



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Multi-Agency "Stuff the Bus" Food Drive Collects 25,000 Pounds of Food!

(Stockton, CA) – San Joaquin Regional Transit District (RTD) and its partners collected 25,000 pounds of food at the 13th Annual Stuff the Bus food drive November 18-20. This year's Stuff the Bus was even bigger and better than last year's with three local transit agencies joining RTD: Lodi Grapeline, Manteca Transit, and Escalon eTrans. RTD led a countywide effort to hold simultaneous food drives in each city, using local staff, volunteers, and vehicles, to collect food for a nonprofit agency in each community: the Emergency Food Bank of Stockton/San Joaquin, Salvation Army of Lodi, Second Harvest Food Bank of Manteca, and Escalon CARE.

Individually, each organization collected: 10,635 lbs. (RTD); 8,170 lbs. (Lodi Grapeline); 5,483 lbs. (Manteca Transit); and 708 lbs. (Escalon eTrans). Together, the food these four agencies collected will provide 20,000 meals! This year the local communities were even more generous in giving as RTD, Lodi Grapeline, the City of Manteca, and Escalon eTrans collected almost two tons more food than in 2010.

For this year's campaign, RTD partnered with Cumulus Broadcasting, The Record newspaper, Food4Less, and Big Boy Market. Cumulus Broadcasting promoted the campaign with live on-site broadcasts, promotional appearances, and public service announcements. The Record promoted the drive through event advertising. Food4Less stores in Manteca, Lodi, and on Lower Sacramento Road in Stockton, along with Big Boy market in Escalon, hosted the three-day drive.

In addition to thanking its campaign partners for their continued support, RTD would like to give special thanks to a few of the organizations and people who helped make this year's food drive a success. (This is by no means a comprehensive list.):

- All the Stuff the Bus participants and event volunteers and staff who pitched in
- Lodi Grapeline, Manteca Transit, and Escalon eTrans
- Amanda King and Lucas, Maui Hernandez, Alexia, and their generous listeners, and the KWIN and KJOY staff
- Emergency Food Bank of Stockton/San Joaquin, Second Harvest Food Bank, Salvation Army of Lodi, and Escalon CARE staff and volunteers for their support

RTD is proud to serve our community through the annual Stuff the Bus food drive and to have led a group of local transit agencies that, by working together, are able to benefit so many local residents who are in need this holiday season.

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