



The Salvation Army

Emergency Disaster Services

Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network



22 November 2018

The Salvation Army Moves From Response To Recovery in Florida Panhandle



(11/18/2018) – Since Hurricane Michael made landfall along the Florida Gulf coast on 10 October, Salvation Army disaster teams have been mobilized, providing emergency relief to disaster survivors and rescue workers. As the holiday season nears, The Salvation Army in Panama City is transitioning from response operations to beginning their recovery operations.

“There is still plenty of work to be done,” said Major Otis Childs, Panama City Corps Officer. “All you have to do is drive through Bay and Gulf counties to see that damage is still readily apparent. But The Salvation Army has been serving this community since 1936. We are not going anywhere.”

With the final day of mass feeding having taken place on Sunday, 18 November, The Salvation Army is now focused on supporting the recovery process. The Salvation Army will continue to distribute emergency commodities -- ranging from food to hygiene products to cleaning supplies – from its warehouse in Panama City. These commodities will be shared with community partners, such as schools, churches and community organizations for distribution to disaster survivors.

The Salvation Army is providing emergency assistance to families to help them meet critical needs. “We have always helped families during the holidays,” Childs continued. “Hurricane Michael might have forced us to change some of our

traditional Christmas activities, but we will be providing disaster and holiday assistance to those who need help. We need to make this season brighter for those impacted by Hurricane Michael.”

At the height of the relief operations, The Salvation Army deployed 75 mobile feeding units and two 54’ field kitchens to provide food to communities in Florida and Georgia impacted by Hurricane Michael. Working with partners such as Operation BBQ Relief and Southern Baptist Disaster Relief, The Salvation Army has distributed more than 750,000 meals, 380,000 drinks, and 520,000 snacks. Working with Therapy Dogs International, Salvation Army emotional and spiritual caregivers provided support to more than 47,000 people. More than 20,000 food boxes, 6,000 clean-up kits, and 21,000 hygiene kits have been distributed with trained Salvation Army disaster workers and local volunteers giving more than 180,000 hours of disaster relief service to date.

Last week, a trio of Salvation Army disaster vehicles delivered food boxes, hygiene kits and prepackaged meals to A. Crawford Mosley High School in Panama City, FL for distribution to students impacted by Hurricane Michael. “We received a call from the faculty of the school,” said Bobbi Geery, The Salvation Army’s Logistics Chief. “Many students -- who are just returning to school -- are still living in storm-damaged houses. Many are still without power, water or permanent housing. The school asked if there was anything The Salvation Army could do to help.”

Help arrived as members of The Salvation Army’s Incident Management Team (IMT) brought a delivery of 80 food boxes, 50 cases of hygiene kits, and 96 cases of meals-ready-to-eat. The supplies were quickly unloaded with the help of students from the school, including the members of Mosley’s ROTC program. The assistance brought tears to the eyes of some faculty members. “This will be Thanksgiving for some of these students,” one teacher remarked. The emergency supplies will be distributed by school faculty to students needing assistance.

**Visit Your Local Angel Tree Location
And Buy A Gift For A Needy Youngster or Senior**



Christmas Is When The Salvation Army's Mission Shines The Brightest

THQ-West (11/18/2018) - From providing family dinners and keeping the heater on to putting toys under the Christmas tree, lending a hand with holiday events and offering healing and hope through spiritual guidance, The Salvation Army gives Christmas gifts to serve the body, mind and soul.

Holiday Events



The Salvation Army spreads Christmas cheer each holiday season through traditions like hospital visits, nursing home events, meal delivery, bell ringing, gifting programs, and clothing and Christmas toy donations. This gives the gift of hope and relief to low-income families, shut-ins, children of prisoners and those without a home for the holidays.

Grocery and Food Assistance

From hosting sit-down Christmas dinners to delivering meals to stocking food pantries, The Salvation Army gives the gift of a full stomach to many. The Salvation Army makes sure low-income families, struggling seniors and those without a home for the holidays have something to eat.

Bill-Pay Assistance

The Salvation Army helps struggling households pay their utility bills, offsetting the added financial burdens that come with Christmas expenses and keeping the heat on during cold winter nights. This allows low-income families to maintain self-dignity and stability while keeping up with their bills.

The iconic Red Kettle Campaign, which runs annually from late November to Dec. 24, helps The Salvation Army provide food, shelter and social services to nearly 25 million Americans in need each year.

Eighty-two cents of every dollar donated to The Salvation Army goes directly to funding Salvation Army initiatives. And all the money stays within the community in which it was given.

Angel Tree A Blessing For Both Those Who Give and Those Who Receive

NHQ SATERN (11/21/2018) - With rent, groceries, and other bills to worry about, Christmas presents can sometimes become an afterthought for families with little or no resources.



To help provide gifts for thousands of children in those families, the Salvation Army sponsors its Angel Tree program each year in the time before Christmas throughout the United States.

The purpose of the Angel Tree program is to provide each child with brand new clothing, shoes and toys that they might not get otherwise. One or more Christmas trees are set up in the community and decorated with tags that display the basic gift needs for each child in the program - their clothing and shoe sizes, toy wishes and any special needs they may have.

Once the tree is up, people can sponsor one or more children by taking a tag for the child(ren), purchasing a gift, and dropping it off at a site designated by the local Salvation Army. Each child featured on the Angel Tree lives in the local community.

The gifts purchased are distributed just before Christmas by the local Salvation Army.

In many communities, there are opportunities to volunteer to help the Angel Tree program. Bell ringing is another popular volunteer activity that is always vitally needed. Interested volunteers should contact their local Salvation Army.

National SATERN Liaison Bill Feist (WB8BZH) and his wife Shirley (KAØSPH) said, "We buy gifts for several children each year. We encourage our fellow SATERN volunteers to join us in this annual effort to bring the joy of God to others at a time when it is needed so much."



Talk To Your Local SATERN Group or Ham Club About Volunteering To Ring Bells This Year!



History of The Salvation Army Red Kettle

NHQ SATERN (11/22/2018) – The Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign has been an annual part of the Christmas Season for over 100 years. It began as a local program by one Corps Officer and grew into an international phenomenon. Here is how it all began:



In 1891, Salvation Army Captain Joseph McFee was distraught because so many individuals in San Francisco were going hungry. During the holiday season, he resolved to provide a free Christmas dinner for the poverty-stricken. He only had one major hurdle to overcome—funding the project.

Where would the money come from, he wondered. He lay awake nights, worrying, thinking, praying about how he could find the funds to fulfill his commitment of feeding 1,000 of the city's poorest individuals on Christmas Day. As he pondered the issue, his thoughts drifted back to his sailor days in Liverpool, England. He remembered how at Stage Landing, where the boats came in, there was a large, iron kettle called "Simpson's Pot" into which passers-by tossed a coin or two to help the poor.

The next day McFee placed a similar pot at the Oakland Ferry Landing at the foot of Market Street. Beside the pot, he placed a sign that read, "Keep the Pot Boiling." He soon had the money to see that people in need were properly fed at Christmas.

Six years later, the kettle idea spread from the West Coast to the Boston area. That year, the combined effort nationwide resulted in 150,000 Christmas dinners. In 1901, kettle contributions in New York City provided funds for the first mammoth sit-down dinner in Madison Square Garden, a custom that continued for many years. Today in the U.S., The Salvation Army assists more than 4.5 million people during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday season.

McFee's kettle idea launched a tradition that has spread not only throughout the United States, but all across the world. Kettles are now used in such places as Korea, Japan, Chile and many European countries. Everywhere, public contributions to Salvation Army kettles enable the organization to continue its year-round efforts to help those who would otherwise be forgotten.

In 2017 The Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign raised \$144.5 million to provide food, shelter and social services to nearly 25 million Americans in need this year.

Operation Santa Takes Off In Alaska!

Emmonak, AK (11/08/2018) - Operation Santa touched down 01 November in the rural community of Emmonak, Alaska, the first stop this year in what is a Salvation Army tradition. The second stop, in Gambell, will take place 30 November.



Annually, The Salvation Army partners with the Army National Guard and Tastee Freez, and visits two rural communities to spread holiday cheer through gifting visits with Mr. and Mrs. Claus, carol singing, local dance presentations and sharing ice cream sundaes.

"Operation Santa provided a chance for the community to come together to help prepare for the celebration today," said Thomas Kameroff, a lifelong Emmonak resident. "It has created so much excitement, and it's great to see the whole community here celebrating today."

The event not only spreads Christmas cheer, but also provides an opportunity for organizations to give back to the Alaskan community and offers a joyful family experience for those in the participating communities. For many of the children in these rural communities, this is their first time visiting with Santa.

"My trip to Emmonak impressed upon me the cultural richness that lies in these smaller, remote communities," said Captain Peter Pemberton, Alaska Divisional Secretary for Business. "The people have a beautiful spirit that is refreshing and enriching, and I left with the hope of capturing that spirit and bringing it back with me to share in my own community of Anchorage."

This year, Operation Santa was also made possible by Walmart, which provided over \$10,000 for the event. In addition, Costco and Food Services of America continue to offer annual support through in-kind donations of new backpacks, snacks and fresh fruit for the family friendly event.



**Talk To Your Local SATERN Group or Ham Club
About Volunteering To Ring Bells This Year!**

