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**OFFICE DEPOT CELEBRATES GRAND OPENING  
OF ITS NEW STORE IN PUYALLUP, WASH.  
WITH RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY ON OCTOBER 25**

*Event Features Office Depot Foundation Donations to Communities In Schools of Puyallup, Helping Hand House and Mel Korum Family YMCA*

**Puyallup, Wash., October 24, 2011** – Office Depot (NYSE: ODP), celebrating 25 years as a leading global provider of [office supplies](#) and services, today announced a celebration for the grand opening of its new store in Puyallup, Wash. The event will take place on Tuesday, October 25, at 2 p.m. The store is located at 3715 S. Meridian.

During this ceremony, the Office Depot Foundation is donating new children’s backpacks with essential school supplies and making check presentations to three local non-profit organizations: Communities In Schools of Puyallup, Helping Hand House and Mel Korum Family YMCA. In addition, Shelly Schlumpf, Executive Director at the Puyallup/Sumner Chamber of Commerce, is delivering welcoming remarks. City of Puyallup Mayor Kathy R. Turner; Roel van der Lugt, Director of Military Affairs, Business and Defense Programs for Congressman Adam Smith; and State Senator Jim Kastama are also scheduled to attend. The event is open for the public to attend.

Michael Chlipala, Manager of the Puyallup retail store, is a 15-year Office Depot associate who resides in the area.

According to Chlipala, the new store features a number of upgrades designed specifically with the customer in mind. Colorful and helpful signage, carpeted floors and a simple-to-navigate floor plan are just a few of the positive changes implemented at this location. “The store offers the most enjoyable shopping experience in the industry – in a format and layout that is intuitive, logical and convenient for our customers,” said Chlipala.

Additionally, products are grouped together in highly visible, strategically located “pods,” with core office supplies on one side of the store and consumer electronics on the opposite side – all designed for optimal visibility and ease of purchase. The furniture area is updated with additional product lines and assortments and is located in the back of the store to better support consultative sales.

The front end of the store was simplified in order to showcase Office Depot’s [Copy & Print Depot](#) and [Tech Depot Services](#), both of which are conveniently located adjacent to the cash registers.

The Puyallup [Office Depot store](#) employs about four full- and 12 part-time associates. It houses more than 7,500 products—everything from technology, furniture and office supplies to [technology](#) and [copy & print services](#)—in nearly 16,000 square feet of selling space.

Store hours are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sunday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. This location can be reached by phone at 253-445-3780.

### **Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony Highlights**

Special guests scheduled to participate in the October 25 ribbon-cutting ceremony include:

#### **Non-Profit Organization Representatives:**

- Kim Lintott, Board Chair, and Vice President Financial Affairs and Professional Services for MultiCare Good Samaritan Hospital, Communities In Schools of Puyallup
- Jan Mauk, Program Director, Communities In Schools of Puyallup
- Jamie Anderson, Director of Development, Helping Hand House
- Lisa Heintz, Director of Volunteer Services, Helping Hand House
- Brian Flattum, Executive Director, Mel Korum Family YMCA
- Stephanie Roberts, Associate Executive Director, Mel Korum Family YMCA

#### **Government Officials:**

- Mayor Kathy R. Turner, City of Puyallup
- Roel van der Lugt, Director of Military Affairs, Business and Defense Programs, representing Congressman Adam Smith
- State Senator Jim Kastama

#### **Puyallup/Sumner Chamber of Commerce Representative:**

- Shelly Schlumpf, Executive Director

The backpack donations are part of the Office Depot Foundation's award-winning National Backpack Program, through which it donates new backpacks to deserving children across North America and beyond. The Foundation celebrated the program's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2010. Since the program began in 2001, Office Depot has given away more than 2.5 million backpacks and sackpacks.

To learn more about the products and services available at Office Depot, please visit your local Office Depot [retail store location](#) or [www.officedepot.com](http://www.officedepot.com). To become a fan of Office Depot on Facebook and receive exclusive content, offers and more, please visit [www.facebook.com/officedepot](http://www.facebook.com/officedepot). To follow Office Depot on Twitter, please visit [www.twitter.com/officedepot](http://www.twitter.com/officedepot).

### **About Office Depot**

Celebrating 25 years as a leading global provider of office supplies and services, Office Depot is Taking Care of Business for millions of customers around the globe. For the local corner store as well as Fortune 500 companies, Office Depot provides supplies and services to its customers through 1,641 worldwide retail stores, a dedicated sales force, top-rated catalogs and global e-commerce operations. Office Depot has annual sales of approximately \$11.6 billion, and employs about 40,000 associates around the world. The Company provides more office supplies and services to more customers in more countries than any other company, and currently sells to customers directly or through affiliates in 55 countries.

Office Depot's common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol ODP. Additional press information can be found at: <http://mediarelations.officedepot.com> and <http://socialpress.officedepot.com/>.

**About the Office Depot Foundation**

The Office Depot Foundation is an independent foundation (tax exempt under IRC Sec. 501(c)(3) that serves as the independent charitable giving arm of Office Depot, Inc. In keeping with its mission, Listen Learn Care<sup>®</sup>, the Foundation supports a variety of programs that help children succeed in school and in life; enable civil society (non-profit) organizations to become more efficient and effective; help people and businesses prepare for disasters, then recover and rebuild afterwards; strengthen local communities through grants, product donations and volunteerism; and encourage community development through entrepreneurship and economic innovation. For more information, visit [www.officedepotfoundation.org](http://www.officedepotfoundation.org).

**About Communities In Schools of Puyallup**

Incorporated in 2002, Communities In Schools of Puyallup is a 501(c)(3) organization that serves children and families residing within the boundaries of the Puyallup School District. Its mission is to surround students with a community of support empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life. Through a network of parents, volunteers, businesses and community organizations working together the organization matches the resources of the community with the needs of students. Its services and programs include after-school programs, reading, mentoring, resource sharing, school site coordination, parent nights and student community service coordination. Communities In Schools is the nation's largest dropout prevention organization and is located in over 200 communities across 27 states.

**About Helping Hand House**

Helping Hand House is preventing and ending family homelessness in Pierce County one family at a time. Originating in 1984 in a single-family home run by volunteers in Puyallup, Helping Hand House has become a regional leader in innovative solutions to challenging problems, in partnership with others in the community. Today, with 70+ single-family residences and 16 staff members, it provides a continuum of housing and services through five programs. Helping Hand House programs distinguish themselves by a focus on financial literacy, education, employment and life skills needed for a family to escape cycles of homelessness and poverty for good. It anticipates serving 260 families (with children under 18 years) in 2011.

**About Mel Korum Family YMCA**

At the Y, strengthening community is the primary cause. Every day, the Y works side-by-side with its neighbors to make sure that everyone, regardless of age, income or background, has the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive. With a mission to put Christian principles into practice through programs that build a healthy spirit, mind and body for all, the Y's impact is felt when an individual makes a healthy choice, when a mentor inspires a child and when a community comes together for the common good.

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