

# Event Program & Speaking Points

## A guide with tips for kicking-off your kit build event.

By kicking-off your build event with a program, your participants will have a greater understanding of the impact they are making in our community. Your program may be as brief or as elaborate as you wish. The format we recommend is:

1. Speaking about why these kits are important (reference talking points below if you're holding the event without a Teachers' Teammates representative).
2. Giving instructions on how to build the kit.
3. Dismissing people to break into groups or to start building!

You may also request a speaker from Teachers' Teammates to help kick-off your event. Simply email or give us a call!

## The Need

Teachers' Teammates serves 74 public, charter and parochial schools where the majority of the students, if not all, qualify for the National Student Lunch Program. That means 40% of the students and their families, (approximately 40,000 children) in Delaware County, cannot or struggle to afford basic school supplies.

According to the National Retailers Association, the average family spent a record high of \$890 for school supplies in 2023. It is unacceptable for teachers to have to reach into their own pockets to make up the difference for what families and schools cannot afford, to provide the supplies their students need to succeed.

Without the proper materials, children are not only unprepared to learn; they often become detached from school and form a negative association with learning, which increases their absenteeism and the likelihood they will drop out.

## Your Impact

In building these kits, you are allowing teachers to provide the necessary supplies for their students in need. Having the right materials ready increases teachers' instructional time. And when children have their own school supplies, grades and classroom behavior improve, their self-esteem rises, and they become more excited about school and learning! Providing the supplies students need, conveys a message of appreciation, encouragement and support to their teachers too!

## About Teachers' Teammates

Since 2020, Teachers' Teammates has distributed school supplies valued at over \$1.4 million to area students in need. Supporting students and their teachers across 7 school districts, our program provides a wide range of materials such as notebooks, pencils, art supplies, books and so much more. Our mission is to foster equity in education by providing the supplies needed to succeed to the students and teachers in communities with the least financial resources.

Teachers' Teammates accomplishes this with a nearly all-volunteer corps of people who work tirelessly to keep inventory organized and fill orders. We offer work-study opportunities to local youth and adults with developmental disabilities so they can develop the life skills needed to live as independently as possible. Teachers' Teammates is a conduit to redistribute 1000s of pounds of suitable new and like-new goods to be repurposed in classrooms rather than added to the waste stream.

For more information, please visit [www.TeachersTeammates.org](http://www.TeachersTeammates.org) or contact Raelyn Harman, Executive Director, at [info@TeachersTeammates.org](mailto:info@TeachersTeammates.org) or **610-273-8222 ext. 2**



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