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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 2, 2021

CONTACT

Sarah Foster
Office of State Representative Susan L. Valdés
Sarah.Foster@myfloridahouse.gov
813-673-4673

State Representative Susan L. Valdés to Host Annual 'Back to School Fair' Event

TAMPA, Fla. – State **Representative Susan L. Valdés (D-Tampa)** will be hosting a drive-up school supply giveaway event on Saturday, August 7th, at 10 a.m at Pierce Middle School in Tampa. This will be her 16th year hosting this annual back to school fair.

“As the 2021-2022 school year is quickly approaching, I want to make sure each student has access to the resources to be successful. That’s why I continue to do this event year after year. Thank you to our sponsors and community partners, Hillsborough County Public Schools Adult Education, Tampa Family Health Centers, Sigma Lambda Beta Tampa Bay Alumni Network, Boricuas de Corazón, Inc., Brink Foundation, and All for Kids, Inc., who contributed to this effort,” said **Representative Valdés**

The event partners offered the following statements:

“Tampa Family Health Centers is excited to participate in Representative Susan Valdés’ backpack giveaway event. As we transition from summer to the start of the new school year, we want to make sure the students in our community are prepared,” said **Sherry Hoback**, President and CEO of Tampa Family Health Centers. “As a patient centered medical home providing healthcare to Hillsborough County for over 37 years, we are proud to collaborate with such an advocate for the community. It’s essential to prepare the students for the upcoming school year and to educate them on the importance of their health and wellness.”

"Sigma Lambda Beta Tampa Bay Alumni Network takes pride in giving back to our community and making an impact wherever we can. The majority of our members are parents and we know that finances can be tight especially during a global pandemic. It is our honor and privilege to contribute in easing the burden of

providing essential school supplies for local families in the Tampa Bay area," said **Gerardo Reyes**, Chairman of Sigma Lambda Beta Tampa Bay Alumni Network.

"Boricuas de Corazón, Inc. is pleased to join efforts with State Representative Susan Valdés in supporting our children of Hillsborough County by providing hand sanitizer in addition to Representative Valdés' backpacks. We feel it is very important for students to return the classroom with supplies that make them feel safe and protected. Thanks to great community outreach activities like this one, our students are better prepared for success," said **Linda Perez**, President and Founder of Boricuas de Corazón, Inc.

"Every year, The Brink Foundation is proud to help children and families prepare for the school year by supporting the annual back to school fair. We are honored to be doing so again this year," said **Jose Colindres**, Executive Director of The Brink Foundation

Backpacks filled with school supplies will be available on a first come, first served basis.

WHEN: Saturday August 7 10 a.m. -1 p.m. or while supplies last

WHAT: Free drive-up backpack and school supply distribution for K-12 students. Students must be present with an adult to receive supplies.

WHERE: Pierce Middle School
5511 N Hesperides St
Tampa, FL 33614

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