

The Whole is Greater...



2008 Report to the Community



Welcome...

“Office Depot clearly understands the value and importance of good corporate citizenship. As a company, we are proud to invest in the work of the Office Depot Foundation and are pleased by its growing stature and meaningful accomplishments.”

Steve Odland, Chairman and CEO, Office Depot

“The whole is greater than the sum of the parts.”

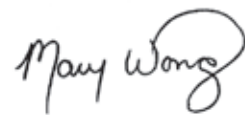
At the Office Depot Foundation, this well-known phrase is more than an expression; it is a call to action. In these uncertain times, we are facing social and economic challenges that transcend anything we’ve seen in a generation. If we want to move forward to make this a better place, the only way we can do it successfully... is together.

In an era when most companies are tightening their belts, I am proud to say that – as a corporation – Office Depot remains committed to supporting the mission of the Office Depot Foundation. In turn, as good stewards of the funds we receive, we work very hard to ensure that the recipients of our support make the greatest possible impact on the people they serve.

Our strategic priorities intentionally emphasize such words as “helping,” “enhancing” and “strengthening” to describe our goals. You’ll notice that the word “giving” does not appear. Yes, we

give – including more than \$00 million in financial and in-kind donations in 2008. But we see giving as just the *beginning*. We’re equally as interested in the *end results* – and the process of getting there.

The word “synergy” is often used to describe the concept of the whole being greater than the sum of the parts. And it is synergy – the coming together of individuals, civil society organizations, communities, corporations and numerous others to make a difference – that we seek. We value and appreciate your support in helping us to achieve these vitally important goals in this time of great change.



Mary Wong, President



Office Depot Foundation President Mary Wong greets children from the Rosebud Sioux Tribe in South Dakota during a 2008 National Backpack Program presentation event.

Kids can be precocious. So Fernanda Suarez was only a little surprised when her pre-school age daughter, Agostina, called her “honey.” The big shock was that it was the first English word the child had spoken to her mother. “I asked her, ‘who says *that*?’— and her response was, ‘mi profesora’ (my teacher),” Fernanda explains.

As Fernanda and Agostina learn English in Hispanic Unity of Florida’s Family Literacy Program, which receives funding from the Office Depot Foundation™, the child and parent sometimes switch roles. “I’m the teacher,” Agostina will say cheerily when she hears her mom pronounce a word in a less-than-ideal way. “You are me!” Then she proceeds to set Fernanda straight.

Such exchanges are not uncommon around the Family Literacy Program, which is offered at no cost to about

80 families per year in Broward County. Most of the participants are recent immigrants out of Colombia and elsewhere in South America, but also from the Caribbean and even Poland. They come, as Fernanda says, with the desire to learn. “It was there,” she states emphatically, “where my prayers were answered.”

“Learning the English Language prepares the child to enter kindergarten and empowers the parent to be ready for the workforce and become productive in this country,” says Margaret Delmont-Sanchez, the organization’s vice president and chief development officer. “Hispanic Unity is the welcome mat that gives them the opportunity to improve their lives. The Office Depot Foundation has given us the opportunity to have top-level teachers.”

One day, Agostina Suarez just might be among them.



I’m the teacher; you are me!

2008 At a Glance

0,000	\$0,000,000	\$00,000,000	1,780,000
Charities assisted through cash or in-kind donations from the Office Depot Foundation	Total cash donations	Total value of in-kind donations	Backpacks donated to deserving children through the Office Depot Foundation National Backpack Program since its inception in 2001

Fun Facts about the Office Depot Foundation

- The Office Depot Foundation made monetary contributions to 000 civil society organizations in 00 states plus the District of Columbia in 2008.
- The 300,000 backpacks donated by the Foundation in 2008 filled 12,000 boxes weighing 372,000 pounds – the approximate weight of 31 African elephants.
- The backpacks contained enough crayons to give one to every resident of Vermont and the District of Columbia.
- If the nearly 1.8 million backpacks donated since the beginning of the National Backpack Program in 2001 were stacked on top of each other, they would be taller than 267 Washington Monuments – or 101 of Toronto's CN Towers.

About Office Depot

Every day, Office Depot is Taking Care of Business for millions of customers around the globe. For the local corner store as well as Fortune 500 companies, Office Depot provides products and services to its customers through 1,713 worldwide retail stores, a dedicated sales force, top-rated catalogs and a \$4.8 billion e-commerce operation. Office Depot has annual sales of approximately \$14.5 billion, and employs about 43,000 associates around the world. The Company provides more office products and services to more customers in more countries than any other company, and currently sells to customers directly or through affiliates in 48 countries.

Mission & priorities



The mission of the Office Depot Foundation™ is simple and straightforward: Listen Learn Care. Our efforts to achieve it are multidimensional.

We listen to what is going on in the world around us.

We learn about what we can do to make an impact.

And we show that we care by taking positive action.

Knowing that we cannot address *all* the world's challenges, we have chosen to focus our resources and energies on five strategic priorities for a five-year period.

Known collectively as the Office Depot Foundation "5 X 5 Program™," they encompass:

- Helping children get ready for life and work.
- Helping civil society (non-profit) organizations become more professional and productive.
- Enhancing disaster relief and recovery.

- Strengthening local communities.
- Promoting global development.

Since the time these priorities were conceived and adopted in 2007, we have made significant headway. As you will read in these pages, we have extended the scope of our signature National Backpack Program to reach new underserved populations, facilitated the launch of a national toll-free hotline to assist small businesses in times of disaster and funded a far-reaching effort to enable civil society organizations to increase their effectiveness, among other accomplishments.

With our initial success, however, comes renewed determination to do even more. At a time when resources are reduced and despair has been on the rise, we remain strongly committed to our goals. In collaboration with our partners and inspired by our many supporters, we will continue to listen, to learn and to care. As always, we welcome your involvement as we strive to bring about change.

"The Foundation really analyzes the issues that are facing education, disaster assistance and community development, and it doesn't just follow what everyone else does. It sees where the gaps and the problems are, and it zeroes in on where it can add the most value or where there are the fewest other alternative remedies out there. The Foundation doesn't try to overpromise, but when it commits to doing something, it really follows through."

Stephen Jordan, Senior Vice President and Executive Director, U.S. Chamber of Commerce Business Civic Leadership Center



Helping children prepare...

You might never have considered a plastic grocery bag as a symbol of hopelessness. But, as we have learned from educators and social service professionals around the country, this can indeed be the case.

How so?

“We have thousands of clients who can’t afford book bags and end up bringing their school supplies in a plastic grocery bag,” notes Mark Tisdahl of Chicago’s Jane Addams Hull House Association. “The plastic grocery bag is ineffective in carrying school supplies and books, but it is also humiliating.”

As we considered how we could address these very real concerns, the answer became clear: backpacks. And so, since 2001, we’ve donated nearly 1.8 million backpacks containing essential school supplies to children through the Office Depot Foundation National Backpack Program.

The impact has been remarkable. Says Tisdahl, “Due to Office Depot’s generous donation, we have been able to end the humiliation of hundreds of students scared to go to school without a backpack.”

The backpacks we donate are specially designed with elementary school students in mind. They come in five different combinations of bright, cheerful colors. They are manufactured to our specifications using sturdy and durable materials, strongly stitched and equipped with wide, padded straps for comfort and support.

One feature you will not find anywhere on the backpacks, however, is our logo – except on a removable paper tag. We want to be sure that children are proud to carry the backpacks they receive, with no danger of being stigmatized by something that identifies it as an act of charity.

Clearly, the approach is successful. “I love my new backpack!” wrote Devon, age 7, who got one from Rainbow Days Inc. in Dallas. “It is so nice to get everything I need to go back to school.” And there are additional, more profound benefits: Observes Cathey Brown, Founder and Executive Director of Rainbow Days, “It’s not just the backpacks or the supplies they



Mehari Kassa (left), director of development for the Ron Clark Academy in Atlanta, with Georgia Congressman John Lewis

are getting; it’s the sense of purpose and self-esteem that we’re striving to build.”

As we donated 300,000 backpacks across the United States, Canada and beyond in 2008, our National Backpack Program was highlighted by several key milestones:

- The number of national non-profit partners who joined us in the program increased to eight – the National Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Association, Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA), City Year, Feed The Children, the Kids In Need Foundation, the National Foundation for Women Legislators (NFWL), Nourish America and Teach For America.
- For the first time, women elected officials in *all 50 states* received backpacks to donate in their communities through the Foundation’s partnership with NFWL. Donations also were made in Mexico, Haiti and – following the devastating earthquake – China’s Sichuan Province.
- Also for the first time, the Foundation donated backpacks to children on two Native American reservations: 4,000 to the Navajo Nation in Arizona, and 2,000 to the Rosebud Sioux Tribe in South Dakota, which is concentrated in the third poorest county in the United States.

“In this city, in this state and all around our country, receiving a backpack from Office Depot will mean a great deal. It is providing our children—some of our most needy children – with the tools and the necessary goods to have a successful school year. On behalf of a grateful people, and grateful students, I want to thank you for all you are doing to help our young people get off to a good start.”

U.S. Congressman John Lewis, D-GA

“Self-esteem, stronger desire to learn, team building and stronger local partnerships are byproducts of this one event that will last for a long time for our children and our schools, all essential in our work to build our tribal nation,” states Rosebud Sioux Council Member Robert Moore.

Helping children is about more than backpacks, however... much more. While our “5 X 5 Program” goal is to touch the lives of 50,000 kids, we know that is just the beginning.

Through our contributions to national civil society organizations, we are helping to enhance children’s quality of life in countless ways. Donations of school supplies to the Kids In Need Foundation, for example, flowed to 24 resource centers from South Florida to Seattle. As a result, more than 68,000 teachers from 3,200 low-income schools were eligible to receive products for their classrooms – potentially serving 1.6 million children.

The Foundation supported enhancements to Keep America Beautiful’s environmental education website, *Clean Sweep U.S.A.*, and sponsored CASA’s *2008 Diversity PR Toolkit*, which was used by more than 900 local programs across the U.S. And with the support we provide to CADCA’s Drug Free Kids Campaign, “Over 5,000 community coalitions are reducing youth drug use and making their



“These backpacks are more than just school supplies. They are a symbol of hope. When nearly one in three public school students drops out before graduating, we know we must do more to help our children succeed. The Alliance was thrilled to partner with the Office Depot Foundation. We know that the lives of thousands of children in the nation’s capital have been enriched by their generosity.”

Marguerite W. Kondracke, President and CEO, America’s Promise Alliance

communities safe, healthy and drug-free,” points out Gen. Arthur T. Dean, the organization’s Chairman and CEO. “The Foundation’s partnership and commitment have helped CADCA move closer to a future where all communities are drug-free.”

Children are also reached one at a time, as a result of hundreds of direct grants to social service organizations, schools and PTAs, cultural groups and more. At the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens in Delray Beach, Florida, the Office Depot Foundation helped to

Youngsters in Anaheim, Calif., examine the contents of their new backpacks.



Children learn about Japanese culture during visits to the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens.

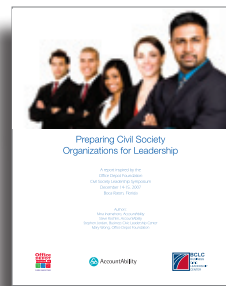
extend the invaluable More Opportunities to Reach Youth (MORY) cross-cultural educational program when its funding was threatened.

“Through two and a half hours of immersion in Japanese culture, children are given an opportunity to experience a culture that is completely different from their own,” explains Amy “Emiko” Hever, Director of Advancement.

“That’s the core of our mission – to bridge cultural gaps. We know it works. It’s a real eye-opener.”

Whether it shows up as a backpack, a virtual visit to Japan or a myriad of other forms, the Office Depot Foundation’s commitment to helping children succeed is unwavering – and ever-present.

Empowering organizations...



Civil society organizations (CSOs) – also known commonly, but not necessarily accurately, as “non-profit organizations” – can be forgiven if they suffer from a bit of an identity crisis.

In *Preparing Civil Society Organizations for Leadership*, a white paper published in 2008 following the Office Depot Foundation’s inaugural Weekend in Boca Leadership Symposium in late 2007, the authors wrote, “Non-profits run hospitals, schools and universities, feed and shelter the homeless, take care of children and the elderly, provide relief after disasters and hundreds of other essential services to our communities and way of life. And yet the label ‘non-profit’ describes something they are not, as opposed to what they are – organizations that strengthen our communities and make our societies more civil and civilized.” (The white paper, which assessed challenges facing the civil society sector and

offered recommendations for addressing them, can be found at www.officedepotfoundation.org.)

No matter what term we use to describe them, our desire to help these vitally important groups in building their capacity to operate successfully is embodied in one of our core strategic priorities.

In December 2008, we hosted the Foundation’s second Weekend in Boca in Boca Raton, Florida, in collaboration with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Business Civic Leadership Center (BCLC). The symposium attracted approximately 90 local, state and national leaders from business, government and the civil society sector for presentations and conversations around the theme “Community Development, Private Sector Partnerships and Non-profit Capacity Building in a Challenging Economy.”

Stephen Jordan, Senior Vice President and

“The Weekend in Boca has become one of the dates I circle on my calendar each year. Office Depot Foundation’s commitment to strengthening America’s non-profit sector is advanced by convening an impressive roster of national leaders to discuss big ideas and move into action together.”

Jay F. Hein, President and CEO of the Sagamore Institute for Policy Research, and former Director of the White House Office of Faith Based and Community Initiatives



Weekend in Boca II participants (from left) Barbara Noble and Deborah Leach-Scampavia, Scripps Florida; development consultant Brenda Nachreiner; Robert Moore, Rosebud Sioux Tribe; and Robin Read, National Foundation for Women Legislators, discuss strategies for strengthening civil society organizations.

Executive Director of BCLC, facilitated the symposium along with Jay Hein, President and CEO of the Sagamore Institute for Policy Research in Indianapolis and former Director of the White House Office of Faith Based and Community Initiatives, and Foundation President Mary Wong. The event included a tour of community development initiatives in Boca Raton and neighboring

Delray Beach as well as presentations by Mark Dobosz, Executive Director of the SCORE Foundation, and Barry Anderson, Interim President and CEO of Gifts In Kind International.

Judging by their comments, participants in Weekend in Boca II found the symposium to be invaluable.

“In this time of economic crisis, not only are individuals and communities experiencing the pain of dislocation caused by the downturn, but the non-profit sector, which people and communities look to for assistance in times of extreme stress, is under severe financial pressure as donations decline and needs increase. Weekend in Boca was extremely timely, as it provided an important venue for non-profits to exchange ideas on how to operate more efficiently, better coordinate their activities and develop the new strategies to better serve their communities.”

Michael Gallis, Michael Gallis and Associates



“The opportunity to listen and to share amongst mission driven non-profits in a non-threatening arena was priceless,” one attendee wrote afterwards. “Due to the nature of support by populations and a limited amount of funders, typically we share at a very generic level. This group threw aside all non-compete clauses and worked to understand our similarities as well as our differences.”

Sharie Blanton, Regional Vice President of Global Impact, observes, “Weekend in Boca allowed all sectors of the civil society to interact in a collaborative space and share ideas that will no doubt lead to great efficiencies in offering services in an increasingly resource-strapped environment. The key in difficult times is partnership and Weekend in Boca helped connect us.”

In conjunction with Weekend in Boca, the Foundation presented its annual “Listen Learn Care Awards” to three individuals to recognize their exceptional creativity and innovation in professional and community service. The honorees included Tierney Cahill, a Nevada elementary school teacher who ran for Congress in response to a challenge from her students; Oliver “Ollie” Davidson, Senior Disaster Response Advisor to BCLC and the Humane Society of the United States; and Robin Read, President and CEO of the National Foundation for Women Legislators.

While Weekend in Boca is an annual event, we entered into a multi-year alliance with SCORE – “Counselors to America’s Small Business” – and the SCORE Foundation in 2008 that is enabling the Foundation to help civil society organizations year-round.

“Non-profit organizations are also businesses and need to run as efficiently and effectively as possible in order to remain viable in serving their missions,” observes Mark Dobosz of the SCORE Foundation. “The Office Depot Foundation’s collaborative and financial support of SCORE’s *Business Planning Tools for Non-Profits* workbook has allowed SCORE the opportunity to continue serving this non-traditional small business group with the specific resources, tools and tips that allow them the opportunity to stay or become financially sound business units serving a greater societal good,” he says.

Still, there is plenty of work to be done. Taken together, the more than 1.5 million civil society organizations in the United States combine for \$670 billion in annual revenue and assets exceeding \$1.7 trillion. Through our varied capacity-building initiatives, the Office Depot Foundation is determined to enhance the success of as many of these essential organizations as possible.

Dealing with disasters...

With its origins rooted in Hurricane Andrew’s devastation in South Florida, it’s fitting that today’s Office Depot Foundation seized numerous opportunities to help in the face of last year’s seemingly biblical barrage of natural disasters.

Following May’s earthquakes and typhoon, the Foundation contributed \$100,000 to the China Youth Development Foundation to build a school in Sichuan Province, gave 1,000 backpacks to Save the Children for students in the stricken areas and donated \$20,000 to Doctors Without Borders for its efforts in China and Myanmar.

After June’s severe flooding inundated 400 city blocks in downtown Cedar Rapids, Iowa, the Foundation gave \$70,000 to the U.S. Chamber’s Business Civic Leadership Center (BCLC), including \$5,000 as a challenge grant for economic assessment funding and \$65,000 for the National Disaster Help Desk for Business.

When Hurricanes Gustav and Ike struck Louisiana and Texas with a one-two punch in September, the Foundation



Children in China’s Sichuan Province received backpacks from the Foundation following the 2008 earthquake.

“Thanks for your donated backpacks, we will study hard. Dear uncles and aunties, your love brought us so much warmth and happiness. You are good people, good are always rewarded, we wish you a happy life all the time, and we’ll pray in the place far away from you, you are the kindest people in the world.”

From all students in Class one, Grade six, Xiao Ya Primary School, Zitong County, Mianyang City, Sichuan Province



funded assessment studies in both regions and donated a combined \$50,000 for disaster relief to Feed The Children, the American Red Cross, the Humane Society of the United States, Nourish America and Save the Children. In partnership with Feed The Children, the National Foundation for Women Legislators and Texas State Rep. Debbie Riddle, the Foundation provided food and hygiene items valued at nearly \$32,000 to residents of Tomball, Texas. We donated \$10,000 to SCORE for workshops to help get Texas businesses back up and running, arranged for Office Depot associates to receive 3,800 boxes of supplies valued at more than \$65,000 and awarded over \$48,000 to our associates through our Disaster Relief Grant program.

When Cedar Rapids, Iowa, was hit by severe floods, the Office Depot Foundation funded an economic study to help businesses recover.

After Hurricane Ike passed, the area north of Houston “looked like a war zone. Trees were scattered like matchsticks,” recalls Rep. Riddle. “Many people were lacking basic necessities. The Office Depot Foundation really came to the rescue of people in my district and adjoining districts.” She estimates that 2,000 families were assisted by the relief efforts. “The people were all very grateful and thankful. The need was tremendous.”

As our “5 X 5 Program” priority indicates, the Foundation intends to make an impact along the entire disaster continuum – from preparation through rebuilding. To this end, our website includes robust disaster preparedness content for individuals and businesses – featuring resources and links to information from BCLC, SCORE, the Humane Society and other organizations and agencies.

We partner with BCLC to sponsor the National Disaster Help Desk for Business and its toll-free hotline – 1-888-MY-BIZ-HELP – a critical resource for disaster-stricken communities. “When businesses or people are overwhelmed and not sure where to go next, we can help direct them to local, state or national resources they likely know nothing about due to disconnected information or loss of power,” notes Ines Pearce, Chief Executive of Pearce Global Partners and a consultant to BCLC and the

International Economic Development Council (IEDC). “The Help Desk enables the public, private and non-profit sectors to work cooperatively,” she adds. “Without the Foundation’s support, we would not be able to improve the economic resilience of vulnerable communities.” Nearly 1,500 inquiries from businesses, chambers of commerce, governments, non-profits and the public were made to the Help Desk in 2008, its first full year of operation.

As noted above, the Foundation has seen how a community in shock can benefit from an independent assessment of the steps to long-term recovery. “Their recommendations have served to guide our redevelopment planning process,” states Cedar Rapids City Manager Jim Prosser. “The process has incorporated a structured public participation process designed to achieve community support (and) elements to assure that the final plan is market feasible, financially feasible, (can) achieve community goals and will attract experienced developers.”

For the Office Depot Foundation, the overriding question is never *if* the next disaster will strike; it’s a matter of *when*. Our goal is to help individuals, businesses and civil society organizations to be ready – and resilient.



Houston-area residents lined up to receive much-appreciated relief supplies following Hurricane Ike.

Strengthening communities...

It doesn't take a million dollars to make a difference. In fact, the vast majority of the 000 grants made by the Office Depot Foundation in 2008 were under \$0000 – but powerful nonetheless.

Consider the Maryland Food Bank, which received \$500 and 25 backpacks in conjunction with the grand opening of Office Depot's new store in Landsdowne, Md., in April. "We appreciate your thoughtfulness and can certainly put both the money and the backpacks to good use," Chief Development Officer Elizabeth M. Benson wrote in a thank-you e-mail. "Hungry children and adults don't learn well – nor do they learn well when they don't have adequate supplies. Your cash donation will triple the value of food we can provide to meet the first need, and the backpacks will certainly help with the second."

Listen, as well, to Rodney G. Pack, Development and Community Liaison for The Sunshine Terrace Foundation, which runs a nursing home and an assisted living center

in Logan, Utah. The organization regularly receives office supplies as a direct benefit of the Foundation's longstanding partnership with Gifts In Kind International. "The amount of government regulation a nursing home has creates a lot of office supply use. Any supplies we receive allow us to spend money on the more direct needs of residents," he told us. "In a recent donation from Utah's Office Depot stores, we received a lot of binders and folders. We loved it. We probably received enough that we will not have to purchase any for more than a year."

As the organizations we support continue to tighten their belts, the Office Depot Foundation remains steadfast in our desire to help communities resist the fraying of their social fabric – even if it's just by a few threads a time.



Youngsters from the Jason Taylor Reading Room in Florida enjoyed a ping pong clinic sponsored by the Office Depot Foundation.



Local non-profit organizations welcome the contributions they receive from the Foundation at ribbon-cuttings for new Office Depot stores.

"We are honored that the Office Depot Foundation is committed to child abuse prevention. As Dallas County led the state with 31 deaths from child abuse in 2007, it is corporations like Office Depot which catalyze donors and money to the plight of the abused child in Dallas."

Margaret Patterson, LCSW, Executive Director, Child Abuse Prevention Center

Partnerships and recognition

The Office Depot Foundation believes strongly in the importance of collaborating with peers, sharing information with the community and working to inspire others to action. With these goals in mind, we are pleased to be affiliated with the following organizations:

- Boston College Center for Corporate Citizenship
- Committee Encouraging Corporate Philanthropy
- U.S. Chamber of Commerce Business Civic Leadership Center (BCLC)
- Association of Corporate Contributions Professionals
- Association of Fundraising Professionals
- Donors Forum of South Florida
- Business Development Board of Palm Beach County

In 2008, the Foundation shared lessons we have learned in a variety of nationally prominent publications:

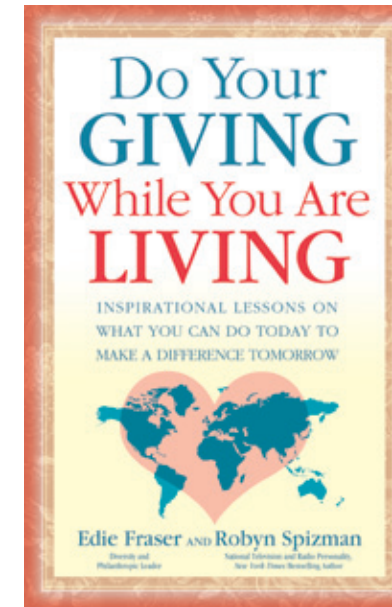
- The article “Helping Our Hometowns Recover from Disasters Requires a Long-Term Approach” appeared in *On the Brink: Re-engineering the Nation’s Disaster Response Processes*, published by BCLC.
- Three essays reflecting on community investment

challenges and opportunities in Palm Beach County, Florida, appeared in *Investing in Our Communities*, also published by BCLC. They included “Corporate Community Investment Pays Valuable Dividends,” by Foundation President Mary Wong; “City, Business, and Schools: Unique Opportunities for Partnership,” by Marjorie Ferrer, Executive Director of the Delray Beach Downtown Marketing Cooperative; and “Uncovering Unlimited Possibilities,” by Kelly Smallridge, President and CEO of the Palm Beach County Development Board.

- Mary Wong contributed a chapter to the book, *Do Your Giving While You Are Living*, by Edie Frazer and Robin Spizman.

The Foundation was proud to receive a number of awards and honors during the year:

- The Office Depot Foundation 2007 Report to the Community, “A World of Possibility,” was named the best External Publication in the 2008 PR News NonProfit PR Awards competition.
- The Office Depot Foundation was recognized as the Outstanding Philanthropic Foundation by the Palm



Beach County Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals as part of its 2008 National Philanthropy Day Awards program.

- In the League for American Communications Professionals’ 2008 Spotlight Awards Print, Video and Web Communications Competition, the 2007 Office Depot Foundation Report to the Community received a Silver Award, while the Foundation’s website received an Honors Award. The Report to the Community also received a Bronze Award in LACP’s 2007 Vision Awards Annual Report Competition.
- Mary Wong was honored by Dress for Success Worldwide for her leadership in corporate citizenship.

“We all get caught up in our day-to-day business activities. It’s so exciting to see people caring about people. That’s what inspires me about the Foundation; that’s what keeps me involved.”

Robert H. Brewer, Senior Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer, Office Depot, and Executive Committee Member, Office Depot Foundation



Independent Reviewers' Report

To: Management and the Board of Directors of Office Depot Foundation

We have reviewed selected quantitative performance information presented in the Office Depot® Foundation 2007 Report to the Community (the Report) for the year ended December 31, 2007. We did not attempt to review all information included in the Report. Office Depot Foundation management is responsible for collection and presentation of the information within the Report. Our responsibility is to express a conclusion as to whether anything has come to our attention to suggest that the selected quantitative performance information is not presented fairly in accordance with the relevant criteria.

Scope

We reviewed the 2007 performance information presented in the report that is highlighted in bold in the table on page 16. The quantitative performance indicators were selected by Office Depot Foundation primarily on the basis of perceived external stakeholder interest. We did not review the narrative sections of the Report, except where they incorporated the selected quantitative performance information.

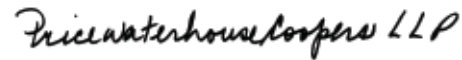
Methodology

Our review was completed in accordance with the International Standard on Assurance Engagements (ISAE) 3000, developed by the International Federation of Accountants. As such, we planned and performed our work in order to provide limited, rather than absolute, assurance with respect to the selected quantitative performance information that we reviewed. Our review criteria were based on Office Depot Foundation management definitions and industry standards as referenced in the Report. Our review procedures included obtaining and evaluating evidence relating to the selected quantitative performance information. We believe our work provides a reasonable basis for our conclusion. A review does not constitute an audit and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the selected information.

Conclusion

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the selected quantitative performance information set out in the Report in bold in the table on page 16 for the year ended December 31, 2007, is not presented fairly in accordance with the relevant criteria.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP



Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
May 16, 2008




PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP has reviewed the data for this report on page 16 noted in bold font. In selecting these indicators, we referenced the Global Reporting Initiative's guidelines. Numbers are rounded for reporting purposes.

Donation	2007
General Cash Donations	\$2,629,800
Cash Donations for long term commitments	600,000
Donations provided to National Charities for disaster relief	\$22,500
Total Cash Donations	\$3,252,300
In Kind Donations	\$14,350,700
Feed The Children donations	4,157,700
Kids In Need donations	1,191,400
Backpack Program (see note 1 below)	\$3,978,000
Other products and supplies donated	255,800
Total In Kind Donations (at retail value)	\$23,933,600
Number of backpacks donated per year	300,000
Number of charities assisted through cash and in-kind donations (see note 2 below)	2,229
Note 1:	
Calculation of retail value of backpack donations	2007
Estimated cost of backpack	\$13.26
Number of backpacks donated	300,000
Retail value of backpack donations	\$3,978,000
Note 2:	
Number of charities assisted through cash and in-kind donations	2007
Cash donations	521
GIKI Organizations	1,121
Feed The Children	1
Kids In Need	1
Backpack program	585
Total numbers of charities	2,229



Thank You!
The Office Depot Foundation gratefully acknowledges the support of Office Depot, as well as all of the generous Office Depot associates, other individuals, corporations and foundations who made contributions to help us achieve our goals during 2007.

Performance Indicator Description	Performance Indicator Amount	Required footnote
General	NA	• 2007 footnote: The 2007 fiscal year was a transition year for the Foundation during which time it took on a broader role. The foundation now has responsibility for most of the programs that were previously carried out by the Office Depot Corporation Community Relations department.
Cash Donations	\$3,252,300	• 2007 footnote: Estimated US value
In Kind Donations	\$23,933,600	• 2007 footnote: Estimated US value • 2007 footnote: Retail value
Number of Charities assisted through cash and in-kind donations	2,229	• 2007 footnote: Includes organizations that receive donations directly from the Office Depot Foundation. This number does not reflect all of the organizations that are ultimate recipients of Office Depot Foundation donations.

Looking ahead...

"I believe the children are our future. Teach them well and let them lead the way." – The Greatest Love of All

When Rachel Mittler walked into the Office Depot Foundation's offices in 2008 for a summer internship, the Boca Raton high school sophomore expected that she'd open mail and help out with a few events. What she found confirmed her passion for volunteering.

"I have done every single thing since last summer. I love working with them," Rachel says with infectious enthusiasm. "I love the feeling I get from helping people. It's the favorite thing I do. I saw how many grants they responded to. Whatever people need, they're always there. It touches my heart. I love it."

Because the world clearly needs more Rachel Mittlers, we have placed volunteer recruitment high on the Foundation's agenda for 2009 – and not just to meet our own needs. We view volunteerism as one of the three essential legs of the corporate philanthropy stool – along with cash gifts and product donations. The year will be highlighted by the national launch of the Caring Connection, an online resource that enables anyone in the United States to find opportunities to volunteer (via our website at www.officedepotfoundation.org).

In support of our educational initiatives, we plan to introduce the "Dream UP Career Exploration Program" – in partnership with *USA Today* and the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards – to encourage middle school students to focus on career planning. We also intend to award the first scholarships through our "Follow Your Dream" Educational Assistance Fund, which is designed to assist students with college expenses beyond tuition, room and board. And, in perhaps the most exciting development of all, we will donate our 2 millionth backpack through our 2009 National Backpack Program.

As grantmakers, we will continue to emphasize the importance of collaboration among recipients of our support – and we will begin to ask applicants to show they have a disaster plan in place. We want to know that, even if the worst happens, they will still be able to achieve their goals.

We hope that our nation and world will come together with creativity and persistence in 2009 to tackle the many challenges we face. While we cannot control what *everyone* out there does, we *are* committed to doing what we can in the best way that we can.

We encourage you to join us in listening, learning and caring. Because the whole, we fervently believe, is *vastly* greater than the sum of the parts.



Rachel Mittler

About the Office Depot Foundation



Office Depot Foundation Board and Staff Members (from left) Mary Wong, Brian Bagley, Sabrina Conte, Robert Rice, Cindy Mayo, Robert Brewer, John Lostroscio, Todd Benni, Casey Ahlbum, Robert McCormes-Ballou, Kelly Smallridge, George Bryan, Jessica Strazulla, David Fannin and Jeffrey Chang. Not pictured: Vera Cuevas

Board of Directors

Casey Ahlbum, Brian Bagley, Todd Benni, Robert McCormes-Ballou, Robert H. Brewer*, George E. Bryan*, Jeffrey S. Chang, Vera M. Cuevas, David C. Fannin*, John Lostroscio, Cindy Mayo, Robert B. Rice, Kelly Smallridge

*Executive Committee Member

Office Depot Foundation Staff

Mary Wong, President; Jessica Strazulla, Foundation Specialist; Sabrina Conte, Foundation Assistant

Giving to the Office Depot Foundation

The Office Depot Foundation is an independent foundation (tax exempt under IRC Sec. 501(c)(3)) that serves as the independent charitable giving arm of Office Depot, Inc. The Foundation gratefully accepts contributions from individuals, corporations, foundations and other organizations that share our goals.

If you would like to invest in our work, please visit www.officedepotfoundation.org and click on "Make a Donation" – where you can make a secure contribution via credit card. If you prefer to give by check, please send your gift to Office Depot Foundation, 6600 North Military Trail, Boca Raton, FL 33496. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law.

We Welcome Your Partnership

If you are interested in partnering with the Office Depot Foundation, becoming a member of our board or advisory committee or volunteering your time to support our priorities, please e-mail us at OfficeDepotFoundation@officedepot.com or call (561) 438-8752.

“The entire Office Depot family appreciates the good work of the Office Depot Foundation. We look upon the Foundation as our ambassadors to the community – compassionate and dedicated to making a difference wherever our company has a presence.”

Elisa D. Garcia C., Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary, Office Depot

“Often at times like this, the expectation is that with more money, needs will be addressed. In reality, what is needed are tools, education, methodology, collaboration and other approaches that will have long-lasting and positive effects. The Office Depot Foundation has taken the initiative to logically and methodically diagnose the needs of a community and put actions toward addressing those needs.”

Pedro del Sol, President and CEO, Nonprofits First

“Office Depot is a class act business that truly understands the meaning of giving back to our community.”

Jeremiah Rhine, Programs Director, Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services



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