

HIGH WATER WOMEN 2017 BACKPACK DRIVE

PLEASE consider the **High Water Women (HWW) Backpack Drive** when planning and budgeting for employee volunteerism and community engagement in 2017. The annual **HWW Backpack Drive** helps thousands of children in need start the school year ready to learn. Thanks to the amazing support of over 4,000 donors and volunteers, in 2016 **High Water Women** provided 22,000 school backpacks stuffed with age-appropriate school supplies to children in need in the NYC/CT/NJ areas. Our goal for 2017 is to provide 25,000 backpacks! Helping assemble and distribute backpacks is a great way for company employees to participate in helping your community. We would be grateful to receive funding and volunteer support in 2017.



There are several different ways for your company to get involved. Consider which of the following would work best for you:

- Make a corporate donation, through a Company Foundation, Community Affairs or Corporate Social Responsibility Department, to fund backpacks for children in need. Also, your employees can run a fundraiser directly making contributions – many companies will then match!
- Make a corporate donation and send company volunteers to assemble backpacks at the HWW Summer Assembly events in NYC and CT.
- Sponsor a backpack drive, fundraising and assembly, for one of HWW's Charitable Partners.
- Have your Summer Interns manage a backpack fundraise and assembly as a team-building project.
- Send company volunteers, often members of a corporate Affinity Group, to HWW Summer Assembly events following up with a Volunteer Grant to HWW based on the number of company participants and hours worked.

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SINCE THE BACKPACK DRIVE BEGAN IN 2005, 108,000 CHILDREN HAVE RECEIVED NEW BACKPACKS FILLED WITH AGE-APPROPRIATE SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO START SCHOOL

The families who receive HWW backpacks **are not able to afford** even the most basic school supplies, no less the \$85 that a family would typically spend. But with the HWW program, your donations are maximized. Because of HWW purchasing power and the engagement of corporate volunteers to assemble backpacks, each \$25 **donation** funds a fully supplied backpack for a **local child in need**.

HWW Backpack Drive Timeline:

February-June: Corporate Funders sign up and make donation to backpack drive

June-July: Backpacks and supplies are ordered wholesale based on amounts raised

July-August: Hundreds of volunteers/corporate teams help assemble backpacks at HWW assembly points in NYC and CT. Company sponsored backpack assemblies are also scheduled during this period

End of August: Backpacks are distributed to thousands of children



WHAT'S IN THE BACKPACK?

Children, grades kindergarten through high school, receive backpacks and supplies appropriate for grade level: **notebooks, folders, loose leaf paper, markers, pens, pencils, pencil cases, protractors, calculators, graph paper, staplers, dictionaries, scissors, erasers, crayons, rulers, glue, and construction paper.**

WHICH ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVE THE BACKPACKS?

High Water Women works with many schools and nonprofits to reach children in need of backpacks in all 5 NYC Boroughs plus NJ, CT and Boston. Our Charitable Partners for 2016 included:

4 Kids in Need Foundation
ANDRUS
Boys & Girls Clubs Greenwich & Stamford
Broome Street Academy
Cambridge Family & Children Services
Carver Center of Portchester
The Child Center of New York
Children's Learning Center
Domus Kids
DreamYard
Emmanuel Worship Center
Evangelical Temple
ExpandedED Schools
Family & Children
Forestdale

Friends of the Children
GEMS
Go Project
Good Shepherd Services
High School of Art and Design
Hour Children
Hunts Point Alliance for Children
Inspirica
Inwood House
Interfaith Food Pantry
Iris House
Jewish Childcare (JCCA)
Jubilee Center of Hoboken
Manhattan Christian Academy
Marble Collegiate

New Alternatives for Children
Newark Church Backpack Drive
Partnership with Children
Pivot House
Public Prep
PT Barnum Community of Bridgeport
Sheltering Arms
Southport Congregation
South End Community of Stamford
Storefront Academy
Tabernacle of Prayer
TEAK Fellowship
Women in Need (WIN)
Women's Prison Association
Young Women's Leadership Network

High Water Women is a 501(c)(3) organization founded in 2005 by women in the hedge fund and investment industries to promote the economic empowerment of women and youth. HWW provides unique programs in financial literacy, microfinance, impact investing education and initiatives for low-income children including our annual backpack drive, that directly benefit our partners, non-profit organizations, schools and public agencies, and the clients they serve.

We would be pleased to provide any additional information required for your consideration and invite you to view our website www.highwaterwomen.org or contact backpacks@highwaterwomen.org