

Devereux

COMMUNITY BASED CARE OF OKEECHOBEE & THE TREASURE COAST

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News & Media

Stuff the Bus this Saturday

Port St. Lucie – Devereux Community Based Care invites the community to Stuff the Bus from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. this Saturday, July 15, at the Port St. Lucie Wal-Mart on US 1.

The event, now in its 13th year, is part of the United Way of St. Lucie County's Tools for Schools St. Lucie drive, which collects paper, pencils, crayons and other school supplies for needy children from the parking lots of St. Lucie County WalMart stores.

Devereux CBC, which will host the US 1 site, will receive enough supply-stuffed backpacks for more than 300 children in the dependency – or child-welfare – system. This year's greatest needs include rulers, erasers, composition books, pocket folders and backpacks.

"We received a very large donation from Publix this year that included some of the more common items, like crayons and loose-leaf paper," said Christina Kaiser, Tools for School St. Lucie committee member and community relations director for Devereux CBC. "But we always seem to come up short on things like composition books and rulers."

The Publix donation is partly responsible for the large increase in the number of children being served this year, said Jessica Parrish, United Way of St. Lucie County director of collaborative impact and event coordinator.

"We will serve 9,500 children this year – a 48 percent increase from last year," Parrish said.

Ideally, the Tools for Schools St. Lucie committee would like to serve all students eligible for free or reduced lunch in St. Lucie County.

"Right now, we're serving about a quarter of those students," Parrish said. "So, get out there and stuff those buses!"

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