

Kids In Need

Connection

August 2007



Kids In Need
Foundation

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2007 Kids In Need Foundation Gala

You are cordially invited to the 2007 Kids In Need Foundation Gala on Friday, September 7, from 6:00 - 9:30 p.m., at The Depot in Minneapolis, MN.

The Gala, an event to celebrate education, is sponsored by Target. All proceeds benefit the Kids In Need Foundation.

The featured speaker will be Erin Gruwell, the educator whose commitment to the future of children and education is the subject of the film "Freedom Writers," starring Hillary Swank as Erin. For more information about Erin, please visit her Web site at www.freedomwritersfoundation.org

Also appearing at the event will be Rick Carton, creator of "Edgar and Ellen," a popular children's book and cartoon series.

"Education should be celebrated," said Kathy Hirko, chair of the Kids In Need Foundation Board of Directors. "The Foundation does so every day by providing free school supplies to kids. We invite everyone to the Gala to help us acknowledge the importance of education and support us in our efforts."

The Kids In Need Foundation's national sponsor, Target, is one of the foremost providers of funds to help advance the educational opportunities for children throughout America. Their charitable giving in support of education also includes their own Take Charge of Education program, as well as initiatives that promote reading, encourage children to inspire and lead, and strengthen pride in ethnic heritage.

If you also believe that a positive educational environment strengthens children and helps them become fully realized adults, we encourage you to reserve your seats today.

A Gala reservation form is included and can also be found online at www.kidsinneed.net. For more information, call or email Penny Hawk at 937-297-2250, ext. 3023, pennyh@shopa.org.



Sneak Preview!
The Foundation's new
logo will be unveiled at the Gala.

Call To Action



Every new school year can be a new beginning. However, for the 13 million children that live below the poverty level, heading back to school can be a time of tremendous stress. Many students will arrive on their first day of school without any supplies.

Back-to-school season is an important time to begin or

continue your support of the Foundation. Product and monetary donations can be made online at www.kidsinneed.net, or by using the enclosed double-sided form. For more information about financial contributions, please contact Steve Rubenstein at steve@shopa.org; for information about product donation, contact Brenda Nachreiner at brendan@shopa.org.

United Stationers Supply Company Donates Millions of Dollars of Product



The Foundation celebrated a record month for product donations in June, due in part to a \$9.7 Million product donation from United Stationers.

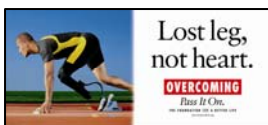
The product was distributed throughout the National Network of 23 Resource Centers, and arrived in perfect timing for the back-to-school season. Included were much-needed core items such as markers, pencils, and paper, as well as a

wide array of additional products from bookcases and furniture to calculators and ink cartridges.

Through their generosity, United Stationers has helped provide thousands of teachers and students with new tools for the new school year.

For more information about United Stationers, visit their Web site at www.ussco.com.

Posters from The Foundation for a Better Life



“We congratulate the good work you are doing,” said Gary Dixon, President of The Foundation for a Better Life.

Kids In Need is honored to receive thousands of *Pass It On* posters from Gary Dixon for distribution to teachers through the National Network of Resource Centers. Consisting of simply phrased, yet powerful statements focusing on character traits such as overcoming, confidence, hard work, and persistence, the

posters are perfect motivational pieces for classrooms.

The Foundation for a Better Life believes that an individual who takes responsibility for his or her actions will take care of his or her family, job, community, and country. Teachers and students are sincerely invited to visit www.forbetterlife.org to submit their stories and comments related to values.

Each Resource Center will receive copies of the four posters pictured at left.

Kids In Need has a New Web Site!

Have you visited www.kidsinneed.net lately? Along with our new logo, the site has a brand new look.

A new feature is the "Donate Now!" button, found at the top of every page. Both financial and product donations can now be made online. Downloadable forms are still available.

Our partners and donors are the lifeblood of our mission...so be sure to check

out the Honor Roll and Product Donor list to see who supports the Foundation.

Teachers can submit grant applications on the site through September 30. The Best Practices Guide, which compiles previous award-winning lesson plans by subject and grade level, are available for reference year-round.

Special thanks to Target for their input during the development process.

www.kidsinneed.net



A Summit Success Story



In June the Foundation held its annual Kids In Need National Network Summit. The Summit gathered 83 individuals from organizations around the country at this year's host location, Crayons to Computers in Cincinnati.

The two-day event consisted of plenary and breakout sessions covering topics such as inventory management, Web site design, fundraising, and board/volunteer

management.

Thank you to the staff and volunteers at Crayons to Computers for providing an informative and interactive setting for the Summit.

If you would like more information about starting a resource center, or would like to receive information about the 2008 Summit, please contact Penny Hawk at pennyh@shopa.org.

Community Support is Key to Resource Centers

Two Kids In Need Resource Centers are in the midst of moving locations, with the support of local businesses and sponsors. Teacher's Treasures in Indianapolis, IN, and Ruth's Reusable Resources in Portland, ME, have been preparing their new locations for the back-to-school rush.

"Community individuals, local businesses, teachers, and media

have helped keep us in operation for thirteen years." said Ruth Libby, director of Ruth's Reusable Resources.

Community support through individuals and businesses clearly has an important role in the success of Centers. If you would like more information about supporting your local Center, please contact the Foundation.



Thank You, Donors!

An enthusiastic "THANK YOU!" to the following companies and individuals who have made product, in-kind services, or financial donations to the Kids In Need Foundation between January 1 and July 31, 2007:

3M	Frank Jelnicky	Parents Action for Children
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Acme United	GE Money	Paul Bierhaus
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Angela Sheehan	InkStop	Reynolds & Reynolds Assoc. Foundation
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