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## Packing Love for Foster Care Children

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Packing Love for Foster Care Children**

**CEDARVILLE, OHIO** – More than 800 High school and middle school students, attending LIFT camp at Cedarville University this week, are making a difference in our local communities. Tonight, in a 7 p.m. program in the Dixon Ministry Center at Cedarville University, more than 100 suitcases will be given to children in the foster care system from Butler County, Ohio. There are 455 children in the foster care system in Butler County and 130 are waiting to be adopted.

Cedarville University is partnering with LIFT camp and Butler County Children's Services to raise awareness for foster care children and families. Butler County Commissioner Cindy Carpenter and a representative from Family Services of Butler County will attend Thursday evening's services, along with many foster care families and children who will be presented with the luggage.

With Butler County foster children in attendance tonight, Cedarville University President Thomas White is expected to give details of the University's full-tuition scholarship for one foster student. Cedarville began its foster student scholarship last year with Trina Jones of Xenia, Ohio being awarded the scholarship.

Cedarville President, Dr. Thomas White, feels strongly about adoption. He and his family have been personally engaged through the adoption of their daughter Rachel. "Adoption is at the heart of the gospel," says White. "The Gospel allows orphans to become heirs and slaves to become sons of God through Jesus Christ." Additionally White said, "Through Cedarville University's Foster Care Scholarship, we answer God's call to care for the widows and orphans by providing a

student with an education from a biblical worldview and welcoming them into the Cedarville family."

On Wednesday evening, the Lift camp students raised \$3,400 to purchase suitcases, and some students chose to give the suitcase they brought to camp this week for the cause. "Most of these [foster care] children are packing their belongings in trash bags and moving an average of 12 times over the course of 15 years." said LIFT camp regional director Rob Rosenbalm. "This reality has moved us to do something."

LIFT camp has been hosted by Cedarville University for the past 15 years and is sponsored by LIFT Student Ministries of Dallas, Texas. The camp averages 800 students each year who gather for one week to engage in Scripture and minister to the community in various ways. LIFT Student Ministries has served nearly 50,000 students nationwide since 1994 years.

Located in southwest Ohio, Cedarville University attracts 3,400 undergraduate, graduate and online students to more than 100 areas of study. Inspiring greatness for more than 125 years, Cedarville is a Christ-centered learning community recognized nationally for rigorous academic programs, strong graduation and retention rates, accredited professional and health science offerings and leading student satisfaction ratings. Visit the University online at [www.cedarville.edu](http://www.cedarville.edu).