

When it comes to getting ready for school, having notebooks, pens and calculators can make all the difference between a student eventually graduating or dropping out. Kids often disconnect simply because they don't have basic school supplies. Many WNC families are facing financial difficulties. Together we can help equip youth from low-income families with the tools they'll need to learn and succeed in school.

- Nearly 1 in 4 children in Buncombe County live in poverty.
- 50% of Buncombe County students are enrolled in the Free and Reduced Lunch Program, an indicator of family financial stress.
- Last year, United Way's 2-1-1 was contacted by 142 families who needed help providing school supplies for their children.

It's more than just pencils and paper. Both a child's performance in school and self-esteem can impact their entire life, as well as the community in which they grow up. You can make a difference! Help make going back to school a positive experience by purchasing and stocking a new backpack for a child. Not only are you eliminating a challenge for a low-income family, you are enabling a young student to start the school year on a more level playing field.

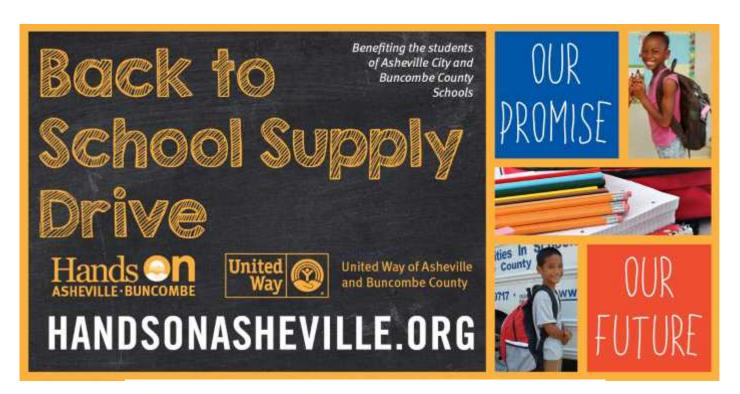
Last year's Back-to-School Supply Drive met the needs of **1,350** elementary and middle school students. At an estimated \$60 per fully-stocked bag, the worth of last year's donations equaled \$81,000! Help us relieve this financial stress from struggling families, and equip even more Asheville-Buncombe students with the supplies they'll need to succeed.

#### **Powered By**



#### 2016 Back-to-School Supply Drive Will Benefit Students Served By:

Asheville City Schools: Homebase Program for Homeless Students
Buncombe County Schools: Youth In Transition Support for Homeless Students
Big Brothers Big Sisters
Buncombe County Schools Migrant Education Program
Caring for Children
Children First/Communities in Schools
Literacy Council
The Salvation Army
YMCA: 21st Century Afterschool Program



# June 21 – July 29, 2016

Donate items from the lists below or better yet ... buy and fill a new backpack with the following:

## **Elementary School**

- New backpack
- 3 composition books
- Loose-leaf notebook paper
- 4-6 spiral notebooks
- Ruler
- 2-pocket folders
- Box of # 2 pencils
- Pencil pouch or art box
- Package of erasers
- 3-ring binder (1.5 2 inch)
- Bottle of glue or glue stick
- Markers (washable)
- Crayons

## **Middle School**

- New backpack
- 3 composition books
- Loose-leaf notebook paper
- 3 five subject notebooks
- Ruler
- 2-pocket folders
- Box of # 2 pencils
- Package of pens (blue or black)
- 3-ring binder (1.5 2 inch)
- Calculator (\*scientific functions helpful /not required)
- Index cards
- Markers
- **Colored Pencils**

#### Supporting Asheville City and Buncombe County Schools and Students Served By:

ACS: Homebase Program for Homeless Students BCS: Youth In Transition Support for Homeless Students Big Brothers Big Sisters Buncombe County Schools Migrant Education Program

Caring for Children

**NEW ITEMS ONLY PLEASE.** Financial contributions will be accepted at United Way. Please specify "School Supply Drive" on check.

**DONATE ONLINE** at www.handsonasheville.org/schoolsupplydonation

#### **DROP OFF LOCATIONS:**

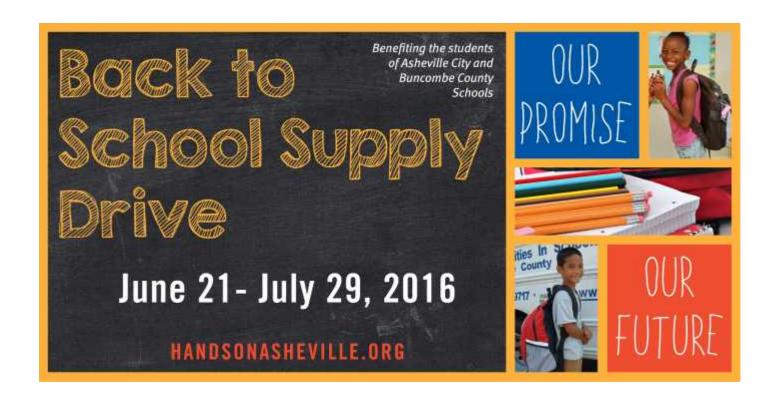
United Way - 50 S. French Broad Ave.(M-F; 8:30am-4:30pm) Check our website for a list of other community drop-off sites.

Children First/Communities in Schools **Literacy Council** The Salvation Army YMCA: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Afterschool Program

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# DROP OFF SITE

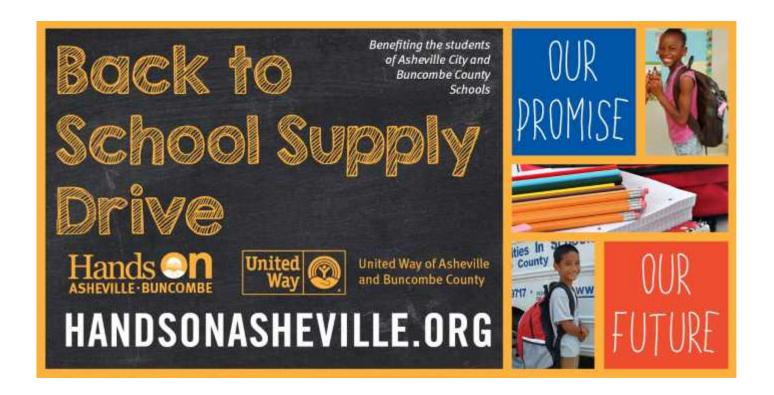
New Backpacks & School Supplies Will Be Collected Here

benefiting Asheville City and Buncombe County Middle Schools, as well as students served by:

**Media Sponsor** 



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## 10 Tips for Running a Successful School Supply Drive

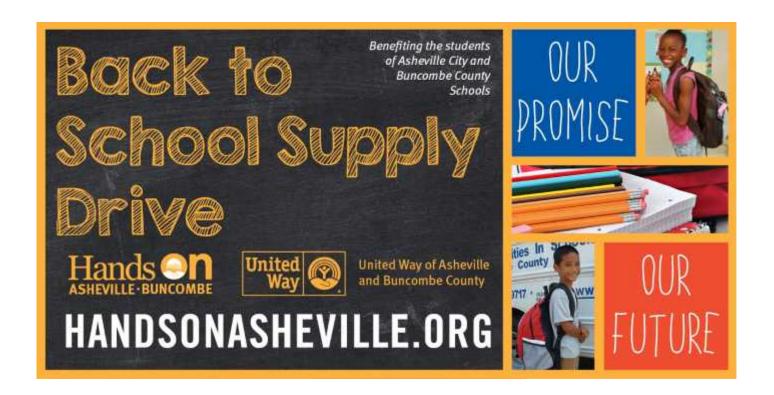
- 1. Spread the word! Ask neighbors, friends & family to donate. Invite your workplace, faith community, and members of your clubs/civic groups to participate.
- 2. Don't forget the power of social media! Reference the provided materials for details in your posts.
- 3. Identify the time frame for your supply drive. A short 5-7 day drive is suggested.
- 4. Remind your donor community often about the opportunity to participate (emails, facebook etc.). Print and hang Supply Drive Posters where appropriate at work, church etc.
- 5. Make it convenient for everyone to donate. Choose a convenient and centrally located collection area(s). Use the provided Drop-off Poster to draw attention to your donation site.
- 6. As the pile starts to accumulate, consider if you need to move it to a secure location.
- 7. Provide transport for donated supplies and backpacks to United Way by July 29.
- 8. Share photographs, and give your donation community an update at the end of your drive: "We collected 20 fully-stocked backpacks!"
- 9. Celebrate success. Simple, small gestures of thanks and recognition go a long way.
- 10. Have fun!

#### Hands On Asheville-Buncombe

50 South French Broad Avenue, Asheville, NC 28801
Tel. (828) 255-0696 Fax. (828) 255-8004 Email: info@handonasheville.org www.handsonasheville.org







# Back-to-School Supply Drive Toolkit

Thanks for your support! The following materials are provided to help you host your own successful Back-to-School Supply Drive:

- Customizable Back-to-School Supply Drive poster.
- Sign to post at your supply collection location.
- Hands On Asheville-Buncombe Back-to-School Supply Drive Info Sheet.
- Tips for running a successful school supply drive.

### For further support and information, contact:

Charlie Lee Volunteer Programs Manager Hands On Asheville-Buncombe charlie.lee@unitedwayabc.org 828.255.0696

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