



## **The Upper Room Makes Back to School Made Easier for 150 Families**

*Local nonprofit provides donated school supplies to school-aged children in need*

**Derry, NH, September 2, 2014** - The Upper Room, A Family Resource Center, distributed backpacks full of school supplies to local elementary, middle school and high school students just in time for the school year to start. The supplies and backpacks were provided through Citizen Bank's Gears for Grades Program, and many personal donations.

Equipping students with even the most basic of supplies goes a long way towards their success – pens and pencils to take notes, notebooks to write in, folders to stay organized, and scissors and glue to spark their creativity. Gears for Grades in conjunction with The Upper Room, has helped fill that need for so many families who lacked the financial resources to invest in these essentials.

“Students who do not have the tools they need for the classroom are not only at an obvious disadvantage, but are also weighed down by concerns about being prepared for the school year,” stated Brenda Guggisberg, Program Coordinator for The Upper Room. “We wanted to do in our part in making sure that no student has to worry not being adequately prepared, and lift this burden from their families too.”

Backpacks and supplies were provided to students in Derry, Chester, Hampstead, Salem, Goffstown, Londonderry, and Litchfield. The Upper Room also donated extra backpacks and supplies to Family Promise of Greater Rockingham County, Seacoast Family Promise, and Head Start.

To learn more about The Upper Room, and its many programs and services, please visit [www.urteachers.org](http://www.urteachers.org).

###

### **About The Upper Room**

Founded in 1986, The Upper Room, A Family Resource Center is a non-profit 501(C) 3 organization committed to creating educational programs and services, which strengthen individuals, families and the community. Our center is a warm, welcoming place where families receive information and support not only in times of crisis but on a day-to-day basis. There are no barriers, income guidelines or geographic limitations to participation. Our doors are open to all who come to them. For more information, call (603) 437-8477, or visit our website at [www.URteachers.org](http://www.URteachers.org). The Upper Room is hosting its 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Matters Auction on November 7, 2014. To learn more, visit [www.urteachers.org/involved-auction.html](http://www.urteachers.org/involved-auction.html).