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Getting Compton Children Ready for School

AUGUST 20

AT&T Pioneers Donate New Shoes, School Supplies to INMED Partnerships for Children's Youth Participants

Los Angeles, CA (August 20, 2010) — In a special event at INMED Partnerships for Children's California office, AT&T Pioneers, the volunteer arm of communications company AT&T, distributed 31 pairs of new shoes and backpacks filled with school supplies to children participating in INMED's Embracing Our Youth mentoring program.

"For so many children in Compton, even basic necessities like school supplies are often out of their families' reach," said Joey Shanahan, INMED's director of Los Angeles programs. "It really was heart-warming to see the excitement on each child's face when they received their backpack and a brand-new pair of shoes."

The 31 backpacks given out during the event represent just a portion of the nearly 500 donated by AT&T Pioneers for INMED to distribute to the most vulnerable children in the community. "We're very grateful to be partnering with the AT&T Pioneers to help these kids start the school year off right," Shanahan said.

The children themselves were just as grateful. For one young boy, the gifts were more than he expected, as he exclaimed his surprise that "This backpack is full of supplies!"

Attending the event were Councilwoman Lillie Dobson (Compton City Council's 2nd District); Larry Craig, field representative for Assemblymember Isadore Hall (California's 57th Assembly District); and Creasie James, area manager for AT&T's external affairs. Also present was Alan Jackson, assistant head deputy of the Major Crimes Division for the L.A. County District Attorney's Office and a member of INMED's Los Angeles Leadership Council.

INMED's Embracing Our Youth mentoring program provides a positive adult role model to children of state and federal prisoners in order to break the cycle of violence, substance abuse and criminal involvement that commonly leads to intergenerational incarceration. An important part of the program

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@INMEDChildren

is connecting families with supportive community resources such as the AT&T Pioneers donation.

MEDIA INQUIRIES

For more information about INMED Partnerships for Children in Los Angeles, please contact:

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About INMED Partnerships for Children—Since 1986, INMED Partnerships for Children has built alliances with public- and private-sector partners in more than 100 countries to rescue children from the immediate and irreversible harm of disease, hunger, abuse, neglect or violence, and to prepare them to shape a brighter future for themselves and the next generation. Through a broad range of health, social, education, violence prevention and community development programs, INMED is helping to create opportunities that inspire hope, build self-reliance and encourage community collaboration to sustain positive change. For more information visit www.inmed.org

About AT&T Pioneers—AT&T Pioneers is the volunteer arm of communications company, AT&T. With more than 42,000 employees in California, and more than 300,000 AT&T Pioneers, AT&T believes in giving back to the communities where its employees and retirees live, work and raise their families. For more information visit www.attpioneervolunteers.org

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