

Media release

Friday 15 November 2012



Deloitte and Operation Santa making an impact

UnitingCare and Target have again joined forces for the 21st year of Operation Santa, the UnitingCare Christmas Appeal. Here in WA, UnitingCare West coordinates the appeal in order to deliver thousands of gifts to those most in need throughout the state. As part of Deloitte's *Impact Day*, twelve staff members are volunteering their time to help pack Christmas hampers for disadvantaged children in Perth's suburbs.

"For the past 21 years we've been asking people, in the spirit of Christmas, to give an extra present to those in our community who are less fortunate," Sue Ash, UnitingCare West CEO, "we greatly appreciate Deloitte's support during this busy time of year".

Deloitte's *IMPACT Day* is a day where staff are encouraged to set aside their work and contribute their time to the community. Volunteers from Deloitte will not only be packing hampers at the Operation Santa workshop in Victoria Park, but also helping UnitingCare West paint children's rooms and renovate gardens.

"*IMPACT Day* is an important element of Deloitte's commitment to society and it enables our people to support a variety of very worthy local community initiatives." Keith Jones, Deloitte Managing Partner – WA.

UnitingCare West was able to deliver over 1,400 Christmas hampers to families last year, and expect to increase that number in 2012.

This year the Operation Santa team is reminding people that 'a little gift makes a big difference'.

How can the community help? Take a gift tag from the red Christmas tree in your local Target store and donate a gift to someone in need. Alternatively, you can purchase gift cards from any Target checkout.

UnitingCare West representatives will collect the gifts and ensure they are distributed to those in need in time for Christmas morning. All gifts go to people in the local community where they are donated.

Operation Santa runs from Thursday 8 November to Sunday 23 December 2012. For more information about UnitingCare West's Operation Santa, visit www.unitingcarewest.org.au

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For more information or to arrange an interview with Sue Ash, CEO of UnitingCare West please contact her directly on 0411 723 394 or:

Annalisa Chin
Communications Officer
UnitingCare West
Ph: (08) 9355 9114
Mob: 0408 019 895
Email: annalisa.chin@unitingcarewest.org.au

