



COMMUNITY BUILDER AWARDS: Application Example Excerpt

Project Title: SCHOOL SUPPLY AND BACKPACK PROGRAM

**Please describe your project objectives:**

Our group is a non-profit organization that serves culturally diverse, at-risk school students. Our school is committed to the future success of youth by providing the highest quality services in education, mentoring, family outreach, and enriching activities. Because many of our students come from homes where parents are working 2-3 jobs just to make ends meet, they are often unable to purchase supplies and materials to ensure their students are successful at school. This can be an embarrassing situation for the families and put the teachers in the difficult position of needing to spend their own money to equip students for classroom success. We kindly request funds to purchase much needed new backpacks and school supplies for our third annual school supply give-away event.

**Please describe the number of students who will benefit:**

The event is open to all school-aged children in the county - kindergarten, primary school, middle school and high school. Although our school's students have challenges and needs, we believe in supporting them and giving back to our greater community. That's why this event was created. Every dollar truly counts. Every pencil, every eraser, every ruler makes a difference - thank you for your consideration. In 2016, we gave supplies to more than 1,500 students from our school and throughout the district. Supplies are purchased through large discounts we've negotiated and donated by families and the community.

**How will your project impact your school and the community?:**

This project will empower students and families to improve the quality of their lives. It will help ease the financial burden many families experience with the purchase of school supplies, and it will provide the children with the basic supplies they need to begin an important year of learning. Through the campaign we bring the entire community together; those with school-aged children, and community members and neighbors who can afford to lend a hand and donate supplies. It is such a joy to share what seems like such a simple gift (pencils, notebooks, a backpack) with a child for whom it means so much!