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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE [10/28/2020]

## Mission: St. Louis hosts drive-thru style Affordable Christmas holiday event

St. Louis, MO. - Each year, Mission: St. Louis hosts an empowering holiday event that allows people to provide Christmas to their family. In the past, the Mission: St. Louis office on North Grand was transformed into a toy store for families to shop for gifts at a discounted rate. Due to COVID-19, the event will not be held inside the office but instead will be hosted in a drive-thru style in front of the building. Shoppers will not enter the building and will be assisted from their cars.

For \$5 a shopper can choose two gifts per child and can shop for up to six children. Winter wear items are also available for free. A list of toys will be available on our online store for shoppers to choose from. Once shoppers browse the online store and pick out toys. A team will bring the toys to their cars. Hot chocolate and donuts will be served to shoppers while they wait. Breakfast kits and wrapping paper will also be given to each family to enjoy at home.

Priority shopping is given to participants in Mission: St. Louis' Beyond School, Beyond Jobs and Beyond Charity programs, but the store is also open to community members. To apply for our shopping wait list, visit <u>www.missionstl.org/acform</u>. You must fill out the form prior to Nov. 30 to be considered for participation. If you are interested in volunteering, visit <u>www.missionstl.org/christmas</u>.

Mission: St. Louis is hoping to serve over 1,000 children from 300 local families. To help reach the goal of 3,500 toys, you can host a toy drive, donate a toy, or donate money directly through the website. For more information, visit <u>www.missionstl.org/christmas</u>.

The holiday event will take place December 10-12. All donations in support of this event should be made by Dec. 10.

For additional questions visit our website or contact Mary Reising at mary.reising@missionstl.org

**About Mission: St. Louis:** Mission: St. Louis is a nonprofit that is restoring the city by empowering people to transform their lives. We have made a strategic set of education and workforce development programs available to the people we serve. We walk alongside people as they work their way through our programs, empowering entire families to break the cycle of poverty.

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