



## *News Release*

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For Immediate Release  
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### **Volunteers of America Southeast launches Operation Backpack 2018**

**Mobile, AL (June 6, 2018)** – June 4<sup>th</sup> marked the beginning of Volunteers of America Southeast’s **Operation Backpack 2018**. Operation Backpack is a means for individuals, church groups, civic organizations, local businesses, and others to join together to provide necessary school supplies to equip at-risk children for the upcoming school year. Volunteers of America Southeast, Inc. (VOASE) works with the Mobile County Department of Human Resources (DHR) and local church organizations to provide essential school supplies to children who would otherwise be without. Over the past 7 years Operation Backpack has provided supplies to over 5,000 children. “There are many children who would start the first day of school without even a pencil,” said Wallace Davis, President and CEO of VOASE, “This program enables us to give every foster child a backpack and enough supplies to get them through the first part of the school year. It is our mission to reach and uplift all people, especially children.”

VOASE will be accepting donations until July 20, 2018. A list of needed supplies are available at [www.voase.org](http://www.voase.org). Donations can be dropped off at Volunteers of America Southeast, 1204 Hillcrest Road, Mobile, AL 36695. For more information contact Janet Hyde at [jhyde@voase.org](mailto:jhyde@voase.org).

#### **About Volunteers of America Southeast**

Volunteers of America Southeast (VOASE) began serving the community in 1980 through the operation of three group homes for people with developmental disabilities. A charter member of Volunteers of America, VOASE provides services across Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia. Today, in addition to intellectual and developmental disabilities programs, VOASE serves veterans, low-income seniors, children and youth, homeless, and people with addictive diseases and mental illness. Serving over 2,000 people daily with direct programs, VOASE also serves over 8,000 people annually with Community Outreach. VOASE strives to enable persons served to become as independent as possible without jeopardizing the welfare or safety of the individual. [www.voase.org](http://www.voase.org)

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