Back to School Drive is underway through August 7

August 3, 2017

As August starts, and thoughts turn toward the start of the school year, Los Alamos National Laboratory—with help from the community—is sponsoring a Back to School Drive to help local students succeed.

"Our goal is to help 1,000 students," says drive organizer Joanna Gillespie. "Parents have a lot of expenses at this time of year, so the backpacks and supplies can really help."

Through August 7, area residents are encouraged to join with Lab employees to give a backpack filled with school supplies, or to donate money for supplies or to go toward the purchase of a shoe card. To make contributions go further, take advantage of New Mexico's tax-free weekend on August 4–6. All donations are tax deductible.

A great donation is a backpack filled with all the school supplies from this list, but people can give what they can. Backpacks and supplies can be dropped off at the Lab's Community Partnerships Office (1619 Central Avenue, Los Alamos); at the Los Alamos National Bank locations in Los Alamos and White Rock; or at any Del Norte Credit Union in Santa Fe, Española, Los Alamos, or White Rock.

Checks should be made out to Back to School Drive and mailed to the Lab's Treasury Office, Mail Stop P231, Los Alamos, NM, 87545, or dropped off at the Community Partnerships Office (CPO). Please indicate whether the money is for supplies or shoes.

CPO is working with 12 school districts and the Bureau of Indian Education schools in Northern New Mexico to make sure the backpacks, supplies, and shoes go to the children that need them most.

"CPO is happy to coordinate this drive to help ensure that children will show up on the first day with the supplies they need to do their school work," Gillespie says.

Frank's Supply Co. and Cray, Inc. are the Laboratory's partners for this year's drive.