

## **Kids R First Sorts Donated Supplies**

Charity Seeks Donations for Scholarships

Kids R First board members along with other adult and youth volunteers have set up their headquarters at Langston Hughes Middle School in Reston.

The cafeteria in August is humming with activity as more than 90,000 pieces of custom-ordered school supplies are stacked most of the way to the ceiling. These have been purchased by Kids R First for students from 58 schools in the Dulles corridor.

The supplies will be given to 9,000 needy children in grades kindergarten through 12 from Herndon, Reston, Sterling, Ashburn, Chantilly, and Centreville.

After all 90,000 supplies are organized in the cafeteria, volunteers will fill each school's order. When completed and all boxes are marked as donations from Kids R First, personnel from each of the 58 schools will pick up the orders.

Elementary children receive their supplies before school begins. Middle and high school students receive their supplies after they attend each of their new classes.

This undertaking is in its sixth year. Susan Ungerer, a retired Fairfax County teacher, founded Kids R First in 1998 and continues as its president.

As an elementary teacher Ungerer witnessed the embarrassment and educational setback students encountered when they arrived at school without school supplies.

Office Depot in Reston continues to provide discounted supplies for the Kids R First program. Office Depot, for the second year, is donating many free backpacks.

In addition to school supplies, Kids R First has expanded its program to provide seven high schools in the Dulles corridor with funds to benefit students from need) families who are choosing careers or are aspiring to attend colleges.

Kids R First is raising \$40,000. Donations are tax-deductible. People may contribute at Kids R First, P.O. Box 3242, Reston Va. 20195, or phone or fax to 703-860-2255

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