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July 2016

Deadline for “Win School Supplies for an Entire School” Contest is Almost Upon Us!

Do Something Big for a Chicago School Today



The first day of classes can be a real bummer for schoolchildren, but we are here to give two Chicago schools a reason to celebrate when they return in the fall. Our "Win School Supplies for an Entire School" is the chance for two lucky schools to win enough Back 2 School kits for their entire student body. We will show up with a truckload of kits on September 6, the opening day of school, to hand out supplies and to wish the students the best of luck as they start the new academic year.

How do you apply? You can download a copy of our application [here](#) and mail it to our office at 3959 N. Lincoln Ave, Chicago. We will accept all applications postmarked by July 25. Whether you are a parent, student, faculty member, or simply care about the education of our youth, you can show your support for your Chicago school of choice by entering our contest.

We wish all applicants the best of luck!

Our Annual "BIG" Distribution & Activity Day is Around the Corner

Give Back by Volunteering for our Largest Distribution Event of the Year



On August 9, we will return to Broadway Armory Park in Edgewater to host our “BIG” Distribution & Activity Day Event. Throughout the day, we will distribute 15,000 of our signature school supplies kits to our partner organizations. Additionally, we will host 400 kids from the YMCA, Chicago Park District and Boys & Girls Club for a half day of activities designed to education, inspire and prepare the students to go back to school. It is plenty of work and we want your help to make it a big success!

We need volunteers throughout the day to help unload, sort, and distribute kits, assisting with venue setup and breakdown, and helping to organize children involved in the activities program. If you are interested, please reach out to our Events Coordinator, Kevin Carroll, at kevincarroll@b2i.org. Some of the volunteer positions require the ability to lift/move objects. If you are unable to do heavy lifting, please inform Kevin of this so that you can be assigned accordingly. We hope to see you all there on the 9th!

Registration for our Third Annual POWER UP! Boot Camp is Open Now Get Fit, Stay Fit



On October 15 from 9:30am-4:00pm at West Lawn Field House & Park, we will host our annual POWER UP! Boot camp where participants will learn about the importance of physical fitness and proper nutrition. Open to children ages 6-12 years, the kids will rotate through a series of activities including aerobics, yoga, stretching, how to build a healthy snack, and much, much more. Each child that participates in this program will receive lunch, a POWER UP! Boot Camp t-shirt, and a fitness/nutrition pack.

The registration for our POWER UP! Boot Camp is now open and can be accessed [here](#) with no enrollment fee.

As the School Year Approaches, Distribution Season Gets Underway

Stay Up to Date with All our Upcoming Back 2 School Distribution Events



We want to keep our stakeholders updated with what we are doing and where we are sending our supply kits. Here is a partial list of upcoming distribution events:

July 16- 11:30am-1:30pm Operation Homefront - Milan National Guard Armory – Milan

August 6- 9:00am-1:00pm Operation Homefront - Scott Air Force Base – Belleville

August 6- 11:00am-1:00pm Operation Homefront - Mt. Vernon Armed Forces Reserve Center – Mt. Vernon

August 6- 11:30am-1:30pm Operation Homefront - North Riverside National Guard Armory – North Riverside

August 7- 2:00pm-4:00pm Operation Homefront - 182nd Airlift Wing-Illinois Air National Guard – Peoria

August 7- 2:00pm-4:00pm Operation Homefront - Camp Lincoln, Springfield

August 9 – 7:00am-5:00pm “BIG” Distribution & Activity Day Event – Broadway Armory Park - Chicago

August 26- 4:30pm-6:00pm Great Lakes Naval Station- Great Lakes

Our Ever-Expanding "Build A Kit" Program Announces More Dates

A Great Way to Enhance Corporate Team Building



Our “Build A Kit” initiative, which was launched in the middle of last year, is our newest program but already gathering lots of traction. We kicked off 2016 with a successful program in June with employees from Deloitte. We have several additional “Build A Kit” events are planned through the summer:

July 28 - iStream Financial Services – Brookfield, WI

August 4 – Medieval Times - Shaumburg

August 31- Belgravia Group, Maris Construction, Sullivan Goulette & Wilson, Ltd. And Lincoln Title Company - Chicago

September 14- “MB on the Block” MB Financial Bank - Rosemont

Our “Build A Kit” Program allows companies and organizations to make a difference in their community and gives them the option of choosing an organization to receive their kits. In 2015 2,400 kits were assembled as a part of the program. In 2016, we already have commitments to boost that number by 75%!

If you are interested in hosting a “Build A Kit” of your own, you can find full details [here](#).



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We like to keep those interested and involved in ICECF informed on what we are doing.

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