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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**San Mateo Credit Union's Eighth Annual Backpack Drive
Surpasses Previous Years' Successes**

REDWOOD CITY, CA—For the past eight years, San Mateo Credit Union (SMCU) has collected backpacks and filled them with school supplies for local students. Thanks to the generous efforts of staff, management, and credit union members, 102 backpacks were brought in this year, surpassing all totals for previous Back2School Backpack Drives.

Children at Fair Oaks Elementary, Hoover Elementary, and Garfield Elementary were the recipients of the fully stocked backpacks, which provided all the essentials necessary to get them off to a great academic start.

“The students are always so thrilled to get the backpacks,” said Richard Villareal, SMCU’s Financial Education Representative. “The folks who collect them always make sure to include the latest trends, so we had everything from Hello Kitty and Paul Frank to bright graphics and basic black. There wasn’t a single kid who couldn’t find a favorite in the mix. They’re excited even before they open up the backpacks to see all the supplies tucked inside.”

The SMCU Backpack Drive is just one of the many ways the credit union gives back to the communities it serves, and employees are always encouraged to volunteer their time and efforts to assist those who are less fortunate. Continued Villareal, “By giving of ourselves to help others, we help raise the level of social and economic well-being, strengthen ties, and create a sense of personal accomplishment. When we reach out to the youngest members of the community, our hope is to instill values of giving that they will carry into the future and pay forward.”

About San Mateo Credit Union (SMCU)

Founded in 1952, SMCU is a member-owned financial institution that currently serves more than 68,000 individuals and manages more than \$600 million in assets. Eight conveniently located branches, enhanced by a sophisticated online banking system, bring a full range of financial services within easily access. For more information or to locate a branch, visit www.smcu.org or call San Mateo Credit Union’s Contact Center at (650) 363-1725 Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and on Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

