

## PRESS RELEASE

## Shop With A Cop Brings Cheer to Local Children for the Holidays

In partnership with the Cornelius Walmart and Cornelius Fred Meyer, underprivileged children enjoyed the opportunity this week to go holiday shopping with Sheriff's Deputies serving the City of Cornelius as well as officers from the Forest Grove Police Department.

On December 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> a total of 55 local children participated in the "Shop with a Cop" program. This annual holiday event partners deputies and officers with each child so they may select gifts for their family members. In addition to shopping for their family, each child received wrapped items from their own wish list. Children participating in these events were nominated with the assistance from local schools.

"It means so much to our students who get selected to 'Shop with a Cop'," said Fern Hill School Counselor, Jessica Sifers. "Not only do these kids get to go shopping for presents for their families, but they also learn that a police officer can be a resource for advice and be there when they need a friend."

The annual "Shop with a Cop" event is made possible through generous donations provided by community partners, including:

- Cornelius Fred Meyer
- Cornelius Walmart
- Sheriff's Office Foundation of Washington County, Oregon
- Washington County Police Officer's Association (WCPOA)
- US Bank
- Sonic Drive-In
- People Helping People
- Forest Grove McDonald's

Foundation President Sal DiGrande said, "The Sheriff's Office Foundation is proud to be a sponsor of the Shop with a Cop event. Partnering children together with law enforcement fosters a trusting relationship that will remain with them throughout their lives."