

June 27, 2022



# Operation Homefront to distribute 500,000th backpack through military family program

*Dollar Tree, Inc. joins Operation Homefront to collect school supplies for military children nationwide*

SAN ANTONIO--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Operation Homefront's annual [Back-to-School Brigade®](#) returns to serve military families across the nation with the help of its longtime corporate partner, Dollar Tree. The program provides military children with backpacks and school supplies collected primarily through Dollar Tree customer donations.

This press release features multimedia. View the full release here: <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20220621006055/en/>

From mid-July through August, supplies donated by customers at more than 7,800 participating Dollar Tree stores nationwide will be collected by Operation Homefront volunteers and distributed to military families at more than 120 Back-to-School Brigade® events and with local community partners throughout the country.

Operation Homefront is poised to reach a major milestone this year, distributing its 500,000<sup>th</sup> backpack to military children since the program was launched in 2008, saving military families more than \$55 million in back-to-school expenses.

"Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of Dollar Tree and tens of thousands of their amazing customers, we expect to deliver our 500,000<sup>th</sup> backpack filled with essential school supplies this year through our highly valued Back-to-School Brigade® program," said Brig. Gen. (ret.) John I. Pray Jr., president and CEO of Operation Homefront. "An incredible milestone worth celebrating, particularly as many of the military families we serve have tight budgets and with inflation on the rise, we know they greatly appreciate opportunities to be able to save their scarce resources to pay for other critical needs."

Dollar Tree is a longtime advocate of military families. Since the Operation Homefront partnership began in 2006, Dollar Tree and its generous customers have provided millions of dollars and in-kind donations to the nonprofit's recurring programs.

"It has been amazing to see the impact Operation Homefront has had on military families since our partnership began 16 years ago," said Chelle Davis, Dollar Tree spokesperson. "Dollar Tree is incredibly thankful for the continuous support from our valued customers, and we are proud to continue our work with this wonderful organization."

In addition to its support of Back-to-School Brigade®, Dollar Tree has supported Operation Homefront's [Critical Financial Assistance](#) program for military families in need. The nonprofit is nearing the fulfillment of its 50,000<sup>th</sup> request through that program, providing more than

\$35 million in critical financial assistance to military families.

The Back-to-School Brigade program is made possible through the generosity of additional partners including CSX, SAIC, Navy Federal Credit Union, Peraton, and Sesame Street for Military Families. For more information about how to support the Back-to-School Brigade®, visit <https://operationhomefront.org/back-to-school-brigade>.

### **About Operation Homefront**

Celebrating 20 years of serving America's military families, Operation Homefront is a national nonprofit organization whose mission is to build strong, stable, and secure military families so that they can thrive – not simply struggle to get by – in the communities they have worked so hard to protect. Recognized for superior performance by leading independent charity oversight groups, 88 percent of Operation Homefront expenditures go directly to programs that support tens of thousands of military families each year. Operation Homefront provides critical financial assistance, transitional and permanent housing and family support services to prevent short-term needs from turning into chronic, long-term struggles. Thanks to the generosity of our donors and the support from thousands of volunteers, Operation Homefront proudly serves America's military families. For more information, visit [OperationHomefront.org](https://OperationHomefront.org).

### **About Dollar Tree, Inc.**

Dollar Tree, a Fortune 200 Company, operated 16,162 stores across 48 states and five Canadian provinces as of April 30, 2022. Stores operate under the brands of Dollar Tree, Family Dollar, and Dollar Tree Canada. To learn more about the Company, visit [www.DollarTree.com](http://www.DollarTree.com) and [www.FamilyDollar.com](http://www.FamilyDollar.com).

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Source: Dollar Tree, Inc.