

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 13, 2016

Contact: <u>Aaron Snell</u>, Community Information Officer, 425-508-8854

Local police and Target present the 2nd Annual Heroes & Helpers, a magical event for underprivileged children

Everett, WA - Local law enforcement will spend time with local children for a holiday shopping experience at Everett's Target.

On December 13th, 27 officers from Everett Police Department, SCSO and Mill Creek PD will team up with Everett Target for the 2nd Annual Heroes & Helpers Event. This event will sponsor over 77 Snohomish County children by providing them gifts for the holidays.

"We want to create a memorable night for children who might not otherwise experience the Holiday Season. It's such an amazing event not only for these children and their families, but for the police officers as well. It's also an opportunity to create a positive, trusting relationship between children and local law enforcement." said event organizer Det. Jamie French. "This great feat couldn't happen without donations, volunteers, police officers, and Target."

The children will get goody bags, photos with Santa, enjoy a pizza dinner and cookies, and then shop with a police officer. Selected children have been recommended by referrals from area social service providers. The children age range is from three months to 17 years-old.

Heroes & Helpers, also known as Shop with a Cop in other communities, is sponsored by the Everett Police Officers Association and Everett Target. This event is funded purely by donations from police officers, civilian employees, family members of local police officers, and their friends.