



Town of Palm Beach United Way

44 Coconut Row, M201  
Palm Beach, FL 33480  
561-655-1919

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## Town of Palm Beach United Way School Supply Drive provides resources to students in need

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** July 6, 2021

**CONTACT:** Aleese Kopf, 561-655-1919 or aleesekopf@palmbeachunitedway.org

**PALM BEACH, Fla.** – The Town of Palm Beach United Way is collecting school supplies for low-income students in Palm Beach County so they can have the resources they need to have a successful school year.

The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual School Supply Drive runs Monday, July 19 through Friday, July 30 to benefit children and young adults at Town of Palm Beach United Way partner agencies Achievement Centers for Children and Families, American Association of Caregiving Youth and Take Stock in Children. Supporters can drop supplies at any of the Town of Palm Beach fire rescue stations. Items can also be donated at the United Way office.

“Many families in Palm Beach County struggle to afford school supplies, and their children suffer as a result,” said Mary Freitas, Board Chairman of the Town of Palm Beach United Way. “The Palm Beach community has always been generous in supporting children in need, and we look forward to once again collecting thousands of pencils, markers, crayons, notebooks, binders and other supplies to help students start the school year ready to succeed.”

Achievement Centers provides programs that support educational growth, skill-building and healthy lifestyles for under-resourced children. Director of Community Engagement Jessica Gregoire said many families in the agency’s programs cannot provide the necessary school supplies for their children.

“Through United Way’s School Supply Drive, the children who lack school supplies will have an opportunity to be fully prepared for school,” Gregoire said. “This will give the children a sense of empowerment for a fresh start to the new school year, particularly after an unexpected pandemic year, where incomes have declined amongst the families we serve.”

Nancy Stellway, Executive Director of Take Stock in Children, said families with her agency are also still experiencing fallout from the ongoing health pandemic.

“Due to COVID-19 and other family challenges, many of our middle and high school students will not have the resources to enable them to be ‘ready for school’ this fall,” she said. “In order to thrive academically, students need an adequate supply of tools that will enable them to successfully re-engage in school.”

Take Stock in Children provides mentoring services, academic intervention and college scholarships for low-income students. American Association of Caregiving Youth provides free services to children who take care of chronically ill, injured, elderly or disabled family members.

Cash contributions will also be accepted. Supplies and funds will be divided between the three agencies. To donate online visit [www.palmbeachunitedway.org](http://www.palmbeachunitedway.org). Checks should be made payable to Town of Palm Beach United Way with “supply drive” in the memo and mailed to 44 Coconut Row, M201, Palm Beach, FL 33480.

The School Supply Drive is conducted in collaboration with the Palm Beach Daily News and Palm Beach Fire Rescue.

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**ONE COMMUNITY. ONE GOAL.**

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