

December 2021 – Newsletter

The mission of Back 2 School Illinois is to create and support educational opportunities that enrich the lives of Illinois children.



Every \$19 donation allows us to provide one more underserved child with their own Back 2 School supplies kit.

December is a Time of Coming Together A Season of Giving - 5,000 Kits is our Goal

In 2021 we came together...



Gala 2021



LGBT Build-A-Kit 2021



In-House Event 2021

This holiday season, let us join together one last time and make sure all kids get the education they need and deserve. Help us to provide needy children with a Back 2 School kit so they can start the new year off right.

For every \$19 tax-deductible contribution, we can provide one more kid from a low-income household with their very own Back 2 School kit loaded with 30 vital school supplies, so they have the tools they need to succeed in the classroom and beyond. Help us reach our goal to fund 5,000 kits during the holiday season.



Please Donate Today!

We wishes a joyous holiday season and Happy New Year!

We Couldn't Do It Without Them Volunteers Make Us Smile

With the many, many Build-A-Kit events that we orchestrate, it takes many, many hands and tons of hours to make these possible. It is the hundreds of volunteers who come together to keep the work of Back 2 School Illinois moving forward and helping so many kids. It would be next to impossible to write a story thanking each volunteer individually, even though we appreciate each person's contributions of time and talents. However, we do want to single out a few of what we call "Super Volunteers" because they have consistently been there for us throughout the year.



Naftali Kalter - For the hours spent lugging school supplies, breaking down boxes, setting up Build-A-Kit events, and helping to distribute kits to kids in need so many times throughout the year that we lost count. Thank you, Naftali!

Barbara McCarthy - For the selfless act of coming into our office and filing, creating, making phone calls, and helping to make us look and operate more smoothly. Her work communicating with our many community partners has been particularly invaluable. Thank you, Barbara!



Michael Fruchner - For the time spent in setting up food, running the wine pull at the Gala, assisting on the Gala



Committee, and much more. Definitely an individual with a flair for design, which always makes us look better. Thank you, Michael!

Paul Preuss - For the consistent assistance at every single large-scale Build-A-Kit and the hours of setting up and tearing down for events, and providing instruction to others who volunteer. The number of Back 2 School kits he has filled, stacked, sorted, and loaded onto trucks, buses, and vans we suspect would number into the many thousands. Thank you, Paul!



Marci Adilman - For her years of service and being our proofreader on so many occasions and sometimes on very short deadlines. Marci reviews everything from our monthly newsletters to appeal mailings. She makes us read and sound a whole lot better! Thank you, Marci!

Vince Nguyen - For the hours and hours of learning, and being an active member of the 2021 Gala Committee, not to mention quick reflex on the execution of the event. His technological skills and insight are extremely valued. Thank you, Vince!



There are so many amazing volunteers we could mention. Volunteers are essential for helping a nonprofit organization have the greatest impact. Whether you volunteered a single hour or were one of our Super Volunteers, we appreciate each and every one of you. We look forward to working with you and many new people in 2022.

[Upcoming Volunteers Needed](#)

Check Out Our Many 2022 Sponsorships Many Opportunities Await to Make A Difference

Big companies, small businesses, and any organization in between have an opportunity to impact the lives of young people and their families. Consider how you and your business could make a lasting impact on kids from underprivileged homes.

You can decide the sponsorship that best fits your business or company. We have different types of sponsorships, from our yearly Free School Supplies Sponsorship to many of our event-specific sponsorships. No matter what you choose, your company's philanthropic generosity comes with many different perks.

Follow the link to review your options and then email us at info@b2si.org, or give us a call at 847-286-3550. We can't wait to work with you.

Check out our 2022 Sponsorships

Take a look at the list our past 2021 Sponsors. So many are coming back this year. Consider how you could join them in 2022!

**A-ALL Financial Services, Alliant/Mesirow Insurance Services, B.P.,
Bob's Discount Furniture, Braun, Browne & Associates, P.C.,
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois, Busey Bank, CA Ventures, Checkexpress,
CheckFreePay, Chicago Financial Service Centers (CFSC), CIBC, Comcast,
Community Currency Exchange Association of Illinois, CNA,
Connections Marketing, Electronic License Service (ELS),
First American Bank, First Bank of Highland Park, First Midwest Bank,
Forest Security, Galleria Marchetti, Gift of Hope, Goodway Group,
Highland Solutions, Kits for Kidz, Horizon Therapeutics, KPMG,
KSBM Associates, Mosaic Construction, Much Shelist, NPN.360,
Office Depot, Optimized Compliance Solutions, Republic Bank,
Scott Curcio Real Estate, Sidley, Slalom,
South Suburban Currency Exchange, Starbucks,
Taxman, Pollock, Murray & Bekkerman, LLC, Total Traffic & Weather
Network, Western Union Foundation, Whole Foods, Winston & Strawn
and Wintrust Bank.**

Up On The Housetop

A Lincoln Commons Christmas Event

Up on the housetop reindeer pause, Out jumps good ol' Santa Claus ... in the form of many Chicago-based merry helpers!

The giving spirit was out in full force when the residents of The Apartments at Lincoln Commons came together on their gorgeous rooftop lounge (with breathtaking views of the city). Dozens of enthusiastic volunteers met up to decorate Back 2 School kits as well as assemble and adorn gingerbread houses.

This is the third time we have worked with this lively and generous Lincoln Park community. We are so thankful for their ongoing support. There will be many smiling faces when these kits are delivered and unwrapped by kids from the Neighborhood Boys & Girls Club at the Bateman and Cleveland Elementary Schools on the northside of the city.

