

Dec. 10, 2007

SCAT 'Stuff-a-Bus' will trade a free ride for food bank donation

Sarasota County Area Transit (SCAT) will "Stuff-a-Bus" with food for the needy, and offer free rides in exchange for food donations Wednesday-Friday, Dec. 12-14. All the donations will be delivered by a SCAT bus to the local All Faiths Food Bank on Dec. 20.

This is the first time SCAT has undertaken a holiday food drive. "The need is especially great this year with the downturn in the economy and particularly the construction industry," said SCAT General Manager Anthony Beckford. "We wanted to do our part to ensure that some area families have enough to eat this holiday season."

SCAT will offer a free one-way ride on any of its fixed routes Wednesday-Friday in exchange for a can, jar or box of food. The food bank's most needed items are peanut butter, canned fruit, beef stew with potatoes, ravioli, spaghetti with meat sauce, baked beans or canned tuna, salmon and chicken.

All Faiths Food Bank provides more than 240,000 meals a month through its over 200 partner agencies in Sarasota and DeSoto counties.

For more information on the "Stuff-a-Bus" promotion, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000 and ask for SCAT.