



# The Salvation Army

## Emergency Disaster Services

### Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network



21 March 2019

## The Salvation Army Responds After The New Zealand Mosque Terrorist Attacks



Territorial Leaders for the New Zealand, Fiji, Tonga and Samoa Territory visit a memorial site in Christchurch

**Christchurch, NZ (03/15/2019)** – As the terrorist attack unfolded less than 700 feet from their building, Linwood Corps and Family Store staff locked the doors and sat with about 20 members of the public, not knowing what was happening. Although the Store was within the security perimeter, the Corps staff was eventually able to help people get home.

In the days since, it has become clear how close many Salvationists and Army staff were to the attacks, and the 50 people killed at the two mosques in Christchurch last week. Cantabrians at Corps and Centers have rallied to provide support, while grappling with their own grief. The Family Store manager reported that at least two families of either store volunteers or customers were affected by the attacks. Corps personnel are following up with those families and another couple whose neighbor was killed in the attack.

With the Corps remaining inside the security perimeter the next day, the Corps set up the community van, which has facilities to provide food and drink. They then began serving those coming to lay flowers and remained open as a listening space for people, including some who witnessed the shootings.

“A guy came in who said, ‘I should have been at prayers on Friday’. He asked if there was someone who could pray with him. I did that and shared some scripture with him.”, said Corps Officer Major Graham Medland. The man was also able to give him a phone number for the mosque’s Imam, so Medland could assure him of the love and support of the Corps.

The Corps was allowed to hold their regular Sunday service and several people came who would not regularly attend church.

Members of The Salvation Army Christchurch City Corps worked at the hospital where many injured people received treatment and family members gathered. Salvationists from the Corps were also employed in the local police and forensics service, and as funeral directors in the South Island city.

Across town, Sydenham Corps Officer Captain Jocelyn Smith says being open and available had been hugely important. The corps had a movie night planned for Friday night. “We went ahead, but it ended up being people who were on lockdown and couldn’t get home. ... This becomes a cumulative event. People are talking about this and then after a few minutes they’re talking about how their marriage is breaking down or their struggling at work. They’re saying, ‘I can’t cope, I need someone to talk to.’”

Corps members have also been widely distributing Kit Kats with a message of love and encouragement attached.

At the request of Christchurch International Airport, Army staff were on hand from Sunday (17 March) till Tuesday (19 March) to welcome bereaved family members and support them through customs and security. They also provided chaplaincy support for staff and travelers, Southern Division Divisional Commander Major Earle Ivers said.

Salvationists have also been visiting what is being called ‘the wall of love’, where the public have been laying tributes outside the Christchurch Botanic Gardens. On Thursday, the Army received permission to formally set up a contact station to offer food and drink and spend time among the crowds.

In Rolleston, half an hour south of Christchurch, The Salvation Army community house and corps plant building sits opposite Rolleston High School. Corps officer Lieutenant Stu Duxfield said they sat with anxious parents during the three hours that all schools in Christchurch and the surrounding towns were in lockdown.

They are working closely with the school counsellor—who already uses a room in the house—to be a listening ear for students and set up a drop-in for students who would be going home alone in the afternoons.

“Some parents who heard what we were doing, dropped off biscuits and I brought in my Nintendo Switch so we can play games and chat. The big thing is the kids who were struggling to feel safe since the earthquakes. The conversation I have been having so far is to reassure them that the reason they were locked down was to help them be safe.”

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## The Western Division Responds To Flooded Communities in Nebraska and Iowa

**DHQ, Omaha, NE (03/21/2019)** - After a week's worth of relief operations in Nebraska, South Dakota, and western Iowa, The Salvation Army Western Division is accelerating its efforts to reach people affected by the floods.

As of Thursday afternoon (21 March), Western Division units had served over 4,500 meals, 5,600 drinks; and 6,500 snacks. They also provided emotional-spiritual care to over 400 people. Volunteers put in over 1,300 hours of work. Following is a review of the Western Territory's efforts in its first week:

*In Council Bluffs*—Corps officers and staff loaded their canteen with cleaning supplies, food, toys, and other items and drove to Hamburg and Bartlett, Iowa, to deliver them and provide additional support.

*In Fremont* – A Canteen crew worked alongside a special non-profit group to serve food to some 325 people. The goal is to serve from 400 to 500 people each day in and around Fremont.

*In Hooper* – Another Canteen crew served food there.

*In Norfolk*—Officers, staff, and volunteers delivered meals and clean-up kits to nearby Battle Creek.

*In Omaha*—The Kroc Center provided some 354 meals in support of Sarpy County shelters and provided bottled water to the Hawaiian Village community. A Disaster Resource Center was opened on Thursday (20 March) to distribute flood-relief items.

*In Sioux City*—The team there have served some 100 meals, 1,400 snacks and 300 drinks as they worked to provide food, supplies, and emotional-spiritual care to flood-damaged areas in the area.

*In Sioux Falls* – The team served meals to a non-profit search-and-rescue team working there.

But while serving others, The Salvation Army itself suffered a major loss. The Gene Epley Camp was inundated by flood waters and now appears to be a complete loss. Water levels reached all the way up to the roofs of the cabins and other buildings. This includes the homes of two Salvation Army employees who live and work at the camp.

For decades, Camp Epley has been used year-round for various groups, programs and retreats. It is best known as a summer camp that hosts hundreds of students each year. Some 3,400 people were scheduled to use the camp this year.

## The Salvation Army Working In Southwestern Africa After Cyclone Idai

**IHQ, London, UK (03/20/2019)** - With wind speeds reaching 124 miles per hour, Cyclone Idai caused widespread devastation across a large swath of Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe. Local media reports suggest that 1,000 people have lost their lives in Mozambique alone. With roads flooded and the regional airport closed, 500,000 people have been cut off in Beira, one of Mozambique's largest cities. Reports suggest that up to 90 per cent of the region has been destroyed. The Salvation Army is implementing emergency responses in each of the three countries.



In Mozambique, The Salvation Army, in partnership with the Red Cross and other agencies, is providing emergency food packages to 500 of the most severely affected families in Beira. This will provide two nutritious meals per day for at least 21 days.

In Zimbabwe, where homes and bridges were swept away, The Salvation Army is coordinating with the government and other agencies to provide assistance in stricken areas in the south and east. The initial aim is to provide an initial 167 households with vital supplies of food and other essential items such as blankets.

In Malawi, an initial needs assessment is being done by Salvation Army teams. Nearly a million people have been affected according to government estimates, with 56 deaths and 577 injuries recorded. More than 82,700 people are believed to be displaced, with the Chikawa district particularly badly affected.

Communications links such as roads, electricity and mobile phone networks remain significantly disrupted by the wind damage and subsequent flooding in many areas. Several rivers have burst their banks and access to clean drinking water has been impaired.

"Considering the difficulties faced we are grateful that our teams are on the ground responding effectively to bring relief to those suffering as a result of this disaster," said Major Chris Mulryne with The Salvation Army International Emergency Services team.

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## Major Bill Heaver (K8EDS) Hospitalized



**Chicago, IL, (03/21/2019)** – Major Bill Heaver (K8EDS), Metropolitan Division EDS Communications Coordinator, has been struggling for some time with what was diagnosed as pneumonia. The symptoms of pneumonia and extreme difficulty in breathing resulted in him being admitted to Northwest Community Hospital for more intensive treatment. He had been battling a sinus infection for two months and a recent chest x-ray determined that he had pneumonia. A third dose of antibiotics a week ago did not appear to produce the desired results. After admittance, a new IV antibiotic treatment was begun. During his hospital stay, doctors discovered some black spots on his lungs. Although he is now discharged from the hospital, doctors have planned an outpatient biopsy for Friday, 22 March. They expect to receive the results on Wednesday, 27 March.

Major Heaver has been an avid amateur radio operator and SATERN member for many years. He is often heard on the International SATERN SSB Net.

His wife, Michele Heaver (KC8NAI), is the Central Territory EDS & SATERN Special Projects Coordinator.

During these days of anticipation for the upcoming procedure and then waiting for the results of the biopsy, SATERN operators are asked to pray for Major Heaver and his family. As a people of faith, we can certainly believe in the words of encouragement from Philippians 4:6-7 from the Living Bible paraphrase, "Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything; tell God your needs, and don't forget to thank him for his answers. If you do this, you will experience God's peace, which is far more wonderful than the human mind can understand. His peace will keep your thoughts and hearts quiet and at rest as you trust in Christ Jesus."

Please keep the Major and his family at the top of your prayer list the this week and next as we all trust in the Lord's care for him.

His family is understandably concerned about his health. After weeks of Major Heaver not feeling well, they could use some encouragement from their Salvation Army and SATERN family. Cards and notes of encouragement may be sent to :

Majors Bill (K8EDS) and Michele (KC8NAI) Heaver  
2315 S. Cedar Glen Drive  
Arlington Heights, IL 6005-4302

## Alaska ARES To Host "Ides of March" Emergency Communications Exercise

**Fairbanks, AK (03/21/2019)** – On Saturday, 23 March 2019, Alaska ARES will conduct a communications exercise simulating a 9.0M earthquake along the Cascadia Subduction Zone that generates a 20 foot tsunami. Such a tsunami would reach the Alaska and the U.S. West Coasts within 4 to 5 hours.

In the scenario, the tsunami takes out ports along the Alaska coast from Juneau northward. Two ferries near Anchorage sustain severe damage and passengers must be removed from the ferries before they sink but cannot be off-loaded at the damaged port(s).

The Anchorage airport is destroyed and all air traffic is diverted to Fairbanks International Airport. Most of Anchorage is under water and the fuel tank farms in Valdez, AK, are destroyed.

According to Linda Mullens (AD4BL), Alaska ARES SEC, the purpose of the exercise is to test the concept of sending amateur radio operators to shelters as quickly as possible to collect and send Health & Welfare messages. From her personal experiences, she has become concerned with how long it can sometimes take for survivors to be able to inform their family of their status.

Here are the details for the "Ides of March" Exercise:

**Date:** Saturday, 23 March 2019

**Time:** 1000 to 1300 Alaska Daylight time (1800 to 2100 Zulu)

**Name:** Ides of March

**Message Format:** RRI Radiogram or ICS-213 formats

**Precedence:** TP

**Subject:** All messages MUST to start with TEST TEST

**Recipient:** The Alaska State Emergency Operations Center (KL7JFU) with copies to Linda (AD4BL).

Frequencies:	Voice	Digital	Mode
80 Mtrs		3.582 MHz	Winlink PTP
75 Mtrs		3.940 MHz	CW KL7EDK
40 Mtrs		7.075 MHz	Winlink PTP
40 Mtrs		7.113 MHz	CW KL7EDK
20 Mtrs		14.211.5 MHz	Winlink PTP
40 Mtrs	7.160 MHz		LSB
20 Mtrs	14.292 MHz		USB
60 Mtrs (Ch 1)	5.330 MHz/LSB	5.332 MHz	Digital/CW
60 Mtrs (Ch 2)	5.346 MHz/LSB	5.348 MHz	Digital/CW
60 Mtrs (Ch 3)	5.357 MHz/LSB	5.358.5 MHz	Digital/CW
60 Mtrs (Ch 4)	5.371.5 Mhz/LSB	5.373 MHz	Digital/CW
60 Mtrs (Ch 5)	5.403.5 MHz/LSB	5.405.5 MHz	Digital/CW

Additional information about frequencies and modes can be found in the downloadable ICS-205A Communications Plan that can be found on SATERN.org with this Newsletter.

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