

SOUTHERN NEVADA HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

HomeAid Southern Nevada NEWS

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HOMEAID SOUTHERN NEVADA HOSTS BACK TO SCHOOL DRIVE & BACKPACK ASSEMBLY FOR HOMELESS TEENS

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA. (JULY 16, 2014) –HomeAid Southern Nevada is continuing its attitude of gratitude to those who serve the homeless men, women and children in Southern Nevada. Partnering with youth homeless outreach programs, Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth, Project 150 and at risk school West Prep Academy, HomeAid's Inaugural Back to School Drive has already seen huge success in a mere two and a half weeks! With over \$25,000 donated in items and monetary contributions, HomeAid has already begun working to get items purchased and ready for the 400 backpacks that will be assembled and given to homeless youth ages 12-18 in our community. The Back to School Drive collection runs from July 1-31st and will culminate in the backpack assembly day being held Friday, August 8th from 11am-1pm at the Project 150 Warehouse (6211 Dean Martin Ave. Las Vegas, Nevada 89118).

“It is estimated that there are over 10,000 homeless children and teens in Southern Nevada attending school. Organizations such as Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth, Project 150 and even at risk schools like West Prep Academy, are helping these young people get to school, stay in school, and ultimately look towards a future of success versus one spent on the streets” said Caitlin Shea, Executive director of HomeAid Southern Nevada, “To think that there are so many young people in our community struggling with basic human needs: food, shelter, clothing- this is just unacceptable. For the young people ages 12-18, they are often the forgotten population of homeless young people, and often times do not receive as many services or outreach. HomeAid is humbled to be able to help these youth in some way. We truly believe that school and an education is one way these young people have a chance at a better life.”

On Friday, August 8th, a group of over 30 volunteers comprised of members from the building community, Bank of America and other sponsor groups will come together to assemble 400 backpacks for homeless youth. “What may seem like just another charity event is so much more to the service providers we are currently working with,” says Shea, “ Basic things like paper, pencils, notebooks- things we as parents and students would take for granted, are life lines for these young people as they try to succeed in already very difficult circumstances. These backpacks are more than just school supplies. For some of these homeless youth- this backpack will hold everything they own and help give them hope and a brighter start to this school year. We are so grateful to the over 30 companies who have given items and money to make this day happen! Without their support, we could not give back in such a big way!”

Each year HomeAid Southern Nevada picks three to four hands on, volunteer driven projects that will directly impact our local homeless community and the organizations supporting the homeless. These projects give volunteers a chance to work side by side with these local organizations and help to create awareness for homelessness in Southern Nevada. Care Days also allow us to help our service providers with immediate needs that are in constant demand such as food, clothing and shelter. In 2014 it is the goal of HomeAid Southern Nevada to host multiple Care Day Projects in Southern Nevada. These projects include: assembling essential kits, care kits, painting, landscaping, Cinderella cleanups, and now our Back to School Drive!

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About HomeAid Southern Nevada:

HomeAid Southern Nevada was founded in 2004 under the guidance of Bill June of Beazer Homes. Our mission is building new lives for Southern Nevada's homeless through housing and community outreach. We carry out this mission through care days, education and awareness in the community and shelter projects. The HomeAid Southern Nevada chapter is sponsored by the Southern Nevada Home Builders Association (SNHBA). Since opening its doors, more than 95,000 square feet have been renovated, and over 1500 homeless children and adults have been served through the great work of countless builders, trades, sponsors and volunteers involved with HomeAid Southern Nevada. For more information or to volunteer with us, visit www.homeaidsn.org , call 702.794.0117 ext 100, join us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/homeaidsouthernnevada, or follow HomeAid Southern Nevada on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/HomeAidSNV>.

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