



children's home + aid

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Local Companies Kick Off School Year by Delivering 5,000 Backpacks Full of School Supplies to Students at 10 Chicago Elementary Schools

Public Officials, Community Leaders Celebrate Partnership

CHICAGO (August 13, 2012) – Illinois State Senator Iris Martinez, State Representative Maria Berrios, and other public officials today joined employees from United Stationers, several other local corporations and Children's Home + Aid staff to deliver 5,000 backpacks full of school supplies to high-need Chicago elementary students.

The backpacks, which are full of age-appropriate school supplies, were donated by United Stationers Charitable Foundation to students served by Children's Home + Aid's Community Schools Initiative in Chicago's Englewood, Humboldt Park and Austin community areas. Many families do not have the resources to buy every child in the family new school supplies, which can keep kids from starting school in step with their peers. Over 100 volunteers from local companies such as United Stationers, PNC Bank, Edelman and Groupon delivered the backpacks. Local community leaders and elected officials helped to hand out the backpacks and celebrate the beginning of the school year.

"This project embodies the powerful difference we can make by leveraging and engaging the resources of major corporate citizens so that all Chicago children can succeed in school," said Nancy Ronquillo, President and CEO of Children's Home + Aid. "United Stationers offers an inspiring model for how corporate citizens can mobilize extensive resources and engage hundreds of volunteers to support and augment education for children in our City and in Illinois."

"We're excited that the backpack program has made a difference for Chicago school children," said Tracey Horwich, executive director of the United Stationers Charitable Foundation. "The program also has been very successful in other school districts around the country, and even some of our customers – office products resellers – are now participating in the program in their local communities."

Children's Home + Aid's Community Schools Initiative is a partnership between Children's Home + Aid and Chicago Public Schools. Guided by the priorities of the community, Children's Home + Aid provides an array of school based services – academic enrichment and recreation, clinical counseling, and family support – in order to meet the diverse challenges of students and their families.

United Stationers Charitable Foundation is a strong supporter of Children's Home + Aid's Community Schools Initiative. The company's Young Professionals Group and Latino Business Council, , regularly volunteer at and donates to the Community Schools Program at Sumner Mathematics and Science Community Academy, an elementary school in the Austin community. By donating vital school supplies, United Stationers Charitable Foundation gives children the tools they need to achieve academic success.

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Children's Home + Aid is a leading child and family service agency in Illinois. Each year, it protects, educates and counsels more than 40,000 children, youth and families to improve their lives. Since 1883, Children's Home + Aid has been a compassionate advocate helping to shape public policy in child welfare, early childhood and juvenile justice. Children's Home + Aid is recognized for establishing best practices and achieving outstanding results through its programs and services that focus on child abuse prevention, healthy child development and strengthening families. For more information, please visit www.childrenshomeandaid.org.

About United Stationers and United Stationers Charitable Foundation

United Stationers Inc. is a leading wholesale distributor of business products, with 2011 net sales of approximately \$5 billion. The company stocks approximately 100,000 items, including technology products, traditional office products, janitorial and breakroom supplies, office furniture, and industrial products. A network of 61 distribution centers allows it to deliver these products to over 25,000 reseller customers. For more information, visit www.unitedstationers.com.

United Stationers Charitable Foundation is a philanthropic foundation whose purpose is to coordinate and mobilize United Stationers' resources to make a difference in the lives of those in need by "giving back" through financial support and hands-on involvement.