



The Salvation Army

Emergency Disaster Services

Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network



26 April 2018

The Salvation Army Assists Communities Affected By Oklahoma Wildfires

Oklahoma City, OK (04/24/2018) - In Dewey and Woodward counties in western Oklahoma, wildfires have burned more than 349,000 acres destroying nearly 100 homes, hundreds of miles of fencing, an estimated 30,000 head of cattle, hundreds of bales of hay, as well as, numerous outbuildings, farm equipment and machinery. A State of Emergency remains in effect for 52 Oklahoma counties due to ongoing wildfires and fire conditions.

The Salvation Army is participating in the Multi-Agency Resource Centers (MARC) in Taloga and Woodward at the request of emergency management officials, along with other agencies affiliated with the Oklahoma Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) and other public agencies. This past Sunday and Monday (22-23 April), The Salvation Army was in action at the MARC in Taloga, providing financial assistance, in the form of gift cards, to residents impacted by the fires. A mobile feeding unit (canteen) from The Salvation Army of Enid was deployed to provide lunch, dinner, drinks and snacks to visitors, volunteers and workers at the Taloga MARC, providing food for the body and soul.

“During disaster service, we address the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the people who need us most,” said Steven Hartsook, Divisional Director of Emergency Disaster Services. “A smile, a shoulder, a good meal, or a cold drink. Simple but impactful ways to share the love of Jesus Christ with survivors, volunteers, and first responders.”

Mike Miles, Woodward County Case Manager, and Shirley Logue, Divisional Director of Service Extensions, worked The Salvation Army’s booth at the MARC in Taloga. Shirley states “A couple of individuals I worked with were moved to tears by the assistance. One lady even asked for our names and the address of the office so she could send a thank you note. Everyone who came through seemed to be grateful, appreciative to see their neighbors and in overall good spirits considering what they have just gone through.”

The canteen will also be on site at the Woodward Conference Center this Friday and Saturday (27-28 April) to once again provide food, snacks and hydration to those visiting the MARC. The Salvation Army of Woodward County will also be on hand to provide gift cards to those who have been affected by the wildfires.

The Salvation Army will continue to work with Emergency Management and VOAD to ensure the response is closely coordinated. Further updates will be provided as necessary.

The Salvation Army Supports Regional Emergency Exercise



Cincinnati, OH (04/21/2018) - The Cincinnati EDS team supported the regional Civil Air Patrol (CAP) during their annual Search and Rescue exercise at the Cincinnati Lunken Airport on Saturday April 21.

The regional team consists of Civil Air Patrol members from Indiana, Ohio, and Kentucky. Since Civil Air Patrol’s formation during the earliest days of World War II, this organization of citizen Airmen has been committed to service to America. The Civil Air Patrol CAP has evolved into a premier public service organization that still carries out emergency service missions when needed — in the air and on the ground.

The EDS team out of Cincinnati served around 150 CAP volunteers’ lunch and supper as they worked on the search and rescue exercise. Major Bob Klenk advised “The exercise helped train the volunteers in responding to various types of emergencies, using communication, map reading, wilderness skills and observational methods and skills.”

Eastern Territory SATERN SSB Net Is Back!
Join Us on Thursdays at 0930 on 3.918 MHz!

Salvation Army Responds To Explosion At Wisconsin Oil Refinery



Superior, WI (04/26/2018) - The Salvation Army is assisting in Superior, Wisconsin, following an explosion at an oil refinery Thursday morning.

As of Thursday evening, Captain Jasen Elcombe with The Salvation Army of Superior, said volunteers are preparing 100 sandwiches that will be passed out at a safe zone, Four Corners Elementary School, 4465 E County Rd B, in Superior.

Although The Salvation Army of Superior is located in an evacuation zone, staff and volunteers are also prepared to send three canteens (mobile feeding units) to the scene of the explosion.

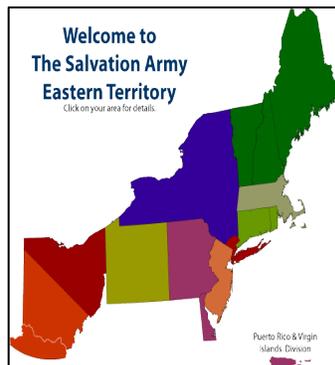
According to news reports, at least 20 people were injured but with no known fatalities. All employees are accounted for.

Thousands were evacuated from an area within 3 miles in all of directions from the refinery and 10 miles to south of the refinery. The evacuation included students and staff from Superior School District. The School District cancelled classes for the next day

"Once cleared by Emergency Management, volunteers will provide meals/drinks to first responders and those affected by the explosion," said Terri Leece, the Disaster Director for The Salvation Army of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan Division.

Additional updates will be provided as more information becomes available.

Eastern Territory SATERN SSB Net Is "On-The-Air"



Eastern Territory HQ (04/26/2018) – The Eastern Territory SATERN SSB Net is "On-The-Air" once again.

Major Tom Dingman (K2QMU) and several other SATERN volunteers in the Eastern Territory have been working diligently for the past two years to get the Net restarted.

The Net can be found every Thursday morning at 0930 (Eastern) on 3.918 MHz. A pre-Net usually begins at 0915.

The purpose of the Net is to offer an opportunity for training and fellowship with other amateur radio operators interested in providing The Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services with emergency, priority or health & welfare communications during an emergency.

All amateur radio operators are welcome to participate in the Net. They do not need to be members of The Salvation Army or SATERN.

Central Territory SATERN SSB Net Ends Operations



Central Territorial HQ (04/26/2018) – The Central Territory SATERN SSB Net ceased operations earlier this month due to a lack of participation in the Net on Wednesday mornings.

It is possible that the Net be re-started sometime in the Fall if enough interest is indicated by Central Territory SATERN volunteers.

The Central Territory SATERN SSB Net was one of, if not the oldest Territorial Net in the SATERN network.

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The Salvation Army Continues Long-Term Hurricane Recovery in the Caribbean



International HQ, London, UK (04/24/2018) - The 2017 Atlantic hurricane season was one of the worst in living memory. Major damage was recorded in Mexico and central America, and across the southern states of the USA, but perhaps the most significant devastation was seen on some of the Caribbean islands. The Salvation Army's Caribbean, Latin America North and USA Eastern Territories, utilizing staff and officers from corps (Salvation Army churches) across the region, was on the scene immediately, providing emergency help and aid to those in need. Six months later, the response continues.

On the morning of 06 September 2017, Hurricane Irma made landfall in the northern Caribbean. Turks and Caicos, Anguilla, Sint Maarten, the US Virgin Islands, Cuba, the Dominican Republic and St Kitts and Nevis were badly affected. Barbuda was rendered uninhabitable, with most of the population being evacuated for their safety. Hurricane Irma was swiftly followed by Maria, the 10th-strongest hurricane in recorded history, which made landfall in Puerto, Turk and Caicos, and Dominica – where at least 80 per cent of the population was affected.

As the clouds began to clear, the severity of the situation was exposed to the world and The Salvation Army responded with numerous projects, providing food, shelter, non-food items (NFIs), mattresses and beds, and putting in place livelihood recovery programs.

Working with local governments across the Caribbean, the neediest people were selected as initial beneficiaries for projects made possible by donations from the USA-based Salvation Army World Service Office (SAWSO) and Salvation Army offices in Canada, The Netherlands, Norway and the USA Eastern Territory. Non-Salvation Army donors included EO Metterdaad and Coca-Cola.

Experienced responders were also sent to the region on behalf of The Salvation Army's International Emergency Services team,

based in London. They provided expert assistance to local Salvation Army teams and reported back on some of the life-saving projects they witnessed.

One story that the team said was particularly memorable is that of a man known as Mr Louis, a retired 69-year-old who has lived on Dutch-speaking Sint Maarten since birth. As a child, he experienced Hurricane Donna, a category 5 storm that hit Sint Maarten in 1960, but he told Salvation Army workers that he had never seen anything like Hurricane Irma.

On 05 September, Mr Louis was awakened in the middle of the night by severe winds and rain hammering his house. Frightened, he huddled with his wife and daughter in the living room until a refrigerator was thrown through his roof by the storm. The family sought shelter from the rain in their car until they saw other cars and even sea containers being thrown around by the strong winds. They then moved to their cellar and stayed there until the hurricane had passed the island the next day.

Coming out, they witnessed absolute devastation. The hurricane had caused major damage to their house – the porch was completely ripped away, windows were broken, doors were gone, the roof was crushed and most of their furniture destroyed.

Conducting assessment visits to where Mr Louis's family has lived for more than 100 years, The Salvation Army identified him as a beneficiary of the shelter rebuilding program which provided him with materials to rebuild his home. He was then helped by his neighbors to rebuild his house, supported by the Salvation Army team in Sint Maarten. He says that it will take years for Sint Maarten to recover from this devastating disaster, but he feels blessed with the support provided by The Salvation Army.

The Sint Maarten rebuilding program is just one of a number of Salvation Army projects still under way across the Caribbean. On Turks and Caicos, for instance, children are being provided with school lunches and uniforms to help them to continue their education. Beds and bedding have been provided on the Bahamas, rebuilding programs are under way on Dominica and Barbuda, where households have been provided with basic provisions to see them through the short term and fishermen and a fisherwoman have received new boats and equipment to start replacing everything that was lost when Hurricane Irma struck. The response on St Kitts and Nevis includes providing assistance to the people who lost their homes.

Already, the people of the Caribbean are looking ahead to the 2018 hurricane season and wondering how they will be affected. The Salvation Army is committed to sustainable projects that bolster and enrich communities, enabling people to recover in the short term but also to be better prepared for the next storm.

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The Salvation Army High Council To Be Convened In May To Elect New General

International HQ, London, UK (04/13/2018) – Commissioner Brian Peddle, Chief of Staff for International HQ, has formally summoned 111 qualifying officers to form the next High Council of The Salvation Army on 17 May 2018.



The 2013 High Council of The Salvation Army.

A High Council comprises all active Salvation Army officers with the rank of Commissioner, Territorial Commanders and Territorial Presidents of Women's Ministries. Its sole purpose is to prayerfully elect the next General of The Salvation Army as its international leader. As General, this person will assume their responsibilities when the current General, General Andre' Cox, retires at Midnight on 02 August 2018. The last High Council met in 2013 when General Cox was elected.

Membership of the High Council and some other aspects of its procedures are set out in the Salvation Army Act 1980 enacted by the British Parliament.

ARRL Puerto Rico Section Prepares For 2018 Hurricane Season In Post-Maria Era

San Juan, PR (04/18/2018) - On Saturday, 17 March, ARRL Puerto Rico Section leaders met with the section's ARES Emergency Coordinators, and representatives of the Puerto Rico Power Authority (PREPA-AEE) and island hospitals that have shown interest in establishing Amateur Radio stations for emergency back-up communications when another Maria-scale event occurs. Also present were representatives of the new Puerto Rico Emergency Management Bureau, taking notes and sharing ideas for fostering mutual assistance among these agencies during incidents. The Bureau representatives also discussed the possibility of reducing the number of Zones that divide the island for disaster response purposes.

ARRL Puerto Rico Section Emergency Coordinator Juan Sepúlveda (KP3CR) along with Section Manager Oscar Resto (KP4RF) led the meeting. Topics of discussion included an overview of the ARES program and the new online form for reporting on activities, drills and emergency communications services rendered during incidents. District Emergency Coordinators and Emergency Coordinators have been mandated

to fill out and file these forms for the SEC's and ARRL HQ's information and use for planning and reporting purposes.

Meeting attendees discussed the utility of the popular Winlink software for sending e-mail protocol messages via radio and a global network that links the Internet to amateur stations by means of nodes on both HF and VHF/UHF systems. The Winlink discussion was followed by an examination of NVIS HF antenna configurations for local/regional communications coverage.



ARRL Section ARES members and agency representatives meet in advance of the 2018 Atlantic Hurricane Season in the post-Maria era. (Photo and article courtesy of Angel Santana (WP3GW))

A draft set of frequencies to be used for future emergency/disaster response situations and drills was discussed. A presentation of the ARRL's After Action Report of the 2017 Hurricane season was also discussed, with emphasis on Hurricane Maria impacts and response, and the Red Cross/Amateur Radio "Force of Fifty" mission on Puerto Rico.

The possibility of ARES members to be issued a special ID card for access to incident and government facilities was discussed, as were logistical problems in the aftermath of Maria, including the costs of fuel incurred in maintaining the repeater systems for emergency/disaster response communications.

The Puerto Rico ARES members are now meeting monthly in advance of this year's hurricane season, which begins 01 June.

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