

On July 20th the community came together to Stuff the Bus!

Pensacola Fl.-

On July 20, Stuff the Bus collected thousands of school supplies outside local Walmarts and raised nearly \$25,000 in funds to help local students receive the tools they need for the coming school year.

"(UWWF) works directly with Escambia and Santa Rosa County schools to collect school supplies to ensure students are off to a good start," said Laura Gilliam, President/CEO of United Way of West Florida. "After the drive, the school's administration determines and distributes the products to the appropriate students."

UWWF partners with Escambia County Public Schools (ECPS), Santa Rosa County District Schools (SRCDS), Cat Country 98.7, NewsRadio 92.3, Pensacola News Journal, and WEAR Cares to implement Stuff the Bus.

"The Escambia County School district is so appreciative to partners who provide school supplies to our students through the Stuff the Bus event. Stuff the Bus allows our students to be successful in furthering their education by providing them opportunities some never thought possible," Chris McFarland, Coordinator, Student Assignment, Home Education, and Student Records ECPS

Parents who need supplies for their students should reach out to their child's school in either county for more information on the distribution of supplies. The process may vary based on the district and the school.

"Santa Rosa County District Schools is so proud of how our community came together in support of our students. Many students in our community will benefit from the school supplies that were collected during this year's Stuff the Bus event. We appreciate the efforts of our community to help us in our mission to love, educate, and prepare all students for graduation and a successful future." Dr. Tonya Shepherd, Public Information and Family and Community Outreach Officer SRCDS.

If you would like to make a gift, visit www.uwwf.org/school850 until July 31.

Sponsors

Stuff the Bus would not be possible without the generosity of local businesses who sponsor the event. United Way of West Florida would like to thank these companies for their support.

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For photos from the event, visit www.uwwf.org/stb23.

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About UWWF: *United Way of West Florida unites our community and leverages resources to improve lives. Through resources, advocacy, and volunteerism, United Way of West Florida works to strengthen the education, financial stability, and health of everyone in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties. Learn more about United Way of West Florida at uwwf.org.*