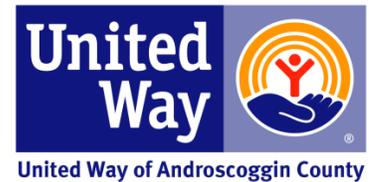


For Immediate Release



For More Information:

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United Way launches Backpack Project

Annually United Way provides Backpacks to local children in need

LEWISTON, MAINE (August 4, 2014) United Way of Androscoggin County is pleased to announce its annual Backpack Project. For approximately 10 years, United Way has worked with local sponsors, businesses and community members to bring backpacks and school supplies to the children of local schools. Over the years, the need for the program has continued to grow as well as the support from the community.

This year, United Way is proud to partner with the Auburn store of Big Lots and the Young Professionals of the Lewiston Auburn Area as collection partners. In addition, L.L. Bean and the Auburn Lewiston Breakfast Rotary Club have continued their support by providing a donation and a number of backpacks for the initiative.

Community members are encouraged to collect items and deliver to one of the following locations:

- **United Way** at 66 Ash Street in Lewiston – Collection ends on Tuesday, August 19
- **Big Lots** at 730 Center Street in Auburn – Collection is from August 6 through 17
- **Business After Hours** of the Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce and the Young Professionals of the Lewiston Auburn Area at the Simard Payne Memorial Park in Lewiston on Thursday, August 14

Items being collected are pencils, pens, notebook paper, composition books, backpacks, erasers, pencil cases, tissues, crayons, colored pencils, hand sanitizers, protractors, compasses & hi-liters. United Way and volunteers will assemble and deliver the backpacks to local schools shortly after the commencement of the collections.

About United Way

United Way of Androscoggin County is part of a worldwide movement of nearly 1,800 community-based United Ways in 41 countries and territories. It advances the common good by focusing on education, income and health -- the building blocks for a good quality life. The United Way movement mobilizes millions to action -- to give, advocate and volunteer -- to improve conditions in their local community. For more information about United Way of Androscoggin County, please visit: UnitedWayAndro.org

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