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Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office Brings Holiday Cheer to Hundreds in Need

Charlotte, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) has been spreading holiday joy throughout the community with a series of impactful events aimed at helping families in need during this festive season. From providing children with unforgettable shopping sprees to ensuring families have warm meals and gifts under the tree, MCSO's commitment to serving its community has shone brighter than ever.

"Shop with a Sheriff" – Kids Edition

On Saturday, Dec. 7, MCSO hosted its 4th annual Shop with a Sheriff – Kids Edition at the Target off Metropolitan Avenue. There, our officers accompanied 50 children from Thomasboro Academy on a shopping spree to remember. Each child was given a \$200 gift card to purchase whatever their hearts desired, from toys and games to clothes and accessories. The smiles and full shopping carts were a testament to the joy brought by this cherished tradition.

"Shop with a Sheriff" – Adult Edition

On Saturday, Dec. 14, MCSO held its 3rd annual Shop with a Sheriff – Adult Edition at Jail North. Transformed into a winter wonderland with glittering decorations, the facility became a hub of holiday cheer, where parents were invited to "shop" for gifts for their children. Stocked with toys, clothing, and other presents for all ages, the event ensured that at least 100 families could enjoy a holiday filled with love and surprises.

Partnership with Harris Teeter

Adding to the holiday magic during Shop with a Sheriff – Adult Edition, MCSO’s Community Engagement (CE) team partnered with Harris Teeter, which generously provided 250 boxes of holiday food favorites, including items, such as candied yams, mac and cheese, stuffing, chicken, fish, and desserts. Ahead of the event, CE and our Detention Officer recruit class packed and assembled the boxes, which were later distributed to the families.

Hurricane Relief Efforts

MCSO’s dedication extended beyond the local community this holiday season. On Monday, Dec. 16, our CE team traveled to Asheville that’s still recovering from the effects of Hurricane Helene. The officers delivered 200 coats and truckloads of toys and bikes to families and children in need, but this was just one of many trips CE has taken to support the hurricane-affected communities around Western, N.C.

These events highlight the agency’s steady commitment to serving the community in meaningful ways.

“It’s heartbreaking to know we have kids in our community who won’t experience the holidays the way many of us do,” Sheriff Garry McFadden said. “We are so grateful to be able to bring Christmas to children and their families every year. The stories we hear, it’s truly unbelievable.”

As the year comes to a close, MCSO looks forward to building on its successes and setting even bigger goals for 2025.

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