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**Education Foundation~Osceola County**  
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www.foundationosceola.org

## **FREE Backpacks and School Supplies Available To Osceola County Elementary Students**

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For Immediate Release

**July 29, 2011--Kissimmee, FL:** The Education Foundation of Osceola County has joined with other Osceola County community organizations to help elementary students get a good start for the 2011-2012 school year. Thanks to a \$25,000 grant awarded by the Orlando Sentinel's Family Fund, the "Gotta Getta Good Start" School Supply Giveaway will be held on August 15, 2011 from 5:00pm – 8:00pm at Osceola Heritage Park, in conjunction with the Back to School – Back to Business Expo. Eligibility is based on the free and reduced lunch program criteria. Families will also be able to visit with representatives from Help Now of Osceola, Helping Others Make the Effort (HOME), DCF, Children's Home Society/Intervention Services or CBS of Central Florida, and CAC of Osceola. FREE immunizations will also be provided through the Osceola County Health Department.

"This event is a wonderful way for the Education Foundation to reach out to hurting families in this fragile economy," said Kathy Carr, Education Foundation Executive Director. "The Orlando Sentinel Family Fund is a great partner in this project, and we could not do it without their support."

To register students that qualify, parents must fill out and return the Registration Form for verification to the Education Foundation, located at 2310 New Beginnings Road, Kissimmee, 34744. The Registration Form can also be found on the Foundation's website at [www.foundationosceola.org](http://www.foundationosceola.org), or they may pick one up at the Education Foundation office. Backpacks will be available on a first come, first served basis to those students who register no later than Friday, August 12, 2011. **For questions, call 407-348-9204**

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The **Education Foundation~Osceola County** is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting public education, teachers, and students. Led by a 30-member Board of Directors, the Foundation awarded over one-hundred scholarships in 2011 to Osceola County graduates. Other important accomplishments include matching children with mentors through the Take Stock in Children and Bookmark Buddies programs, providing classroom supplies and school uniforms to needy students, and helping teachers through A Gift For Teaching, a free store for teachers. Visit our web site at [www.foundationosceola.org](http://www.foundationosceola.org) for more information