



# Kids In Need Foundation

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Penny Hawk  
Managing Director  
937-297-2250, ext. 3023  
pennyh@shopa.org

**MeadWestvaco and LexisNexis Join Other Local Companies To  
Guarantee Dayton Kids Have School Supplies**  
*Dayton School Box is a program of the SHOPA Kids In Need Foundation*

**DAYTON, OH -- AUGUST 11, 2006 --** The SHOPA Kids In Need Foundation, with the support of local corporate sponsors and partners, is ready to conduct the second annual School Box program in Dayton. The 2006 MeadWestvaco and LexisNexis School Box program will distribute free school supplies to more than 6,500 Dayton students on Wednesday, September 6.

It's not too late to help. Business leaders who want to make a difference for kids in Dayton can still contribute. The program's goal is that every elementary and middle Dayton Public Schools student receives supplies.

The MeadWestvaco and LexisNexis school supplies giveaway is presented by Standard Register and is supported by the following additional local sponsors: Vectren, The Iams Company, the Miller-Valentine Group, and the Berry Company.

Selene Edmunds, director of LexisNexis Cares (Global), says the School Box program fits LexisNexis. "In addition to providing corporate funds for this sponsorship, I am pleased to announce that our local employees provided financial support for the School Box program through the LexisNexis Cares Employee Fund. Through the LexisNexis Cares program, where education and literacy are two primary focus areas, we are proud to support initiatives that provide students the basic supplies necessary to

perform well in school, giving each of them the opportunity for a bright, successful future as outstanding future contributors to our local communities.”

“As a national organization, we support 21 Resource Centers throughout the U.S. that make school supplies available at no charge to teachers in low-income areas to give to their students,” said Kathy Spencer, executive director of the Kids In Need Foundation. “But to reach out to communities not served by Resource Centers, we also conduct school supply giveaways.”

The Kids in Need Foundation, founded by the School, Home, & Office Products Association (SHOPA) in 1995, distributes approximately \$30 million worth of free school supplies to 1.3 million children annually through its National Network of Kids In Need Resource Centers.

Between the School Box program and the City of Dayton’s S.T.A.Y. In School program which was held in July, nearly 11,000 Dayton Public School students will receive the supplies they need to help them achieve in the classroom. Supplies being distributed through “School Box” will be delivered to elementary and middle school students at their schools.

“Children cannot do their schoolwork and homework if they don’t have the proper supplies. Academic success often eludes these kids,” said Spencer. “We hear from teachers and principals whose students receive supplies from Kids In Need that having supplies results in fewer disciplinary problems, less frequent absences, and higher test scores.”

Contact the Kids In Need Foundation Director of Development Steve Rubenstein at 297-2250, ext. 3008, to learn more.

### **About MeadWestvaco**

MeadWestvaco is a global packaging company that delivers high-value packaging solutions and products to the world’s most recognized companies in the food and beverage, media and entertainment, personal care, cosmetic and healthcare industries. The company also has market-leading positions in its Consumer

& Office Products, Specialty Chemicals and Specialty Papers businesses. MeadWestvaco, with operations in more than 29 countries, has been selected for the Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes, and manages all of its forestlands in accordance with internationally recognized forest certification standards. For more information, please visit [www.meadwestvaco.com](http://www.meadwestvaco.com).

## **LexisNexis Group About LexisNexis**

LexisNexis<sup>®</sup> ([www.lexisnexis.com](http://www.lexisnexis.com)) is a leading provider of information and services solutions, including its flagship Web-based Lexis<sup>®</sup> and Nexis<sup>®</sup> research services, to a wide range of professionals in the legal, risk management, corporate, government, law enforcement, accounting and academic markets. A member of Reed Elsevier Group plc [NYSE: ENL; NYSE: RUK] ([www.reedelsevier.com](http://www.reedelsevier.com)), the company serves customers in 100 countries with 13,000 employees worldwide.

In the United States, LexisNexis<sup>®</sup> ([www.lexisnexis.com](http://www.lexisnexis.com)) offers its customers total practice solutions comprised of an extensive range of online and print legal, regulatory, news and business information products, tools, customized Web applications and critical filing services that help legal professionals achieve excellence in the business and practice of law.

## **About Kids In Need Foundation**

**The Kids In Need Foundation** is a national non-profit organization providing school supplies to impoverished children and under-funded teachers. A 501(c)(3) charitable organization founded in 1995 by the School, Home, & Office Products Association (SHOPA), the Foundation's mission is to recognize, promote, and support initiatives that foster educational excellence. The National Network of Kids in Need Resource Centers includes 21 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 SHOPA Kids in Need Foundation has distributed more than \$200 million in school supplies since its founding, directly benefiting 1.3 million students and 75,000 teachers annually, and has awarded more than \$660,000 in grants to teachers. For more information, visit [www.kidsinneed.net](http://www.kidsinneed.net).

## **About SHOPA**

SHOPA, founded in 1991, is a nonprofit trade association representing nearly 800 manufacturers, manufacturer representatives, retailers, wholesalers, distributors, commercial/contract stationers, and service companies involved in the production, distribution, and sale of school supplies and office products. The Association also produces SBTS (SHOPA Buyer-to-Seller) Marketplace events, which facilitate pre-scheduled and one-on-one meetings. SHOPA, in cooperation with Messe Frankfurt and PROPAPER, is producing Paperworld USA in November, the international trade event for the school, home, and office products industry. For more information, visit the Web site at [www.shopa.org](http://www.shopa.org).

# # #