3)) that serves as the independent charitable giving arm of Office Depot, Inc. In keeping with its mission, Listen Learn Care®, the Foundation supports a variety of programs that help children succeed in school and in life; enable civil society (non-profit) organizations to become more efficient and effective; help people and businesses prepare for disasters, then recover and rebuild afterwards; strengthen local communities through grants, product donations and volunteerism; and encourage community development through entrepreneurship and economic innovation. For more information, visit [www.officedepotfoundation.org](http://www.officedepotfoundation.org).

