

**Item Title:** Accept and Appropriate Walmart Foundation Community Grant Program Funding for the Wake County Sheriff's Office

**Specific Action Requested:**

**That the Board of Commissioners accepts and appropriates \$25,050.00 from the Walmart Foundation for the Wake County Sheriff's Office Grants and Donations Fund.**

**Item Summary:**

**Purpose:** In accordance with the North Carolina Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act, the Board of Commissioners must approve all amendments that increase the budget for funds.

**Background:** The Walmart Foundation awards grants to local governments to strengthen communities through both their retail business and community giving. These local grants are designed to address the unique needs of the communities where they operate. The foundation has awarded the Wake County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) \$25,050 for community giving. WCSO plans to spend these funds on community events to build greater relationships with local communities and residents.

**Strategic Plan:** This action supports Safer Community Together Goal 3: By 2029, reduce the Wake County violent crime rate by 5%.

**Fiscal Impact:** This agreement provides an additional \$25,050 for project participation. There is no matching funds requirement.

**Additional Information:**

The Wake County Sheriff's Office intends to use the funds to host community events throughout the year to continue to "bridge the gap" between law enforcement and the community. These community events may include, but are not limited to the following:

- **Shop with the Sheriff**– WCSO will use funds provided by the Walmart Foundation to provide educational supplies, clothing/hygiene products, and seasonal resources to help families with children in the community that need assistance. This effort aims to uplift the community and strengthen family togetherness during the holiday season. Children will be paired with a Deputy Officer and sent on a shopping trip to Walmart.
- **Special Olympics** - WCSO will use funds provided by the Walmart Foundation to support our Special Olympics Program by providing our community with information, resources, and assistance.

- **Senior Blessings in a Bag** - WCSO will use funds provided by the Walmart Foundation to provide personal hygiene items, nutritional food, blankets/clothing, and other essentials to assemble “blessing bags” for our community’s senior citizen population of Wake County. This event will assist senior citizens with their everyday needs and provide some care for those seniors who do not have family/friends nearby to assist with their daily essentials. This event will also increase senior citizen’s self-esteem, sense of pride, and support their health and wellness needs.
- **Back-2-School Backpack Giveaway** - During the event, WCSO and community volunteers/organizations will distribute backpacks filled with school supplies, hygiene items, nutritional items, school clothing for community youth attending schools in Wake County. Children and families must be present to receive a backpack. Backpack giveaways will vary depending on the number of backpacks purchased but would like to be able to give at least 800-1,000 backpacks to students in the community.
- **Helmet Program** – WCSO will use funds provide by the Walmart Foundation to buy bicycles, helmets and safety equipment for youth in the community to promote safety and reduce the risk of injury.
- **Trunk or Treat** - WCSO and community volunteers/organizations will distribute candy, treats, small safety items, and seasonal resources to children and families in Wake County. This family-friendly event provides a safe environment for Halloween activities while strengthening community engagement. Children and families must be present to participate. Treat quantities will vary depending on the number of donations and items available for distribution.

**Walmart Grant Award Letters**

| <b>Walmart – Community Designation</b> | <b>Amount</b>      |
|--|--------------------|
| <b>Shop with the Sheriff</b>           | <b>\$7,500.00</b>  |
| <b>Special Olympics</b>                | <b>\$5,000.00</b>  |
| <b>Back-2-School Backpack Giveaway</b> | <b>\$2,300.00</b>  |
| <b>Trunk or Treat</b>                  | <b>\$4,000.00</b>  |
| <b>Helmet Program</b>                  | <b>\$5,000.00</b>  |
| <b>Senior Blessings in a Bag</b>       | <b>\$1,250.00</b>  |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>\$25,050.00</b> |

**Attachments:**

1. Budget Memo
2. Grant Award Letters