



CITY OF HARRISONBURG
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HPD's Shop with a Cop Seeks to Brighten Holidays for Local Kids

HARRISONBURG, Va. – The Harrisonburg Police Department (HPD) will continue its annual tradition of spreading joy to those in need this holiday season with its Shop with a Cop event.

The event, which will take place at Valley Mall on Wednesday, Dec. 15, has been made possible since 2016 by the support and generosity of the Harrisonburg Police Foundation. It's a great opportunity every year for HPD Officers and support staff to provide gifts, a meal and pictures with Santa to children in our community who may otherwise go without.

HPD, in conjunction with Harrisonburg City Public Schools, Boys and Girls Club and Harrisonburg Social Services, are able to identify families in need and offer them an opportunity to participate in this event.

"The focus this holiday season is to provide a positive holiday experience for children and their families – especially helping those facing greater economic impact," Harrisonburg Police Foundation Chairman David Jackson said. "Our intent has been to raise more funds this year than what was historically done and increase the number of children and families benefited by this initiative, and we accomplished this."

For HPD, the opportunity to make greater connections with members of the community while having a positive impact on their holidays is something every member of the department treasures.

"This is such an awesome night... not only for the kids, but the officers," HPD Chief Kelley Warner said. "Police Officers spend time with the youth of our community having a meal and then buying something unique for that child. And we could not do it without the Harrisonburg Police Foundation. Their fundraising and donations collected throughout the year allow us to have this special night with the children of Harrisonburg. Anytime we can begin to build relationships with young people, it's a win."

To make donations to the effort and find out more about Shop with a Cop and other community-focused programs supported by the Harrisonburg Police Foundation, go to <https://harrisonburgpolicefoundation.org/>.

The Harrisonburg Police Foundation was formed in 2010. Their mission is to raise awareness of the role of HPD in our community by promoting positive police and community relations between the department and area businesses, civic organizations, and Individuals.