



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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## **BEARDS BEHIND THE BADGE**

**JOHNSTON, Iowa** – Johnston Police Officers may look a little different during November and December as they grow beards to raise funds for a good cause. Participating officers donate money to benefit a pre-selected non-profit organization to participate in “No-Shave November.” The funds raised will be given to ChildServe in Johnston.

“No-Shave November and December is another way for members of our department to give back to our community,” said Police Chief Dennis McDaniel. “This is the fourth year we have participated in No-Shave November. Last year, our department raised close to \$2,000 for the Youth Homes of MidAmerica to install outdoor recreational equipment. Normally, officers of the department are not allowed to grow facial hair, but during this time of year, we loosen up the policy for them to participate and give back. It provides an opportunity to compete with one another for the best beard championship trophy.”

Community members and businesses wishing to join in the fun and donate to ChildServe can drop off their donations Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. If you wish to claim your donation as tax-deductible, please make your check payable to ChildServe and reference “JPD No Shave November” in the memo line.

On December 6, the department will host a potluck for participating city staff members and final judging to crown the “best beard” as judged by a selected panel from the community. The officer who wins the contest is presented with a traveling trophy. Final proceeds raised from the effort will also be given to ChildServe officials at that time.

On January 1, the officers will go back to their regular uniform policy. Still, they hope the awareness they raise during November and December will make a lasting impact on the children at ChildServe.

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