



For Immediate Release

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CURRENCY EXCHANGES, YMCA AND SIX FLAGS PARTNER TO PROVIDE BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR NEEDY CHILDREN

CHICAGO (June 19, 2007) –The Community Currency Exchange Association of Illinois is conducting its annual "Back to School" Drive by collecting funds to purchase school supplies for needy children at all 600 Chicagoland Currency Exchanges from June 23-August 7. The school supplies will be distributed through a partnership with the YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago. The drive will take place between June 23 and August 7.

To support the drive Six Flags Great America in Gurnee is offering discount coupons to anyone that makes a donation at a neighborhood Currency Exchange. Kits for Kidz, an on line seller of school supplies, and Western Union have also signed on as sponsors.

"The Currency Exchange Association has a history of being involved in, and giving back to, the communities they serve," said, John Iberl, President of the Community Currency Exchange Association of Illinois. "This is just one more effort on the part of our owners to help people in need". Iberl went on to say, "We are very excited about being able to help thousands of children and their families this year."

The commitment to helping area residents in their pursuit of education is nothing new to Currency Exchanges. For the past 20 years they have participated in a scholarship program run by the Financial Service Centers of America (FISCA), which is the national Association that represents the 5,000 neighborhood check cashing and financial service centers throughout the country. Additionally, Chicagoland Currency Exchanges have a long history of supporting fire safety education in our communities as well.

Additional media support for the program is being provided by WLS-AM, WXRT-FM, WOJO-FM, WPPN-FM, WILV-FM, WLUP-FM, WBBM-FM and WPWX-FM.

The Community Currency Exchange Association of Illinois was formed in 1937. The Association oversees the marketing, advertising and community outreach programs for the states' 600 Currency Exchanges. Through the years, the Association has worked to provide a variety of business, government and financial services to the citizens of Illinois.

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About the YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago

Through its 43 centers and more than 100 extension sites, the YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago helps children learn and grow, teaches young people to lead, brings families closer, and encourages individual health and well-being. The fourth largest non-profit in Chicago and one of the largest human services organizations in the nation, YMCA programs impact hundreds of

thousands of lives annually, helping to strengthen neighborhoods and respond to community needs across Chicagoland. To learn more, visit www.ymcachgo.org.

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