

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

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Town of Palm Beach United Way 13th Annual School Supply Drive benefiting Palm Beach County students begins July 21

Drive features logo contest for students 18 and under

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PALM BEACH, Fla. – The Town of Palm Beach United Way is collecting school supplies to distribute to low-income families in Palm Beach County so students have the resources they need to succeed in school.

The 13th Annual School Supply Drive starts Monday, July 21 and runs through Monday, August 4. Supporters can drop off supplies at Town of Palm Beach fire rescue stations, the United Way office, or Field of Greens locations in Palm Beach and West Palm Beach.

"As the new school year approaches I hope our friends and neighbors will be generous in our goal to ensure children in our community have the tools they need to succeed in school," said Richard Rothchild, Board Chair of the Town of Palm Beach United Way. "We greatly appreciate school supplies or cash donations. Your generosity will support the educational needs of hundreds of local underprivileged kids, both in school and out of school."

Donations to this year's drive will benefit children and youth who receive services at Town of Palm Beach United Way partners Achievement Centers for Children & Families, Milagro Center, and Take Stock in Children. Supplies for all grade levels are needed.

Achievement Centers will use donations to support up to 760 children ages 1-18 at its three campuses in Delray Beach. The Centers' families face substantial economic hardship, with average household incomes of just \$24,592 compared to the national average of \$65,423. Additionally, 58% of the children come from single-parent households, and nearly a quarter of parents lack a high school diploma.

"Parents managing limited household incomes alongside housing insecurity and food instability often cannot afford the complete list of required educational materials to attend school," said Kaitlin Salzman, Senior Director of Grants and Research at Achievement Centers. "Your support ensures that students of all ages start the school year fully equipped and ready to succeed."

Take Stock in Children will use donations to support approximately 720 students in grades 6-12. Students primarily come from low-income backgrounds, many of whom are the first in their families to pursue higher education.

Milagro Center will distribute donations to 43 children in grades K-5 attending its afterschool programs. All students are at-risk of failing academically because their families have household income at or below the federal poverty line.

"These school supplies will ensure not only that these underserved children are fully prepared for the new school year, but also give them the much-needed confidence and self-esteem

knowing that they, too, have new school supplies much like their peers," said Barbara Stark, CEO of Milagro Center. "Without these donations, our children would return to school without the necessary items and supplies to help them succeed in school."

Cash donations accepted

Donors can also make cash contributions to the School Supply Drive. Supplies and funds will be distributed to United Way partners. To donate online visit 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 Cocoanut Row, M201, Palm Beach, FL 33480.

4th Annual Logo Contest

For the fourth consecutive year, the School Supply Drive will feature a logo contest. Students can submit a drawing depicting the Town of Palm Beach United Way's annual School Supply Drive and it could be selected to serve as next year's logo. The design will appear on next year's School Supply Drive webpage, flyers, print advertising and social media. The winning student will also receive a \$200 Amazon Gift Card.

To participate, students 18 years and under must submit their original drawing with a brief description of what they created and why. They must also include their age, what school they attend, and their contact information (phone, email and address). All submissions will be judged in terms of artistic merit, creativity, and how well the theme is communicated through the artwork.

Drawings and descriptions should be delivered or mailed to Town of Palm Beach United Way by Monday, August 11. Last year's winning design, which is serving as this year's logo, was created by Harlan Lambert of Palm Beach.

The School Supply Drive is conducted in collaboration with Field of Greens, Palm Beach Daily News, and Palm Beach Fire Rescue.

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