

# **Murfreesboro Police Department**

## **Media Release**

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## **MPD Partners with Child Advocacy Center "19 Days of Activism" to prevent Child Abuse and Violence**

The Murfreesboro Police Department is partnering with the Child Advocacy Center in Rutherford County for "19 Days of Activism" for the prevention of abuse and violence toward children and youth. The focus of the awareness campaign this year is "childhood hunger and malnutrition".



Studies show that proper nutrition is critical to a child's physical and emotional development. The side effects of hunger and malnutrition include an increased rate of violence toward other children according to national studies. Alleviating hunger helps children, their parents, teachers, and the entire Murfreesboro community as these children grow to become productive members of our society.

"We need to continue to provide children and families with adequate nutrition and meals throughout the year, especially around the holidays," said Chief Karl Durr. "The link between childhood hunger and violence should encourage us to prioritize cooperation to provide resources to organizations that specifically fight childhood hunger."

"The MPD has worked diligently for many years to stop hunger in our community," said Deputy Chief Michael Bowen. "Our police officers go out of their way to help families and especially children in need."

Each year, the MPD engages in the "Feed the Families Initiative". Officers will be accepting non-perishable food donations at the Police Department located at 302 S. Church St. Officers will work with Murfreesboro City Schools to find families in need of extra help this year and will deliver the donated food before Thanksgiving. If you would like to contribute to this effort, contact the MPD at 615-895-3874.

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