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HOPE through HOUSING  
FOUNDATION

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# PRESS RELEASE

## Hope Through Housing Kicks off its Afterschool Program with Free Backpacks Stuffed with Back-to-School Supplies for Students

*More than 500 children in grades K-6 will receive free backpacks stuffed with back-to-school supplies donated by Staples® during a "Project Learning Start" event.*

RANCHO CUCAMONGA, Calif. – Based in Rancho Cucamonga, Hope Through Housing Foundation (Hope) is kicking off its After School & Beyond program by giving children from low-income families the school supplies they need to succeed. Staples® volunteers and staff from Hope will pass out free backpacks containing binders, paper, pens, markers, folders, erasers, and highlighters on Friday, August 12 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at 11 program sites. Parents interested in enrolling their child for Hope's free after school program, can attend the registration drive from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the same location.

Helping students with the resources and tools they need for academic success is the goal of the After School & Beyond program. The Project Learning Start event is a way to get children started on a path to achievement for the school year and attract families to register for the upcoming school year. Staples® is a major sponsor of the program and collected items from its key suppliers to distribute to more than 500 children in 10 communities located in California and Arkansas.

"I have been honored to partner with Hope Through Housing on providing the much needed school supplies to their organization," said Staples® District Sales Manager Lyndsay Marker. "I feel lucky to have had the chance to personally speak to some of the children and very much look forward to the smiles on their face as they receive the backpacks. It really touches my heart and I look forward to working with Hope Through Housing on many more of these important events."

Volunteers from Staples® will help personally hand out the school supply-stuffed backpacks at the following locations. The distribution sites are mostly learning centers located

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within low-income housing communities where Hope operates its After School & Beyond programs. Hope designed the After School and Beyond program which utilizes highly rated curricula such as PeaceBuilders, KidzLit, and Virtual Vacations.

“We are fortunate to have sponsors such as Staples® to help us serve needy children and get them off to a good start at school,” said Hope Executive Director George Searcy. “Throughout the year we will help these children develop a love for learning which will contribute to their academic and life success.”

The following After School & Beyond sites will participate in Project Learning Start. Other activities include crafts, activities, registration drive, and raffles. Staples® volunteers will be on hand to help personally hand out the school supply bags.

City	Address	Number of Children
Rialto, CA	Renaissance Village Apts. 220 N. Glenwood Avenue	56
	Citrus Grove Apts. 1432 N. Willow Avenue, Rialto, CA	58
	Crossings Apts. 177 W. South Street, Rialto CA	32
	Eisenhower High School Rialto, CA	100
Los Angeles, CA	Hawthorne Terrace Apts. 13006 Kornblum Avenue	25
Escondido, CA	Cobblestone Village Apts. 360 E. Washington Avenue	61
La Quinta, CA	Vista Dunes Courtyard Homes 44-950 Vista Dunes Lane	45
Montclair, CA	San Antonio Vista Apts. 10410 Pradera Avenue	46
Rancho Cucamonga, CA	Sunset Heights Apts. 6230 Haven Avenue	47
Victorville, CA	Northgate Village Apts 17251 Dante Street	50
Little Rock , AR	Ridgeview Apartments 4700 Augusta Circle	29
<b>Total</b>		<b>549</b>

**PHOTO OPP: Volunteers Stuffed Backpacks on Wednesday, August 6 from at Hope’s Office, 9065 Haven Avenue, Suite 100, Rancho Cucamonga, CA. Photos can be downloaded in high resolution at [www.facebook.com/hopethroughhousing](http://www.facebook.com/hopethroughhousing). Look for the “Project Learning Start” photo album.**