



P.O. Box 910  
Redwood City, CA 94064-0910  
Tel: (650) 363-1725  
Web: [www.smcu.org](http://www.smcu.org)

**CONTACT:**  
Richard Villareal  
San Mateo Credit Union  
(650) 562-1233  
[rvillareal@smcu.org](mailto:rvillareal@smcu.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **San Mateo Credit Union's Seventh Annual Backpack Drive Helps Area Children Gear Up for School**

**REDWOOD CITY, CA**—For the past seven years, the management and staff of San Mateo Credit Union (SMCU) have marked the back-to-school season by collecting backpacks and filling them with school supplies for local students. This year, employees and members brought in 73 backpacks for the seventh annual Backpack Drive.

To enhance awareness of the drive, SMCU donated a backpack for every new youth account opened during the month of August. As a result of these combined efforts, a total of 121 backpacks were given to school children at Fair Oaks Elementary, Hoover Elementary, and Garfield Elementary—an amount that nearly doubles the number of backpacks donated during last year's drive.

"The enthusiasm for this annual event is always so heartening," said Richard Villareal, SMCU's Financial Education Representative. "Employees from all six of our branches, as well as from the Administrative Office, jumped in to help, and their contributions enabled us to bring smiles to the faces of so many children."

The SMCU Backpack Drive reflects the credit union philosophy of *People Helping People*. Added Villareal, "Providing young members of the community with the tools they need to succeed in school benefits the community at large. Helping to give them a brighter future is a reward that we all share."

### **About San Mateo Credit Union (SMCU)**

Founded in 1952, SMCU is a member-owned financial institution that currently serves more than 72,000 individuals and manages nearly \$600 million in assets. Six conveniently located branches, enhanced by a sophisticated online banking system, bring a full range of financial services within easy access of local communities. For more information or to find the nearest branch, visit [www.smcu.org](http://www.smcu.org) or call Direct Assist at (650) 363-1725 Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and on Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.