

Dear Potential Volunteer,

For many of us, the holidays are filled with lots of food, fun, family, and gifts. This, however, isn't the case for other people in our community. Here is your chance to make a difference in someone's life this year.

The Salinas Jaycees, a local volunteer group, started a program called the Children's Shopping Tour in 1951. The event is now organized by the Salinas Valley Chamber of Commerce Foundation. This event touches the lives of underprivileged children in the 1st – 4th grade age range and provides them with clothing, shoes, and other items of need during the cold winter season.

Volunteers take children through Northridge Mall and select appropriate clothing items from the child's "need list." The volunteers are provided a list of clothing items to shop for and shoe sizes, in addition to the money per child to cover the purchases. Participating stores in the mall have offered discounts to help stretch the money as far as possible.

This year's tour will be **Saturday, December 12th, 2026 from 7:00 AM to 12 Noon. Volunteers should plan their arrival time dependent on their designated shift at the Northridge Mall. The location will be near the former Sears store and Planet Fitness.** Volunteers will be paired up with the children at this location. **Volunteer Chaperones must be at least 18 years old and have a valid picture ID. High school volunteers will be required to have a parent or guardian over the age of 21 with them.** The event committee members will sign off for students needing community service hours.

Please come out and take a child shopping. For some of the children this is their only experience shopping for new clothes, and to see the smile on their faces when they are walking away with their bags filled with new warm clothes is unforgettable.

To participate as a volunteer, complete the bottom section of this letter and return it to the Chamber office (119 E. Alisal St., Salinas). A copy will be provided for you to bring on the day of the event. We will have additional forms the day of the event.

For the safety of the children and everyone involved, background checks will be required of all volunteers (18+ years) prior to the event. To learn more, visit SalinasChamber.com.

Thank you so much for your interest in this event, and we hope to see you there!

Please print your information. Due to security reasons, all information must be completed before getting paired with a child.

Name _____ Age _____ D.O.B. _____
Driver's License # _____ Cell Phone# _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
E-mail: _____

Please check the following:

- ☐ I am a Volunteer that would like to be a Chaperone.
- ☐ I am a Volunteer, but would prefer not to Chaperone.

Have you ever been a Children's Shopping Tour chaperone before? _____ Are you able to communicate in any other language besides English? If so, please list them all.
(Spanish is especially useful.): _____

I, the undersigned, hereby elect to voluntarily assume any and all liabilities and risk of loss, damage, or injury arising out of or relating to the above-described event and hereby agree to hold harmless the Salinas Valley Chamber of Commerce Foundation and the Salinas Valley Chamber of Commerce, their officers, directors, members, associates, employees, volunteers, successors, assigns, and all other persons and associates, known or unknown. I grant the Salinas Valley Chamber of Commerce Foundation their officers, directors, members, associates, employees, volunteers, successors, assigns, and all other persons and associates, known or unknown; the right to take photographs and/or videos of me and my property participating in the Children's Shopping Tour described above, as well as, to use such photographs and/or videos for any lawful purpose.

Participant's Signature

Date

For Salinas Valley Chamber of Commerce Foundation Use Only:

1. Name of Child _____ ID# _____

2. Name of Child _____ ID# _____

3. Name of Child _____ ID# _____