



## Press Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## SCF Arizona helps students get school year started

SCF Arizona donated 1,444 backpacks filled with school supplies to students statewide during its annual "Pack to School" drive in collaboration with the Salvation Army.

For a fourth straight year SCF Arizona's home office in Phoenix adopted an elementary school to ensure all its students are well-equipped for the school year. The choice this year was Whittier Elementary, on 16<sup>th</sup> Street and Palm Lane. More than 550 backpacks were handed out during the school's open house and first day of school.

In a thank-you letter to SCF, one second-grade student wrote: "Thank you for our backpacks. I liked the ruler that were [sic] inside. I liked the crayons that were inside. I liked the pencils that were inside."

Another second grader wrote: "Thank you for the sharpener and for the rulers. The backpack was a little big. The pencils were tall. The crayons were sharpened. Thank you for everything. Can you come to our class?"

Whittier was chosen because the school's population includes more than 90 percent of students who are eligible for the federal free- or reduced-lunch program.

SCF Arizona is the state's largest provider of workers' compensation insurance and leading advocate of workplace safety with offices also located in Flagstaff, Lake Havasu City, Prescott, Show Low, Tucson and Yuma. The district offices also took part in the charitable giving program in their communities by donating 675 backpacks.

SCF donated another 200 backpacks to the Labor's Community Service Agency, a nonprofit group that advocates for health and human services to meet the needs of all members of the community, especially the most vulnerable and dependent.

"This has become the signature event of the SCF Charitable Giving Program," said Jill Maruca, Charitable Giving Coordinator. "Our employees love doing this each year, and many of our employees and executives volunteer to go to the schools and hand out each bag individually to each student."