



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Multi-Agency "Stuff the Bus" Food Drive Collects Over 20 Tons of Food!

(Stockton, CA) – San Joaquin Regional Transit District (RTD) and its partners collected over 20 tons of food at the 12th Annual "Stuff the Bus" food drive November 12-14. This year's Stuff the Bus was bigger and better with two local transit agencies – Lodi Grapeline and Manteca Transit - joining RTD to hold simultaneous food drives in each city, using local staff, volunteers, and vehicles, to collect food for a non-profit agency in each community: the Emergency Food Bank of Stockton/San Joaquin, Salvation Army Lodi Corps, and Second Harvest Food Bank of Manteca.

RTD's Stockton food drive collected 27,700 pounds of food, which included a very generous donation of 19,000 pounds of food from the Grocery Depot. Lodi Grapeline collected a total of nearly 6,500 pounds of food and Manteca Transit collected 6,200 pounds of food donations. Together, the three agencies collected a total of over 40,000 pounds of food, which will provide over 30,000 meals! Last year, RTD collected over 8,000 pounds of food at the Stuff the Bus food drive held at just one location in Stockton. This year, by working together, RTD, Lodi Grapeline, and the City of Manteca collected five times more food for non-profit agencies serving meals throughout San Joaquin County.

For this year's campaign, RTD partnered with Citadel Broadcasting, The Record newspaper, and Food4Less. Citadel Broadcasting promoted the campaign with live on-site broadcasts, promotional appearances, and public service announcements. The Record promoted the drive through event advertising. Food4Less hosted the 3-day drive at their stores in Manteca, Lodi, and on Hammer Lane and Lower Sacramento Road in Stockton.

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 generously helped make RTD's food drive a success. (This is by no means a comprehensive list, however):

- All the "Stuff the Bus" participants
- Amanda King and Lucas, Maui Hernandez, Alexia, and their generous listeners, and the KWIN and KJOY staff
- All the event volunteers and staff who pitched in throughout the drive
- Emergency Food Bank of Stockton/San Joaquin, Second Harvest Food Bank, and the Salvation Army Food Bank staff and volunteers for their support
- The Grocery Depot for donating 19,000 pounds of grocery items
- Tim Ulmer Photography for event photography

RTD is proud to serve our community through the annual Stuff the Bus food drive and is proud 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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