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Media Release

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Giving Tree evokes the spirit of charity this Christmas

Several Hawaiian shopping centres will come alive with the spirit of Christmas this season, with the new addition of a Giving Tree.

From 5 December the special Christmas tree will act as a collection point for The Salvation Army, allowing shoppers to donate a Christmas gift to those in need.

To reward charitable giving, those shoppers donating a gift bought in-centre will receive a free Christmas bauble for their own tree.

The Salvation Army spokesperson Warren Palmer said Christmas was an opportunity for the community to display a generous heart and helping hand by providing some genuine relief and return the joy to otherwise what has been a challenging and stressful year for some.

“The gifts will be provided to families experiencing financial hardship, along with food hampers to assist with a special Christmas lunch. Food items such as tins of ham, fruit, chocolate, Christmas puddings, soft drink bon-bons, mixed nuts and vegetables would all be welcome and help us to provide a Christmas hamper,” Mr Palmer said.

“With toys, boys gifts aged between 12 and 17 are the most difficult to provide, but gifts such as Cinema passes, sports equipment or vouchers for any of these including itunes would be graciously received.

“The last 12 months has provided little relief for families and individuals just trying to make their way and survive with increasing costs pressure of utilities, rents and general living expenses.”

“We expect to assist over 14,000 in December leading up to Christmas day.”

Participating centres:**Bassendean Shopping Village****Noranda Shopping Village****The Park Centre, East Victoria Park****The Mezz, Mount Hawthorn****Ends**

For further information:

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