

OCR ALERT: 2018 Palm Beach County Back to School Bash Registration Now Open - Deadline: June 29, 2018.



We are thrilled to announce the 2018 Palm Beach County Back to School Bash! This wonderful annual event will be held this year on **Saturday, August 4, 2018** at five (5) locations throughout the County, and we need your assistance with registering all students in need in our Countywide Community Revitalization Team (CCRT) communities (see map attached).

As you probably know, the Office of Community Revitalization (OCR) has been partnering with the Back to School Bash collaborative to provide school supplies to kids in need from Kindergarten to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The program is a countywide initiative of government working in partnership

with Palm Beach County nonprofits and community service organizations to provide children in need with the school supplies required to start the school year with confidence, and succeed academically. The program is implemented through an annual event funded by Palm Beach County and the collaborative, comprised of more than 60 nonprofit and other agencies.

The 2018 Palm Beach County Back to School Bash anticipates reaching approximately 17,000 kids. While not all confirmed yet, there will be distribution locations throughout Palm Beach County, including the following: Eastern Central County; South County; North County; and the cities of Pahokee and South Bay. During the event, each student will be paired with a personal "shopper" who will help them make selections and navigate the huge maze of new school supplies and backpacks. Depending on the location and resource availability, participating students will have the opportunity to also receive free haircuts and school physicals. Additionally, the event will provide families with exposure to other services and community resources to help them on their road to self-sufficiency and improve their children's performance in the classroom. A meal will be provided to all family members in attendance.

To be eligible to participate through our office, students must reside in a Palm Beach County Countywide Community Revitalization Team (CCRT) area, and either be entering Kindergarten or otherwise be enrolled in grades 1 to 12 in the Palm Beach County public school system or a charter school in Palm Beach County. For your convenience, we are attaching a map and a table of all our CCRT communities. You can also [click here](#) to enter your home address and find out in which CCRT area you are located.

As in the past, participation continues to be **by invitation only** so registering all students in a timely manner is of upmost importance. Students to be served during the event must be referred for participation by one of the designated agencies of the collaborative, be registered by **June 29, 2018**, and given a personalized invitation to attend the event. This process reduces duplication and ensures that only those kids in need are served. All those registered will receive a personalized invitation to attend the event sometime in July.

To ensure that our kids in need have the opportunity to participate in this event, we are requesting your assistance in registering all the students in need through the registration page that has been created for that purpose at <http://survey.pbcgov.com/s3/0CR-PBC-Back-to-School-Bash> or by completing the attached Excel spreadsheet. Please do note that the online form is to register

**students who reside in CCRT areas only.** If you reside outside of a CCRT area or you are an agency that serves students in need in other areas of Palm Beach County and would like to participate, please contact Mindy Walsh, Administration Assistant with Friends of Foster Children, at (561) 352-2540 Ext. 2494 or via e-mail at [Admin@friendsoffosterchildren.com](mailto:Admin@friendsoffosterchildren.com) for eligibility requirements and who will assist you with registration.

If using the online registration, please note that you must complete all the required fields and submit one registration for each child. This will tremendously help us in our data entry efforts and preparation, as well as distribution of invitations:

- Parent Last and First Name
- Address
- Email address
- Person Referring Child and Phone Number
- Child Last and First Name
- Child Gender
- Child Grade – for 2018 / 2019 school year
- Agency serving the child if applicable
- School where child is enrolled
- CCRT area where the child resides.

If using the spreadsheet, we requesting that no changes be made to the order of the columns or the format of the spreadsheet, that the document be completed in its entirety, including the "CCRT area" where the student resides, and that the completed document in the format provided (Excel) be returned to the Office of Community Revitalization no later than June 29<sup>th</sup>. This will give OCR Staff time to compile all the spreadsheets submitted. Unfortunately, hand written forms, incomplete documents, or files in alternate format will not be accepted.

If you have any questions regarding registration, please feel free to contact Houston L. Tate, OCR Director, at (561) 233-5303 or [htate@pbcgov.org](mailto:htate@pbcgov.org), or myself at [rmoquill@pbcgov.org](mailto:rmoquill@pbcgov.org) or (561) 233-5376. Thank you for your continued support and for sharing this resource with your contacts.