



CONTACTS:

Leon Rubin
Office Depot Foundation
(Mobile) 561-251-8075
(Office) 706-867-0278
LRubin@jkggroup.com

**OFFICE DEPOT FOUNDATION GIVES CHILDREN TOOLS FOR SUCCESS
BY DONATING 2,000 BACKPACKS TO ROSEBUD SIOUX TRIBE**

Mission, S.D., September 10, 2008 – Just a few days after the start of classes, the Office Depot Foundation – the independent foundation serving as the primary charitable giving arm of Office Depot (NYSE: ODP) – is donating 2,000 backpacks to the children of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe to help them succeed in school.

The backpacks will be presented to children in grades K-6 during a special “Backpack Donation Day” event on Friday, September 12, from 9:30 a.m. to approximately 3:00 p.m. at the Sinte Gleska University Multipurpose Building on the Antelope Lake Campus.

This is the first time that a backpack donation will be made to children of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe. Tribal Councilman Robert Moore has been instrumental in bringing about the donation in collaboration with the National Foundation for Women Legislators (NFWL) and the Office Depot Foundation.

Councilman Moore will host a presentation ceremony at 1:00 p.m. for local officials. Special guests expected to participate include:

- Dr. Margo Heinert, Superintendent of the Todd County School District
- Mary Wong, President of the Office Depot Foundation
- Robin Read, President and CEO of the National Foundation for Women Legislators
- Michael Morton, Executive Director of Nourish America
- Elli Wicks, Tribal Liaison for U.S. Senator Tim Johnson (D-SD)

“By placing backpacks containing essential school supplies into the hands of children, we are giving them important tools they need to start school with confidence – and to succeed throughout the year,” notes Mary Wong, president of the Office Depot Foundation. “The National Backpack Program is one of the key ways in which we seek to accomplish the Foundation’s mission – Listen Learn Care™ – and to achieve our strategic priority of helping children get ready for life and work.”

Councilman Moore, in acknowledging the donation, says, “The benefits of partnerships like this are far-reaching beyond a single event and I am grateful. Self-esteem, stronger desire to learn, team-building and stronger local partnerships are by-products of this one event that will last a long time for our children and our schools, all essential in our work to build our tribal nation.”

According to Councilman Moore, students will be bused to the event from throughout Todd County. In addition to receiving their backpacks, the children will participate in a health fair presented by a number of tribal and community organizations. Nourish America will be on hand to distribute nutrition information.

The donations to the Rosebud Sioux Tribe are among a total of 300,000 backpacks being provided to scores of non-profit organizations and schools across the U.S. and Canada through the 2008 Office Depot Foundation National Backpack Program. The recipients, in turn, give the backpacks to children they serve in classrooms and social service programs. In the eight years of this program, Office Depot has donated nearly 1.8 million backpacks.

To distribute the backpacks this year, the Foundation is hosting 25 “Backpack Donation Day” events across the United States and Canada. Thousands of backpacks also are being donated by Office Depot stores in hundreds of local communities. Thousands more are being distributed through the Office Depot Foundation’s partnerships with eight national non-profit organizations – including Nourish America and NFWL. In a first for the program, NFWL members in all 50 states will donate backpacks to children in their districts and communities.

The 2008 backpacks come in five different color schemes, blending orange, blue, red, purple, green and – for the first time – pink. Designed primarily to meet the needs of students in grades K-5, the backpacks feature two front pockets and wide, padded straps for comfort and support. Each backpack contains a pencil pouch containing essential back-to-school items – a ruler, four crayons, a glue stick, a pen, a pencil, a pencil sharpener and an eraser.

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Fun Facts about the 2008 Office Depot Foundation National Backpack Program

- If the nearly 1.8 million backpacks donated since the inception of the program in 2001 were stacked on top of each other, they would be taller than 267 Washington Monuments!
- If all 300,000 Office Depot Foundation backpacks were placed end-to-end, they would cover a distance of 80.5 miles.
- The 300,000 backpacks fill 12,000 boxes weighing 372,000 pounds – the approximate weight of 31 African elephants.
- The backpacks contain enough crayons for every resident of Vermont *and* the District of Columbia.
- If every child who receives a backpack from the Office Depot Foundation in 2008 came together at one time to watch a professional football game, they would fill nearly every seat in Lambeau Field, the Louisiana Superdome, Soldier Field in Chicago, Dolphin Stadium and Fawcett Stadium at the NFL Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio.

Source: Office Depot Foundation, www.officedepotfoundation.org

About the Office Depot Foundation

The Office Depot Foundation is an independent foundation that serves as the primary charitable giving arm of Office Depot. In keeping with its mission, Listen Learn Care™, the Foundation strives to make a positive impact on many lives in many communities around the world. The Foundation supports a variety of programs that enhance the quality of life for children, strengthen communities, encourage local and global economic growth, and empower schools and non-profit organizations. It also provides support when disasters strike – doing what it can not only to speed the process of rebuilding, but also to mitigate the impact of future disasters. For more information about the Office Depot Foundation, visit www.officedepotfoundation.org.

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