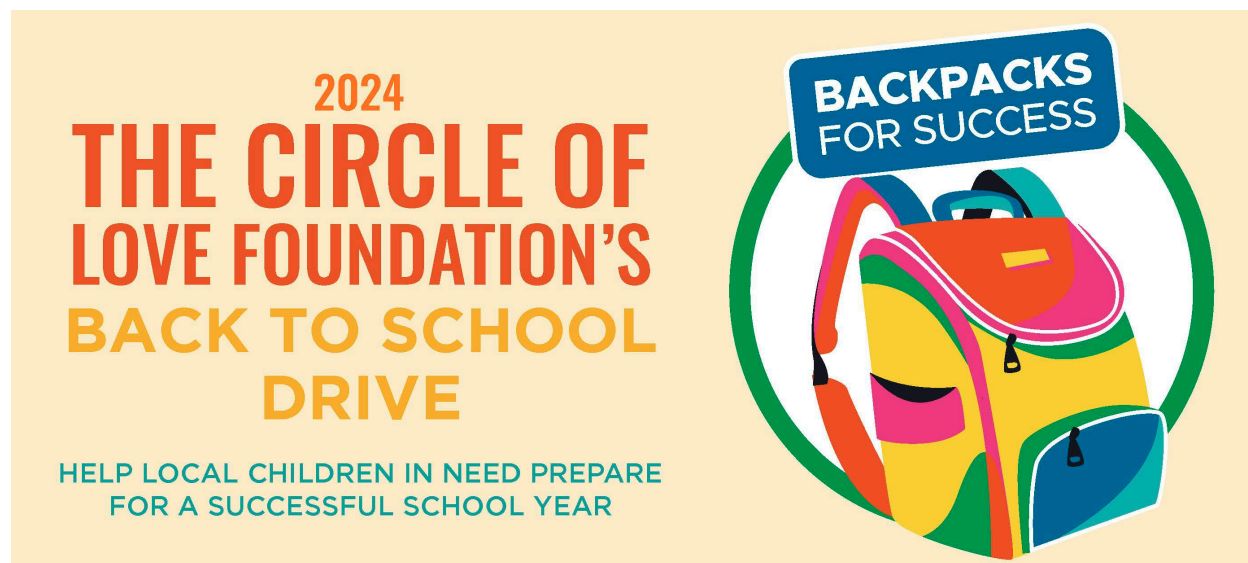


Backpacks for Success Campaign Kicks Off Today



ALABAMA CHARITY HOPING TO FILL 600 BACKPACKS FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

While summer has officially started, one local organization is already working to make sure local children in need have school supplies when they return to the classroom in August. The Circle of Love Foundation's Backpacks for Success campaign kicks off today and runs through July 17. With higher school supply prices, the nonprofit charity hopes to provide 600 backpacks this year, an increase by 100 from 2023.

Founder Doris Phillips is available for interviews.

Oscar Gipson

More info at www.TheCircleofLove.org.

HOOVER, Alabama (June 5, 2024) –Birmingham area students return to school in six weeks. Will they have the supplies needed to start the school year in August?

Families with children in elementary through high school will spend an average of \$864 on school supplies. The averages include school supplies, shoes, clothing and electronics or computer related equipment. A survey of school supplies in the Birmingham area ranged from \$127 for a middle schooler to \$142 for elementary students, based on purchasing the average school list of items on Amazon. With the rise in school supply costs and an increased need anticipated, **The Circle of Love Foundation hopes to provide 600 backpacks with the needed school supplies, an increase of 100 from 2023.** These will go to children in area shelters and others in need.

Will students have the basic school supplies they need?

This question is a primary concern to Doris Phillips. As the President of RealSource Title Insurance and Real Estate Closings and COO of Lake Homes Realty, Doris grew up in poverty outside of Birmingham, Alabama. She knows the deep pain of being forgotten and going to school without the basic items needed for success. She was a single mom at 16, and worked multiple jobs to feed her child. Education was not an option. Fast-forward years later, Doris learned from the school of hard knocks and worked hard to become successful in real estate and title insurance.

Finding Solutions, Creating Opportunities

In 2004, Doris founded The Circle of Love Foundation to provide children in need with school supplies in hopes of lessening the burden on lower income families.

The Circle of Love Foundation (a 501c3 non-profit) has touched more than 12,000 children in shelters and facilities who would have otherwise gone without basic school supplies or opening gifts on Christmas morning. The Foundation is 100% volunteer driven, so every penny donated is a penny spent on a child in need throughout Alabama and Tennessee. For more information and donation options, visit www.TheCircleofLove.org.

About Doris Phillips

Doris Phillips serves as Founder and President of RealSource which provides services in Alabama and Tennessee,. In Alabama, RealSource has offices in Hoover, Cullman, and Pell City. Phillips also is the COO for Lake Homes Realty and Beach Homes Realty. Lake Homes Realty is the largest lake focused real estate brokerage in the country serving 36 states and growing. Beach Homes Realty launched in May 2023 and operates in 14 states.

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