



Northstar Lottery Group Partners with Local Organizations to Provide Backpacks for Students

For Immediate Release

Contact: Chanele Newton (312) 368-5814

Springfield, IL – August 8, 2013 – Just in time for the back to school season, Northstar Lottery Group, the private manager of the Illinois Lottery, has partnered with Black Diamond Harley Davidson and One in a Million Inc. to provide backpacks for children returning to school in the fall.

Black Diamond Harley Davidson, Northstar and Bright Start – the State of Illinois’ college savings program has joined forces to provide students in Marion, Illinois with 1,500 backpacks filled with school supplies. ***The Black Diamond Backpack Giveaway***, taking place Saturday, August 10, will also feature free haircuts, teeth cleaning and health screenings.

Just three days later, on Tuesday, August 13, One in a Million Inc. will present their ***13th Annual Start Smart Back to School and Health Fair*** at Sangamon County Department of Public Health. The non-profit organization has partnered with Northstar, Springfield Urban League, Sangamon County Department of Public Health, and other organizations to provide backpacks, school supplies, physicals and immunizations free of charge to disadvantaged students. This year’s Start Smart event will assist between 200-300 students from 10 area schools.

“Northstar is pleased to enable these students to return to school fully equipped and ready to learn,” said Marco Tasso, President and CEO of Northstar Lottery Group. “Although a small gesture, this will make a dynamic impact on their school year.”

Northstar Lottery Group has been committed to community service since July 2011, when it officially became the private manager of the Illinois Lottery. Northstar sponsors various charitable programs and has opened seven After School Advantage computer labs around the state in Chicago, Lockport, Washington Park, (near East St. Louis) Beardstown and Paris. These labs are fully equipped with computer hardware, software, online technology and furniture. Each lab is fully operational during after school hours, providing a safe and enriching environment for children and teens in these communities.

###

Black Diamond Harley Davidson

Black Diamond Harley Davidson is the largest Harley Davidson dealership in the Midwest and the only dealership that is also a lottery retailer.

Bright Start

Bright Start College Savings is a Section 529 education savings program created and administered by the State of Illinois. It allows account holders to save for the cost of education in a Bright Start College Savings account without paying taxes on earnings. Learn more and enroll at www.brightstartsavings.com.

One in a Million Inc.

One In a Million Inc. provides support to African-Americans and other disadvantaged communities and schools in Springfield.



[Northstar Lottery Group](#)

Northstar Lottery Group is a consortium of best-in-class companies with more than 50 years combined experience in Illinois. Northstar Group is led by a partnership between GTECH Corporation and Scientific Games Corporation.