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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mission: St. Louis offers Affordable Christmas holiday event to support 550 families

St. Louis, MO. - Each year, Mission: St. Louis hosts an empowering holiday event that allows people to provide Christmas for their family. The Mission: St. Louis office on North Grand is transformed into a toy store for families to shop for gifts at a discounted rate.

Caregivers can shop for up to six children and can spend up to \$4 per child. Gifts are donated by the community or purchased by Mission: St. Louis with funds donated for the cause. All toys are priced between \$1 and \$4 based on the retail price of the item. For example, dolls may be \$1 while larger items like bikes are \$4. Winter wear items are also available for free.

The event will be held on December 9<sup>th</sup> at 3108 N. Grand Blvd with the help of over 150 volunteers. Shoppers will experience the office as it is transformed into a toy store with holiday festivities like pictures with Santa, Christmas breakfast and gingerbread house making.

Priority shopping is given to participants in Mission: St. Louis' Beyond School, EACH1 and Beyond Charity programs, but the store is also open to community members.

Mission: St. Louis is hoping to serve over 1,200 children from 550 local families. To help reach the goal of 5,000 toys, bring a toy to one of our 40+ toy drive locations, donate a toy from our wishlist or donate money directly through the website. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.missionstl.org/christmas">www.missionstl.org/christmas</a>.

All donations in support of this event should be made by Dec. 8.

For additional questions or to volunteer please visit our website or contact Ashley Washburn at ashley@missionstl.org.

**About Mission: St. Louis:** Mission: St. Louis is a nonprofit that is restoring the city by empowering individuals for social and economic growth through relationship and opportunity. We have made a strategic set of education and workforce development programs available to the people we serve. We walk alongside people as they use their power and influence to break the cycles of poverty.