



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**BANTERRA BANK LAUNCHES A SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE
TO BENEFIT MULTIPLE SCHOOLS AND ORGANIZATIONS**

Marion, IL – Banterra Bank has launched a School Supply Drive that will take place companywide until September 26th. The Banterra School Supply Drive was initiated by Banterra employees and the company is extending an invitation to customers and local residents to join the effort. The supplies collected will be given to schools and organizations that assist school-aged children within our communities, such as Gum Drops, a non-profit charity that feeds more than 1,300 at-risk children every week of the school year. Gum Drops is in six counties, 14 different school districts, and 37 schools throughout Southern Illinois.

“A part of Banterra’s mission is to provide long-term value for customers, employees and shareholders and part of that is by serving the communities where we live and work,” said Jeff May, President for Banterra Bank. “Banterra supports our area schools in several ways and I am pleased that we are offering an opportunity for our customers and employees to continue that support by providing supplies to schools and organizations with particular needs.”

Each Banterra branch location is collecting supplies for a school or organization of their choice that assists children within their community. For details on the specific school, organization or items accepted, please visit your local Banterra branch.

The drive was kicked off by employees on August 15th. Internally, Banterra is promoting “School Supply Drive Fridays” to their employees, allowing staff to wear jeans on Fridays when they bring a donation that week.

Banterra Bank began as a single bank in Ridgway, Illinois in July of 1975. Today, Banterra the largest, locally-owned bank in the region with just under \$1.3 billion in assets and more than 30 locations in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Missouri. For more information, contact us at 866-BANTERRA (226-8377), or go to www.banterra.com.

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