**Utah County Shop with a Cop**

**Main-Topic 1: About Us**

**Mission Statement**: "Making a difference in a child's life"

Welcome to the official website of Utah County's annual "Shop with a Cop" event! Our goal is to make a difference in the lives of children in need within our community by creating a fun, supportive day that builds positive relationships between young people and law enforcement officers. We try to make it so that every year, in December, generally the first or second Saturday of the month, we can make the children's day and make them feel like they are enjoying the holiday season and give them a shopping experience for Christmas they will never forget.

**Why We Do What We Do**

The Utah County Shop with a Cop program was founded by Officers, Retail Workers and a hand full of Volunteers, on the principles of fostering trust, happiness, and a sense of relationship between children and law enforcement officers. Many of the families we serve face economic challenges and may have encountered law enforcement in less-than-positive situations due to some of those hardships. We believe that by connecting local youth with police officers in a fun, caring environment, we can help reshape the way children see law enforcement. Our mission is to foster trust, compassion, and understanding, paving the way for positive community relationships for years to come.

**Why Choose Utah County Shop with a Cop?**

Shop with a Cop Utah County is not just an event, it is a tradition, a tradition that unites a community and a chance to change lives. Unlike other events, our program is designed to foster meaningful, long-term change by addressing the unique needs of children and families in our area. We’re committed to building a supportive network between the community and law enforcement, and our hands-on, locally focused approach ensures that every dollar and every effort directly benefits children in Utah County.

**Main-Topic 2: Event Experience**

**How the Day Unfolds**

The day of the event, parents take their children to the Spanish Fork Walmart, who is kind enough to allow us to host our event in their store, early in the morning. Every kid is matched with a police officer, and they start their day off riding around the town in police cruisers looking at Christmas lights. This time in the morning is so much fun, the kids are all laughing, and excited and they get to ask the officers questions and they get to know them as a person.

**Breakfast**

After the tour all of the kids and officers meet at a local school cafeteria for breakfast. It also gives the kids a chance to meet other kids and feel more connected to their officers, making the experience much more friendly and inviting.

**Shopping**

Once breakfast is finished, everyone heads to a local Walmart, where each child has the opportunity to shop for holiday gifts. Each child receives a prepaid card loaded with donated funds, giving them the chance to pick out presents for themselves and their loved ones. They get to choose what they want, and it is something that is theirs, and they are proud of. It is a very exciting experience, and it is the true meaning of the holidays.

**Main-Topic 3: Getting Involved**

One of the many things that make Utah County Shop with a Cop so successful is the amount of community participation and giving. There are several ways you can contribute to the success of this event:

**Sign-Up for Families in Need**

If you are, or know, a family in need, you could register you child to attend this great experience. Our goal is to help as many children as possible experience the joy of giving and receiving during the holiday season. In our website you will find a complete application procedure so that all needy families will have a chance to participate.

**Volunteering**

Volunteering is an awesome way to really make a difference. We’re always looking for volunteers to help organize the event, assist during the breakfast, or provide logistical support throughout the day. Whether you’re part of a local business, a community organization, or simply a caring individual, your time and energy can make a significant difference in the lives of these children.

**Donations**

Community support is crucial in making this event possible. Your donations provide the money for the gift cards that the children use on their shopping spree, and any other costs related to the event. You can donate easily through our website, with one-time and recurring donations available to allow you to give as you see fit. Every dollar makes a difference and goes directly to supporting a child’s holiday experience.

**Main-Topic 4: Website Features**

**What You’ll Find on Our Website**

Our website is designed to be a comprehensive source of information and resources for everyone interested in Utah County Shop with a Cop.

**Event Overview**

This section provides detailed information about the history and purpose of the Utah County Shop with a Cop event. It has stories and accounts from past participants about the happiness and difference this day has made in the lives of children, as well as law enforcement officers.

**How to Apply**

For those families who need it, this is the easy process of how to register. It includes eligibility information, application instructions, and important deadlines.

**Volunteer Opportunities**

Learn more about ways to get involved as a volunteer, from helping with event logistics to assisting with the breakfast or the shopping experience. You can also find requirements, sign-up forms, and other helpful information here.

**Make a Donation**

This part offers some safe donations to the event. Donations are crucial to our mission, and we offer a variety of ways to give, including sponsoring a specific child or contributing to general event expenses.

**FAQs**

We know that people will ask how the event works, where the money goes, how they can participate, etc. These and other questions are answered in our Frequently Asked Questions section, which explains the application process, the volunteer opportunities available, where the money donated goes, and much more.

Thank you for visiting our website. We hope you’ll join us in making this holiday season brighter for the children who need it most.