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NEWS– FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Solano’s Stuff the Bus Backpack Drive Success

FAIRFIELD – This year’s countywide Stuff the Bus campaign, held June 28 – July 28, 2018, proved to be another huge success. Backpacks continued to arrive through mid-September. Due to this outpouring of our local community, we were able to collect 761 backpacks for our homeless and foster youth, an increase from the 312 backpacks collected in 2017. “We appreciate the commitment from our Solano County community partners. Together we are working to create opportunities for our deserving youth,” says Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson.

Stuff the Bus is an annual drive held throughout the Nation as a means of better preparing the homeless and foster care population with a more positive return to school. Solano County schools have identified 1,545 homeless students and 336 foster students.

Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) Foster and Homeless Youth Services partners with many local organizations. These community members generosity give the use of their facilities as collection locations for backpacks, school supplies, monetary donations, and gift cards which helped us serve Solano County’s foster and homeless youth. Our partners this year included: the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Solano County, Educational Partnership Foundation of Solano, FedEx Ground, K to College-Supply Bank.org, Sutter Medical Group, Sutter Solano Medical Center, North Bay Schools Insurance Company, the Wednesday Club of Suisun, and Volunteers of America.

We greatly appreciate all the help and support from our community and business partners who help organize and stuff the backpacks to ensure they were ready to distribute to our youth on or before the first day of school. We could not have done it without them.

Backpacks were distributed to each of our school districts within Solano County, including Rio Vista. In addition, we were able to support group homes with backpacks and school supplies for youth residing in their facilities.

For more information, please contact the SCOE’s Foster and Homeless Youth Services at (707) 399-4812.

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