



BUFFALO GROVE FIRE DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Buffalo Grove Firefighters Participate in Operation North Pole

Children who are fighting life-threatening or terminal illnesses are provided with a day of fun and fantasy, including a train trip to the 'North Pole'.

Buffalo Grove, IL – On December 9, 2017, several Buffalo Grove Firefighters participated in Operation North Pole (ONP), a yearly, volunteer-based public charity that benefits children who are fighting life-threatening or terminal illnesses, over the holiday season.

ONP partners with Chicago area children's hospitals and provides a day of fun for the participating children, along with their family members. They are provided with breakfast, a train ride to the North Pole, entertainment, fulfillment of wish lists and many other events and activities meant to provide them with a magical experience.

"We are honored to play a small part in this much larger effort to make a difference in the lives of these children and their family members," said Fire Chief Mike Baker. "The real payback for our firefighters is in helping to provide a day where entire families can relax and enjoy themselves during what is most certainly a challenging and stressful time in their lives."

In addition to the yearly event Operation North Pole event, ONP is planning on expanding to a "Twelve Months of Christmas" schedule. Efforts in the 2016-2017 season included delivering 3,000 winter coats to in-need individuals, hosting blood drives in partnership with LifeSource, and providing services at the Ronald McDonald House, in addition to hosting numerous charitable events.

Due to the emotional and financial stresses families experience when children are facing serious illnesses, ONP makes every effort to ensure that the entire family participates in the day's festivities. For more information, visit www.operationnorthpole.org.

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