



Tools For Teachers, Success For Students

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SEPTEMBER 24, 2009

For more information, contact Steve Rubenstein, at (937) 528-6401

CRAYONS TO CLASSROOMS CELEBRATES GRAND OPENING

DAYTON, OHIO; September 24 – Crayons to Classrooms (DC2C), Dayton’s eagerly anticipated free store for teachers, ushered in the 2009-2010 school year with a grand opening celebration today. A ceremonial ribbon-cutting marked the culmination of a three-year effort to establish this teacher resource center which collects useful classroom learning materials and distributes them at no cost to under-funded teachers and school children in need. In the coming year, teachers from 23 area schools that serve children living in poverty will “shop” for free at DC2C.

“For thousands of students in our region, basic schools supplies are a luxury,” said Steve Rubenstein, executive director of Crayons to Classrooms. “If parents are struggling to provide food and shelter for their children, they clearly have difficulty buying pencils, crayons and notebooks – items all kids are expected to have at the beginning of school. The goal of DC2C is to enhance the readiness to learn of all children in need in the Dayton area by providing them the necessary school supplies that are essential for learning. Our mission is to collect these basic tools for learning and distribute them at no cost to under-funded teachers and school children in need.”

“The Dayton Foundation is pleased to have partnered with other funders in our community to initiate and support a solution to this significant need through the creation of Crayons to Classrooms,” said Michael M. Parks, president of The Dayton Foundation. “In giving teachers the tools their students need, Crayons to Classrooms is giving our region’s children the opportunity for success in education and in life.”

Since opening its doors January 15, 2009, DC2C has hosted twenty-three school visits and served a total of 288 Dayton area teachers from twelve schools that together are responsible for educating 5,766 children. For the 2009-2010 school year, DC2C will expand the program to include twenty-three schools. To participate, teachers must be from schools that are pre-registered with DC2C, the criterion being that at least 70 percent of the school’s students participate in the national School Lunch Program. In the Greater Dayton Region, there are approximately 85 schools and 1,400 teachers, who are serving the educational needs of 23,000 children that qualify.

About Crayons to Classrooms

Crayons to Classrooms is a free resource center for teachers from under-funded K-12 schools serving children who live in poverty in the Miami Valley area of Ohio. In partnership with local businesses, individual donors, and community volunteers, Dayton’s Crayons to Classrooms (DC2C) lifts at-risk children’s level and love of learning by providing them the basic school supplies that are essential to academic achievement at no cost to the children’s teachers, families, or schools. DC2C is located in the Goodwill Easter Seals Miami Valley building at 1511 Kuntz Road in Dayton, Ohio. [Learn more at www.dc2c.org]