



**United Way
of San Diego County**

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United Way & Promises2Kids Collect 1,800 Pieces of Sports Equipment for San Diego's Abused and Neglected Children

SAN DIEGO, CALIF. – May 6, 2010 – San Diegans showed their support for the health and well-being of thousands of abused and neglected children by donating more than 1,800 new items of sports equipment during United Way's third annual "Stuff the Bus!" sports equipment drive. The community collection effort which benefits Promises2Kids, culminated in a live drive at the Westfield Mission Valley Sports Chalet where donors stuffed a 40-foot yellow school bus full of equipment including basketballs, footballs, baseball bats, and more. Promises2Kids will distribute the donations to more than 40 community-based organizations such as Casa de Amparo, Walden Family Services and San Diego Center for Children.

Professional athletes, including Steve Gregory and Eric Weddle of the San Diego Chargers and Stephen Neal of the New England Patriots, were on hand to meet and greet donors who brought sports equipment to the Sat., May 1, collection event. College athletes were also available to assist with donation collection and greet the public.

Due to limited financial resources and family turmoil, San Diego's abused and neglected children, many of whom live in foster care, are unable to have what other kids have. The resulting sense of exclusion can be devastating for children who have already experienced so much disruption in their lives. United Way's "Stuff the Bus!" drive helps to provide equipment for these children to enjoy activities most take for granted such as soccer, Little League baseball, softball, and swimming.

"The sports equipment we have received from area residents and businesses shows our kids that someone cares about them and their well-being," says Hon. Susan Golding, chief executive officer and president of Promises2Kids. "The equipment will give them a chance to have what others have."

"We hope that with this equipment, these kids can connect with the joy of sports, stay fit, and build a better sense of self," said Doug Sawyer, president and chief executive officer, United Way of San Diego County. "With summer almost here, it's what every child needs and deserves."

Stuff the Bus! was also supported by Sports Chalet, Westfield Mission Valley, Boyer Moving & Storage, 619sports.net and [San Diego News Network \(SDNN.com\)](http://SanDiegoNewsNetwork.com).

About Promises2Kids

Originally founded as the Child Abuse Prevention Foundation of San Diego County,

Promises2Kids, also known as The Polinsky Children's Center Foundation, is a 29-year-old nonprofit organization. Since 1981, Promises2Kids has led the fight against child abuse and neglect in the County of San Diego. No other organization in the area offers such a broad array of support systems, nor does any other organization in the area offer such a wealth of opportunity to connect with a wide variety of resources, programs, and collaborative partners focused on eliminating child abuse. The Chief Executive Officer and President of Promises2Kids is the former two-term Mayor of San Diego Susan Golding. For a complete list of volunteer opportunities or more information, please visit www.promises2kids.org, [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).

About United Way of San Diego County

United Way of San Diego County is a nonprofit organization that for 90 years has improved lives by mobilizing the community and raising funds to solve Education, Income and Health issues. The United Way movement creates long lasting community change by addressing the underlying causes of problems that prevent progress in these areas. LIVE UNITED is a call to action for everyone to become part of the change. To learn more about the United Way of San Diego County, visit www.uwsd.org or [Facebook](#).

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