



**High Water Women Announces Second Annual Backpack Drive  
Organization plans to collect 1,000 Backpacks for NY area children in need  
by the end of the summer**

NEW YORK, JULY 19, 2006 -- High Water Women, an organization founded in 2005 by senior female executives in the financial industry and which focuses on philanthropy and volunteerism, kicked off the summer season with the initiation of their second annual backpack drive. The philanthropy group hopes to deliver over 1,000 backpacks to NY area needy children who cannot afford basic back-to-school items. Backpacks will be collected, filled with various school supplies, books and basic clothing items and distributed to charities in the tri-state area such as: Iris House, The Children's Aid Society, Queens Child Guidance Center, Newark Now, Women in Need, and TASC (The After School Corporation). In August, volunteers and donors will have the opportunity to hand out backpacks directly to children living at a Women In Need shelter in Brooklyn.

High Water Women board member, Marjorie Greenspan Kaufman, Managing Director of Kingdon Capital Management, said, "We are grateful to the hundreds of volunteers who worked on the backpack program last year, giving their time and energy toward helping at-risk children. We are also very thankful for all the individuals and corporate donors who supported the drive with their generous contributions. With their help, we hope to surpass last year's results and collect over 1,000 backpacks to get the children off to a solid start at school." Kaufman, along with Doreen Mochrie, Partner of Cyrus Capital Partners, and Constance Hunter, Managing Director of Coronat Capital Management, are serving as the drive's co-chairs this year.

"The distribution of backpacks and school supplies symbolizes the importance of education in a stable family environment," said Lucy Friedman of TASC (The After School Corporation), which supports 130 community-based organizations in New York that provide after-school programs. "We are thankful to High Water Women for their acknowledgement and interest in the needs of our children. The gift of a backpack will aid in alleviating one of the financial burdens many families face, as they struggle to make the return to school a joyful and exciting occasion for their children."

“For homeless children in New York City, going back to school can be a challenging and overwhelming experience,” said Bonnie Stone, President and CEO of Women In Need, Inc. “Our heartfelt thanks go out to High Water Women for taking the time to gather backpacks for these children. For these homeless children, a backpack filled with school supplies can be the difference between attending the first day of school prepared and ready to learn, rather than feeling left out and embarrassed because they don't have what other students have. And even more important, the backpacks carry with them the feeling that someone cares enough to support the families and the kids in need in such a meaningful way.”

To participate in the drive, donors can deliver backpacks in New York City to Kingdon Capital, 152 West 57th St, 50th floor, New York, NY 10019, Attn: Marjorie Kaufman. Kingdon is located next to Carnegie Hall near 7th Avenue. Donors are advised to call Kingdon's receptionist at (212) 333-0100 before bringing in their donations. Backpacks can also be dropped off in Connecticut at Tudor Investment Corp., 1275 King Street, Greenwich, CT Attn: Therese Oswald. In addition, donors can write checks made out to High Water Women which members will use to buy school supplies and backpacks. Checks can be mailed to Kingdon Capital, 152 West 57th St, 50th floor, New York, NY 10019, Attn: Marjorie Kaufman. Online donations may be made at the NY Charities.org website at [http://www.nycharities.org/donate/c\\_donate.asp?CharityCode=1204](http://www.nycharities.org/donate/c_donate.asp?CharityCode=1204)

More information about the backpack drive may be found on the High Water Women website <http://www.highwaterwomen.org>, or by emailing [backpacks@highwaterwomen.org](mailto:backpacks@highwaterwomen.org).

#### About High Water Women

Founded in 2005, High Water Women is the first organization focused exclusively on philanthropy and volunteerism for senior women in the financial sector. As women become more successful in areas of finance, many of them wish to make a difference through charitable giving and philanthropic activities. High Water Women was founded to support these aspirations, selectively focusing on partnerships where the members' philanthropic and volunteerism goals can converge. High Water Women partners with philanthropies and volunteer programs that address family homelessness, education, at-risk teens, young women's health, and the overall empowerment of women both at home and abroad. In these areas, as in their professional lives, members of High Water Women are committed to setting the bar higher than expected: Simply put, they seek to surpass the high water mark with each new project.

For more information on High Water Women and upcoming programs, please visit <http://www.highwaterwomen.org>.

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