



# SCHOOL BOX

SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR KIDS WHO NEED THEM

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **STUDENTS SUPPLIED WITH BASIC LEARNING TOOLS**

*School box kit distribution a welcome donation to Dayton Public Schools*

**DAYTON, OH -- September 20, 2007 --** Having basic school supplies remain a luxury for the more than 13 million children who live at or below the poverty line.

Thanks to sponsoring business partners, the Kids in Need Foundation was able to give more than 7,000 students who attend Dayton Public Schools (DPS) the luxury of opening a new box full of school supplies during district-wide distributions on Sept. 19, 2007.

Students at Patterson-Kennedy Elementary School lined up on stage to thank the donors for their new supplies. Some of those students said thank you in English while others said thank you in Spanish and Arabic languages.

The School Box program is a program of the Kids In Need Foundation, a national non-profit organization providing school supplies to impoverished children and under-funded teachers.

A total of 7,700 School Box kits were distributed to DPS students in grades kindergarten through eighth grade.

“This is the third year I have received a school supply box, and it has helped me tremendously,” said a smiling seventh grade student.

Another student added, “Thank you for everything and for giving us the school supplies. Before I received my box of supplies, I didn’t have all of the items that I needed for school, but thanks to your generosity I now have all the items I need. Thank you so much.”

Each school supply kit contains dozens of items, including folders, spiral notebooks, glue, pens, paper, erasers, crayons, pencils, facial tissue, scissors, ruler, markers, colored pencils, pencil sharpener, a pencil case and paint set.

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By partnering with corporations and philanthropic organizations throughout the country, the School Box program has provided completely assembled school supply kits to elementary and middle school children who otherwise would have to do without the basic tools for learning. This is the third year that the Kids in Need Foundation have made this project possible.

Although the program is coordinated by the Kids In Need Foundation, the generosity of Dayton corporations, MeadWestvaco, LexisNexis, Standard Register, Vectren, the Miller-Valentine Group, The Berry Company, The Iams Company, GE Money, and Reynolds and Reynolds, helped make this program possible.

“I know what it’s like to not have the supplies you need for school,” said Ms. Rivera, a seventh grade science teacher at Patterson Kennedy. “I grew up in inner-city Chicago and many of the students didn’t have the supplies they needed. Through the support of the community, these students and my students have a chance.”

“I thank you so much for what you are doing. It helps make my life a lot easier. All children can learn and can shine if they are equipped with the right supplies. Thanks to you, they can shine and excel.”

The Kids in Need Foundation is committed to ensuring that children are prepared to learn and succeed by providing free school supplies nationally to students most in need. Besides the School Box program, the Foundation achieves this mission by funding classroom projects through its Teacher Grants program and by providing free school supplies to designated schools in 23 cities through its National Network of Resource Centers.

The Kids Need Foundation will serve its 10 millionth student during the 2007-2008 school year.

#### **About the Kids In Need Foundation**

The Kids In Need Foundation is a national 501(c)(3) charitable organization founded in 1995 by the School, Home, & Office Products Association (SHOPA). The Foundation’s mission is to ensure that every child is prepared to learn and succeed by providing free school supplies nationally to students most in need. The National Network of Kids in Need Resource Centers includes 23 facilities that allow teachers from low-income schools to obtain free school supplies for their students. In addition, Kids In Need Teacher Grants provide K-12 educators with funding to provide innovative learning opportunities for students. The Kids in Need Foundation has distributed more than \$250 million in school supplies since its founding, directly benefiting 1.5 million students and 100,000 teachers annually, and has awarded more than \$771,000 in grants to teachers. For more information, visit [www.kidsinneed.net](http://www.kidsinneed.net).