



Left: Families receive backpacks filled with school supplies, as well as uniforms, socks and underwear at Operation Back to School Chandler last year. Right: Students in need get backpacks so they can start off their school year on the right foot.

## Operation Back to School Chandler to help families in need

BY SANTAN SUN NEWS STAFF

Families who need help making sure their children get the school supplies they need before classes start again can come to the fifth annual Operation Back to School Chandler.

The event will take place from 7 to 11 a.m. on July 22 at Chandler High School, 350 N. Arizona Avenue.

K-12 Chandler students who are eligible for assistance will receive backpacks filled with school supplies, along with uniforms, socks and underwear, while supplies last. Families

can also get information on free, after-school programs, as well as receive giveaways and prizes at the event.

In order to qualify for participation in the drive, families must bring with them a previous enrollment form or report card to prove their children attend Chandler schools or a utility bill to confirm they are Chandler residents. The children who attend Chandler schools must be at the event. Parents and guardians also need to bring some type of identification with them.

Buses will take families who qualify for Title I funding to the happening. Families need to get in touch with their Title I parent/teacher liaison for more information.

The following entities are organizing Operation Back to School Chandler: AZCEND, Chandler Unified School District, CARE Center, Fans Across America, CrossRoads Nazarene Church, City of Chandler Neighborhood Resources, ICAN, Boys & Girls Club, EV Jewish Community Center, M.I.L.K.,

Goodwill, Dignity Health, LDS Church, Chandler-Gilbert Community College, Special Devices, Gear-up Promotions, Chandler Service Club, Matthew's Crossing and For Our City - Chandler. This activity is reportedly the largest back-to-school event in the East Valley. Last year, more than 3,000 families came to the event and 2,500 backpacks were given to youths.

To learn more about Operation Back to School Chandler, visit [backtoschoolchandler.org](http://backtoschoolchandler.org). ■