



**CONTACTS:**

Melissa Perlman  
Public Relations  
561-438-0704

[Melissa.Pperlman@officedepot.com](mailto:Melissa.Pperlman@officedepot.com)

Leon Rubin

JKG Group

561-989-9931, Ext 101

[lrubin@jkggroup.com](mailto:lrubin@jkggroup.com)

**OFFICE DEPOT TO CELEBRATE OPENING OF FIRST STORE  
IN MIAMI GARDENS, FLA., WITH MARCH 27 RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY**

*Event to Include Donations to Amigos for Kids, Miami Rescue Mission  
and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Miami;  
Remarks by Local Business and Government Officials*

**Miami Gardens, Fla., March 24, 2008** – Office Depot (NYSE: ODP), a leading global provider of office products and services, announced today that the Company will celebrate the opening of its first store in Miami Gardens on Thursday, March 27, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. The store is located at 19400 NW 27th Ave., at N.W. 195 St.

During the ribbon-cutting ceremony, the Office Depot Foundation will make \$500 contributions and donate a number of new children's backpacks to three local non-profit organizations: Amigos for Kids, Miami Rescue Mission and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Miami. In addition, Shirlee Moreau-Lafleur, Deputy District Director for United States Congressman Kendrick Meek; Patricia Lightfoot, Legislative Assistant for State Senator Frederica Wilson; Miami Gardens Mayor Shirley Gibson; City Councilmen Melvin Bratton and Andre' Williams; and Eric Knowles, Chairman of the Board for the Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce, will offer welcoming remarks. The public is invited to attend the event.

**About the New Office Depot Store in Miami Gardens**

According to Store Manager Lazaro Hernandez, the new Miami Gardens store features Office Depot's industry-leading M2 retail format. M2 offers customers the most enjoyable shopping experience in the industry – in a format that is intuitive, logical and designed specifically for the way people make purchase decisions.

Products are grouped in highly visible, strategically located "pods," with core supplies at the outer perimeter of the store – signed for optimal visibility and easy purchase – and furniture and technology at the center – to better support consultative sales.

The new Office Depot store employs approximately 20 full- and part-time associates. It houses more than 7,500 technology, furniture and supply products as well as Design, Print and Ship services in 18,760 square feet of customer space.

Store hours are Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; and Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The telephone number for the store is 305-474-8232.

### **About the Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony**

Special guests scheduled to participate in the March 27 ribbon-cutting include:

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

- Rosa Maria Plasencia, Executive Director, Amigos for Kids
- Marilyn Brummitt, Director of Community Development, Miami Rescue Mission
- Mia Landrin, Cause Related Marketing Manager, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Miami

#### **Federal Officials:**

- Shirlee Moreau-Lafleur, Deputy District Director for United States Congressman Kendrick Meek

#### **State Official:**

- Patricia Lightfoot, Legislative Assistant for State Senator Frederica Wilson

#### **City of Miami Gardens Officials:**

- Mayor Shirley Gibson
- Councilman Melvin Bratton
- Councilman Andre' Williams
- Councilman Oliver Gilbert
- Dr. Danny O. Crew, City Manager

#### **Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce Representative:**

- Eric Knowles, Chairman of the Board

“Office Depot is strongly committed to enhancing the quality of life in the communities in which our company conducts business,” said Hernandez. “We are excited to open our first store in Miami Gardens and to assist these critically important non-profit organizations in their efforts to make a meaningful difference in the lives of children and families in this area.”

The backpack donations are part of the Office Depot Foundation National Backpack Program, through which it will donate 300,000 new backpacks this year to non-profit organizations and schools for distribution to deserving children throughout the United States and Canada. By the end of this year, Office Depot will have given away nearly 1.8 million backpacks since the program began in 2001.

### **About Office Depot**

Every day, 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 products and services to its customers through more than 1,600 worldwide retail stores, a dedicated sales force, top-rated catalogs and a \$4.9 billion e-commerce operation. Office Depot has annual sales of approximately \$15.5 billion, and employs about 49,000 associates around the world. The Company provides more office products and services to more customers in more countries than any other company, and currently sells to customers directly or through affiliates in 43 countries.

Office Depot's common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol ODP and is included in the S&P 500 Index. Additional press information can be found at

<http://mediarelations.officedepot.com>. Details and images specific to Office Depot's retail division are available at <http://mediarelations.officedepot.cc/m2>.

#### **About the Office Depot Foundation**

The Office Depot Foundation is an independent foundation that serves as the primary charitable giving arm of Office Depot. In keeping with its mission, Listen Learn Care, the Foundation strives to make a positive impact on many lives in many communities around the world. The Foundation supports a variety of programs that enhance the quality of life for children, strengthen communities, encourage local and global economic growth, and empower schools and non-profit organizations. It also provides support when disasters strike – doing what it can, not only to speed the process of rebuilding, but also to mitigate the impact of future disasters. Visit [www.officedepotfoundation.org](http://www.officedepotfoundation.org) for more information.

#### **About Amigos for Kids**

Amigos for Kids™ is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation founded in 1991 to respond to the diverse needs of South Florida's abused, abandoned and less-fortunate children and their families, through education, abuse prevention and community involvement. To fulfill its mission, Amigos for Kids relies on the support of compassionate volunteers and donors throughout the community. The organization creates awareness of its cause through public service campaigns and high-profile fundraising events such as the ING Miami Celebrity Domino Night '07.

#### **About Miami Rescue Mission**

Miami Rescue Mission is reaching out to the least, the last and the lost of the community to inspire hope with human compassion and the love of God. It is the vision of Miami Rescue Mission to utilize the best technology and resources to move an increasing number of homeless individuals from isolation to inclusion, as accountable and productive members of the community. Through the generosity of the community, the organization is able to meet the needs of poor, hungry and homeless people in South Florida.

#### **About Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Miami**

Big Brothers Big Sisters is the oldest and largest youth mentoring organization in the United States, now celebrating its 100-year anniversary. BBBS of Greater Miami, founded in 1958, is one of the largest local agencies in the country, serving more than 7,000 local children, volunteers and families through professionally supported, one-to-one relationships with caring adult volunteers.

###