



News Release

For Immediate Release
Contact: Janet Hyde
Volunteers of America Southeast
(251)338-1294 jhyde@voase.org

Volunteers of America Southeast launches Operation Backpack 2018

Mobile, AL (June 6, 2018) – June 4th marked the beginning of Volunteers of America Southeast’s **Operation Backpack 2018**. Operation Backpack is a means for individuals, church groups, civic organizations, local businesses, and others to join together to provide necessary school supplies to equip at-risk children for the upcoming school year. Volunteers of America Southeast, Inc. (VOASE) works with the Mobile County Department of Human Resources (DHR) and local church organizations to provide essential school supplies to children who would otherwise be without. Over the past 7 years Operation Backpack has provided supplies to over 5,000 children. “There are many children who would start the first day of school without even a pencil,” said Wallace Davis, President and CEO of VOASE, “This program enables us to give every foster child a backpack and enough supplies to get them through the first part of the school year. It is our mission to reach and uplift all people, especially children.”

This is the first year that WALA Fox 10 will be a media sponsor for Operation Backpack. Supplies and donations can be dropped off until July 20, 2018 at the station located at 1501 Satchel Paige Drive, Mobile, AL 36606 or at the VOASE corporate office located at 1204 Hillcrest Road, Mobile, AL 36695. A list of needed supplies are available at voase.org. For more information contact Janet Hyde at jhyde@voase.org.

About Volunteers of America Southeast

Volunteers of America Southeast (VOASE) began serving the community in 1980 through the operation of three group homes for people with developmental disabilities. A charter member of Volunteers of America, VOASE provides services across Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia. Today, in addition to intellectual and developmental disabilities programs, Volunteers of America Southeast serves veterans, low-income seniors, children and youth, homeless, and people with addictive diseases and mental illness. Serving over 2,000 people daily with direct programs, VOASE also serves over 8,000 people annually with Community Outreach. VOASE strives to enable persons served to become as independent as possible without jeopardizing the welfare or safety of the individual. www.voase.org

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