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Press Release

11th Annual “Sharing the Spirit Holiday Party” at South Coast Plaza Treats 500 Homeless Children from Orange County to a Festival of Toys, Treats and Holiday Fun

***Hosted by Festival of Children Foundation and The Happiness Project,
Party Will Be Held on Friday, December 8***

COSTA MESA, Calif. (Dec. 1, 2017) – On Friday, December 8, Santa’s Village at South Coast Plaza will be transformed into a holiday festival for more than 500 Orange County children without permanent homes, where they will enjoy toys, treats and three hours of holiday fun at the 11th annual “Sharing the Spirit Holiday Party.” Hosted by Festival of Children Foundation and The Happiness Project, the event is held from 9:00 p.m. to midnight, when the children will have the retail center all to themselves to take photos with Santa, ride on the reindeer carousel, and enjoy arts and crafts stations, interactive games and activities.

“The holidays become their brightest when we open our hearts to those less fortunate, most especially our community’s deserving children,” said Sandy Segerstrom Daniels, founder and executive director of Costa Mesa, California-based Festival of Children Foundation, a non-profit organization that supports the efforts of 480 children’s charities across the country. “Working hand-in-hand with our event partner, The Happiness Project, we’ve created a fun, holiday experience that we hope will bring joy into the lives of these very special children.”

The children, who range in age from 5 to 16 years old, are brought from several local shelters or agencies, and are greeted by 250 volunteers, including local students, who learn about philanthropy and giving back by accompanying each child through the evening’s activities. Each child returns home with a gift bag stuffed with gender and age-appropriate gifts. The celebration was made possible by the generous donations from Contech, Inc., Disney

VoluntEARS Community Fund, Evans Roofing, Hurst & Seibert, Inc., Ingram Micro, LEGO, Million Dollar Tan, Think Ink Marketing, and United Paving. Food generously donated by Chick-fil-A, Nékter Juice Bar and STACKED: Food Well Built.

About Festival of Children Foundation

Festival of Children Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization that serves to bring together and coordinate the efforts of charities, companies and individuals who actively work to improve the lives of children. Festival of Children Foundation gives a voice, guidance and support. 100% of the administrative costs are covered by designated funding, allowing donations to go further in direct support of programs and services that improve the lives of children. www.festivalofchildren.org

About The Happiness Project

Based in Orange County, The Happiness Project is a 501 (c) (3), non-profit organization with a mission to help disadvantaged and homeless children in Orange County by providing them with basic essentials that will allow them to live a healthy life, be able to attend school, never go unfed, and to have a bright future with many opportunities. For more information, visit www.HelpOCKids.org.

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