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## News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **SENATOR NELLIE POU PARTNERS WITH THE OFFICE DEPOT FOUNDATION, DISTRIBUTES HUNDREDS OF SACKPACKS TO LOCAL CHILDREN**

**(GARFIELD, New Jersey)** – Senator Nellie Pou (District-35) and the Office Depot Foundation are pleased to announce that the **Boys & Girls Club of Garfield**, has been chosen to receive colorful new sackpacks containing essential school supplies as part of the Foundation's 2012 National Backpack Program in partnership with the National Foundation for Women Legislators (NFWL). A formal presentation of the sackpacks was held on **Wednesday, August 14, 2012 at 12:30 p.m. at 490 Midland Avenue, Garfield, New Jersey.**

"It is critical that we ensure that all youth have the supplies they need to be successful inside the classroom," said Senator Pou. "I am honored to have the opportunity to present these sackpacks to deserving students. Public-private partnerships like this are crucial during tough economic times. As New Jersey's NFWL Education Team Leader, I must commend the Office Depot Foundation on its efforts to help children succeed by providing basic school supplies, which many of us take for granted."

By the end of this year, Office Depot (NYSE: ODP) and the Office Depot Foundation will have helped more than 2.9 million children since this program began in 2001. NFWL has been partnering with the backpack program for seven years and, this year, the Office Depot Foundation will provide the National Foundation for Women Legislators with more than 15,000 sackpacks for distribution by women elected officials in all 50 states.

The Office Depot Foundation will also donate sackpacks to children in partnership with the AARP Experience Corps, Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA), the National Court Appointed Special Advocates Association (CASA), Feed The Children, Food For The Poor, the Kids In Need Foundation, the Little Red Wagon Foundation, Operation Homefront, Samaritan's Feet International, Speedway Children's Charities and the Tony Stewart Foundation. These organizations focus on education, domestic abuse, national disaster relief and other vital issues and will assist in distributing sackpacks to children across the country and internationally.

The new 2012 drawstring-style backpacks come in seven different two-color combinations, each of which is highlighted by a unique print designed to match the color scheme. Highly contemporary in their design, they reflect and respond to changes in the ways that children are taking their materials to school. Each backpack includes a zippered pouch containing essential back-to-school items - a ruler, four crayons, a pen, a pencil, a pencil sharpener and an eraser.

**About the National Foundation For Women Legislators, Inc. (NFWL)**

Through annual educational and networking events, the National Foundation for Women Legislators supports elected women from all levels of governance. As a non-profit, non-partisan organization, NFWL does not take ideological positions on public policy issues, but rather serves as a forum for women legislators to be empowered through information and experience. For more information, visit [www.womenlegislators.org](http://www.womenlegislators.org).

**About the Office Depot Foundation**

The Office Depot Foundation is an independent foundation (tax exempt under IRC Sec. 501(c)(3) that serves as the independent charitable giving arm of Office Depot, Inc. In keeping with its mission, Listen Learn Care®, the Foundation supports a variety of programs that help children succeed in school and in life; enable civil society (non-profit) organizations to become more efficient and effective; help people and businesses prepare for disasters, then recover and rebuild afterwards; strengthen local communities through grants, product donations and volunteerism; and encourage community development through entrepreneurship and economic innovation. For more information, visit [www.officedepotfoundation.org](http://www.officedepotfoundation.org).

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