

Andrew MillsChief of Police

City of Eureka

Eureka Police Department

604 C Street, Eureka, CA 95501 (707) 441-4060 FAX: (707) 441-4334 Facebook: www.facebook.com/eurekapd Twitter: https://twitter.com/Eureka_Police Website: www.eurekapd.net

News Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date of Incident/Event: 12/20/14 **Time:** 8:00 AM

Location: Betty Kwan Chinn Day Center (634 C St.)

Target (2525 4th St.)

Type/Subject: Shop with a Cop Event

Case Number:

Contact: Captain Steve Watson

Police Services Officer Brittany Powell

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Date of Media Release: 12/20/14

Prepared by: Captain Watson

On Saturday, December 20, 2014, Chief Andrew Mills and a dozen members of the Eureka Police and Humboldt Bay Fire Departments had the great privilege of taking 12 underprivileged children to "Shop with a Cop" at Target in Eureka. The event began at 8:00 AM at the Betty Kwan Chinn Day Center where the participating officers, firefighters, and children shared donuts, milk and juice. The children were then transported to Target via a motorcade of police and fire emergency vehicles.

Each child was partnered up with a police officer or firefighter and given an allowance of over \$100.00 to shop for Christmas presents. Betty Chinn and staff members from her Day Center were also on hand. Funding for this event was obtained through donations and ticket sales from the EPD/HBF cornhole fundraising match held earlier in the week. In all, over \$1,200.00 was raised toward the event. Target also offered the children a 20% discount on their purchases.

Several shoppers caught up in the holiday spirit spontaneously gave money to the event. One customer paid for the entire contents of the cart of a child behind him in the checkout line. Another gave all the money left in his wallet and then returned and bought



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a Target gift card for the children as well.

After returning to the Betty Kwan Chinn Day Center, one of the children led the others in singing "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" to the cops and firefighters before they parted ways. There were a lot of hugs and smiles around.

9 members of EPD and a 3 person HBF engine company participated in the event. One officer later described the experience as being, "One of the biggest highlights of my year."

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