



WHAT IS
THE SALVATION ARMY?



DOING THE MOST GOOD®



DOING THE MOST GOOD®

“INASMUCH AS YE HAVE
DONE IT UNTO ONE OF
THE LEAST OF THESE
MY BRETHREN, YE HAVE
DONE IT UNTO ME”

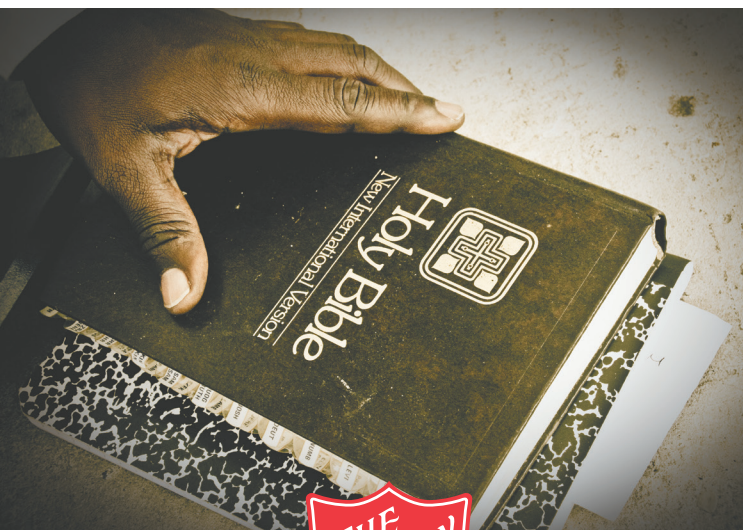
MATTHEW 25:40



THE

SALVAT

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MISSION STATEMENT

*The Salvation Army, an international
movement, is an evangelical part
of the universal Christian church.*

*Its message is based on the Bible.
Its ministry is motivated by the love of God.
Its mission is to preach the gospel of
Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in
His name without discrimination.*

*Approved by the
Commissioners' Conference, USA
May 1991*





“THE LORD HAS TOLD
YOU WHAT IS GOOD; AND
WHAT DOES THE LORD
REQUIRE OF YOU BUT TO
DO JUSTICE, AND TO LOVE
KINDNESS, AND TO WALK
HUMBLY WITH OUR GOD?”

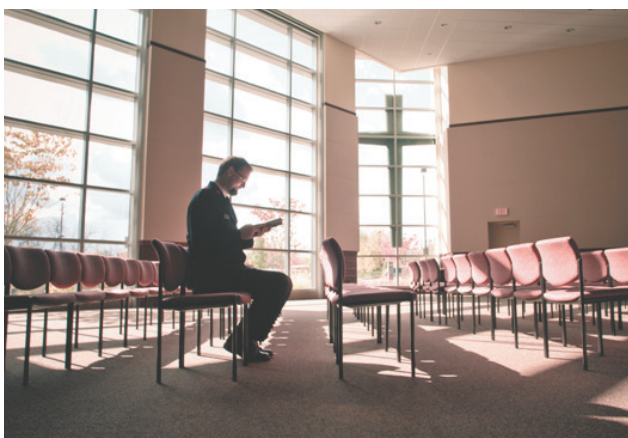
MICAH 6:8

THIS BOOKLET provides a brief overview of The Salvation Army and answers frequently asked questions.

Today, the Army's religious and social-service activities serve millions of men, women and children in more than 125 nations. Volunteers, contributors and other supporters make those services possible in local community after local community.

William and Catherine Booth began The Salvation Army in July 1865—William as preacher for a small congregation in the slums of London; Catherine right by his side, testifying to God's work and inviting others to invest financially. With the military spirit of professional soldiers combined with the compassion of their faith, they battled against almost overwhelming enemies: debasing poverty, biased public policy, ignorance, addictions, sin and despair.

The Salvation Army today embodies the very same qualities with which the Booths launched this movement that has touched the world.



HISTORY



Founder William Booth and his daughter, Evangeline

WILLIAM BOOTH embarked upon his ministerial career in 1852, desiring to win the lost multitudes of England to Christ. His teenage apprenticeship as a pawnbroker had embedded in him a deep hatred of poverty and suffering, and his faith had fueled his desire to minister to the downtrodden. So he walked the streets of London to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ to the poor, the homeless, the hungry and the destitute. William met Catherine when he came to preach at her church, and they married in 1855.

Booth soon abandoned the conventional concept of a church and a pulpit, instead taking his message



to the people. His fervor led to disagreement with church leaders in London, who preferred traditional methods. As a result, he withdrew from the church and traveled throughout England, conducting evangelistic meetings.

In 1865, Booth was invited to hold a series of these meetings in the East End of London. He set up a tent in a Quaker graveyard, and his services became an instant success. This proved to be the end of his wanderings as an independent traveling evangelist. His renown as a religious leader spread throughout London, and he attracted followers who were dedicated to fight for the souls of men and women.

Catherine would most often speak to people in their homes—ministering especially to alcoholics or encouraging the wealthy to grant support to their growing ministry. In 1867, the Booths had only 10 full-time workers, but by 1874, the number had grown to 1,000 volunteers and 42 evangelists, all serving under the name “The Christian Mission.” Booth assumed the title of general superintendent, with his followers calling him “General.” Catherine was called the “Army Mother.”

Known as the Hallelujah Army, the converts



William Booth pens the words *Salvation Army*, unknowingly establishing a new name for the organization.

spread out of the East End into neighboring areas and then to other cities. Booth was reading a printer's proof of the 1878 annual report when he noticed the statement, “The Christian Mission is a volunteer army.” Crossing out the words *volunteer army*, he penned in *Salvation Army*. From those words came the basis of the foundation deed of The Salvation Army, which was adopted in August of that year.



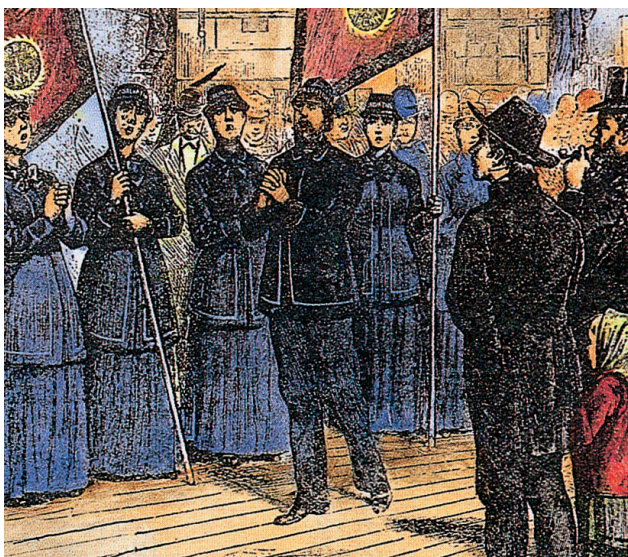
Early Salvationists were subjected to violence and ridicule. Publications of the day, such as this 1885 issue of *Puck*, poked fun at their uniforms and methods.

The word *salvation* indicates the overall purpose of the organization: to motivate all people to embrace the salvation provided to them in Christ. The word *army* indicates that the organization is a fighting force, constantly at war with the powers of evil. Battles are effectively waged through an integrated ministry that gives attention to both body and spirit.

Converts became soldiers of Christ and were known then, as now, as Salvationists. They launched an offensive throughout the British Isles against the “seven dark rivers” of evil: grinding poverty, disease, lust, crime, war, despair and atheism.

The Army also gained a foothold abroad when Lieutenant Eliza Shirley left England to join her parents, who had immigrated to America earlier in search of work. In 1879, she held the first meeting of The Salvation Army in America, in Philadelphia. The Salvationists were received enthusiastically. Shirley wrote to General Booth, begging for reinforcements. None were available at first. Glowing reports of the work in Philadelphia, however,





Commissioner George Scott Railton and seven Hallelujah Lassies officially “opened fire” in the United States on March 10, 1880.

eventually convinced Booth to send an official group in 1880 to pioneer the work in America.

On March 10, 1880, Commissioner George Scott Railton and seven women officers knelt on the dockside at Battery Park in New York City to give thanks for their safe arrival. At their first official street meeting, these pioneers were met with unfriendly actions, as had happened in Great Britain. They were ridiculed, arrested and attacked.

Three years later, Railton and other Salvationists had expanded their operation into California, Connecticut, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania. The Salvation Army movement then expanded rapidly to Canada, Australia, France, Switzerland, India, South Africa, Iceland and Germany.

Service to American armed forces began during the Spanish-American War, when Salvation Army officers accompanied troops to the Philippine



Islands. In 1917, National Commander Evangeline Booth (William and Catherine's daughter) initiated a program for American military men at home and abroad. In the program, female Salvationists became known as "Lallies" as they served donuts and coffee in the frontline trenches and elsewhere. They became a symbol of love and caring that has endured through the years.

In 1939, as World War II appeared inevitable, The Salvation Army helped create the interfaith movement that led to the formation of the United Service Organization, known as USO.

Currently, the United States is home to more than 7,500 centers of operation and local neighborhood units. The Salvation Army is active in virtually every corner of the world. ●



A 1919
Salvation
Army
Home Fund
Campaign
poster

THE SALVATION ARMY NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RESEARCH CENTER



VISION



THE VISION of The Salvation Army has always been to lead men and women into a proper relationship with God. Yet the Army recognizes that physical, emotional and social restoration must go hand in hand with spiritual rebirth.

Many know the Army for its enduring presence during the Christmas holidays: red kettles, bell ringers and Angel Tree gift-giving. Yet the Army's influence extends all year long into all corners of society—serving wherever and whenever the need is apparent, without prejudice and without demand for adherence to the organization's principles. (See our detailed "Services," starting on page 13.)





“THOU SHALT LOVE THE
LORD THY GOD WITH ALL
THY HEART, AND WITH ALL
THY SOUL, AND WITH ALL
THY MIND, AND WITH ALL
THY STRENGTH: THIS IS
THE FIRST COMMANDMENT.

AND THE SECOND IS LIKE,
NAMELY THIS,
THOU SHALT LOVE THY
NEIGHBOR AS THYSELF.”

MARK 12:30-31

SERVICES



THE SALVATION ARMY is Doing the Most Good year after year as an increasing number of individuals seek help with the basic necessities of life. You'll find the Army involved with both adults and children, in moments of everyday compassion and in disaster response. More than 25 million people receive help from the Army each year.

The Army owes its strength of service not only to the diversification of its programs but also—and more importantly—to millions of volunteers from all walks of life who share the same passion to serve. Their time and commitment enhance the Army's effectiveness at meeting needs on the local level.

See our annual report for more details on how prayers, donations and the warmth of hands-on help are changing lives (salvationarmyannualreport.org). And explore highlights on the following pages.



— Christmas —



THE TRADITIONAL red kettle is a trusted sight during the holiday season, with millions of dollars donated each year to aid needy families, seniors and the homeless—even the families of those incarcerated. These donations provide Christmas dinners, clothing, toys and help with basic necessities.

The Salvation Army is also known for its Angel Tree Program, which provides new clothing and toys for children over the holidays. A sponsoring organization places a Christmas tree in a secure, high-pedestrian traffic area or lobby. The tree is decorated with numbered paper “angels”—each inscribed with a child’s first name, age and gender. Contributors remove one or more tags from the tree, purchase appropriate gifts and return them to the organization. The toys are picked up by the parent to distribute on Christmas Day.

With each of these activities and more, The Salvation Army brings spiritual light and love to those it serves at Christmas, so the real meaning of the season is never forgotten.





BY THE NUMBERS, 2016

Territory name goes here

55k

Meals
served

99k

Children provided
with gifts

33k

People receiving
financial assistance



— Emergency Disaster Services —



DISASTERS COME in many forms, both natural and manmade—always devastating to those involved. The Salvation Army is on the scene because of its everyday presence in communities across the country.

With that constant awareness of people's needs, the Army is often among the first to arrive when disaster



HURRICANE MATTHEW, 2016 BY THE NUMBERS

Southern Territory

55k

Meals served

88k

Clean-up kits provided

77k

Nights of
shelter offered

99k

People served with
emotional and
spiritual care



strikes. Officers and volunteers are trained to meet all kinds of emergencies by providing food, shelter, clothing and spiritual comfort. Mobile feeding units, also called “canteens,” have become familiar sights to firemen, policemen and survivors alike.

Hot and cold drinks, soup, sandwiches, and complete meals fill vital needs when homes are destroyed and people are hungry.

The Salvation Army works with emergency management personnel and many other organizations to form a cooperative team during such difficult times. Each year, millions of volunteers come forward during disasters to give their time and effort when it is needed most.

— *Emergency Housing* —

FREE TEMPORARY shelter is available to homeless men, women, children and families in severe financial need. Low-cost housing also is available to those living on pensions or social security. When life is most dire, the Army is there as a trusted, compassionate place of refuge.



BY THE NUMBERS, 2016

Territory name goes here

55

Shelters

99k

Long-term
housing

33k

People served
with nights of
shelter



— *Family* —

FAMILY SERVICES endeavor to strengthen and unify the family unit—whether a traditional two-parent family, a blended family or a household led by a single adult. That means addressing every member of the family at every level of their needs, including their relationships with each other.

Counseling services help strengthen child-parent relationships and address issues specific to marriage, adolescence, single parenting and unemployment.

Daycare centers offer children wholesome food and affectionate care, as well as activities designed to promote their physical, mental and spiritual growth.

In select cities, Pathway of Hope serves families that desire to break generational cycles of crisis and vulnerability. The program coordinates with local community services to help these families overcome unemployment, unstable housing and lack of education. (To learn more, visit salvationarmyusa.org/usn/pathway.)

The variety of other programs and facilities offered is extensive and ever expanding: financial assistance, transitional housing, substance-abuse counseling, HIV/AIDS counseling, homes for pre-delinquent adolescent girls, foster homes and adoption services. Wherever the family finds itself in need, The Salvation Army is there.

— *Human Trafficking* —

THE INTERNATIONAL Labour Organization estimates that, currently, 20.9 million people are victims of human trafficking—bought and transported in slave-like conditions for sex and labor exploitation. The Salvation Army is bravely fighting this horror and providing services for victims.



And it doesn't just happen *elsewhere*. It's a critical issue in the United States, with a 35-percent increase in calls to The National Human Trafficking Hotline in 2016. Operated by the watch group Polaris, the hotline has received reports of more than 33,000 sex trafficking cases since 2007.

The Army's commitment to this tragedy is rooted in its earliest history, under the leadership of founders Catherine and William Booth. In London's dirty and dangerous East End in the 1860s, the Booths learned of women and girls caught up in commercial sexual exploitation. They responded by opening rescue homes, the total of which grew to 117 by the end of the century.

In one of the most fascinating chapters of its history, The Salvation Army participated in the planning and execution of an undercover trafficking investigation—with details published by London's *Pall Mall Gazette* in 1865. The series created enough fervor to foment public opinion in support of the Criminal Law Amendment Act, which raised the age of consent from 13 to 16 (although reformers sought 18).

Today, the Army offers a variety of services across its territories, including emergency response for victims as well as short-term, safe housing and long-term care. The Army also works with local agencies to identify and aid victims of human trafficking, and to educate the public on its reality. (To learn more, visit salvationarmyusa.org/usn/combating-human-trafficking.)

The goal is to see that all people are treated with dignity and given the opportunity to lead self-determined lives.



— Individual Rehabilitation —

THROUGH THE Army's rehabilitation centers, adults with identifiable and treatable needs may seek help when they no longer are able to cope on their own. There they receive adequate housing, nourishing meals and necessary medical care. They also benefit from group therapy, spiritual guidance and skilled addictions counseling in clean and wholesome surroundings. Residents may be referred or be remanded by the courts.

At more than 125 Adult Rehabilitation Centers across the country, adults also engage in work therapy through the Army's Family Stores, which sell donated material such as furniture, appliances and clothing.

Separately, some 14 Harbor Light Centers specifically bring hope to those struggling with substance abuse—offering detoxification services, transitional housing, and both residential and outpatient treatment. (To learn more, visit www.SAtruck.org.)



— *Missing Persons* —

THE ARMY provides missing persons services in many parts of the world—responding to almost 2,000 inquiries each year in the United States alone. As a result, thousands of men and women have been reunited with their loved ones.

— *Prison, Probation & Parole* —

THROUGH COOPERATIVE arrangements with officials throughout the country, The Salvation Army plays a role in prison rehabilitation and crime prevention, offering everything from Bible correspondence courses and prerelease job training to counseling and spiritual guidance—for both prisoners and their families. Army officers and volunteers often lead worship services in jails and prisons. In some jurisdictions, prisoners are paroled to the direct custody of The Salvation Army.

Many Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Centers and Harbor Light Centers serve as designated halfway houses, where former prisoners can participate in work-release programs. Those convicted of minor offenses often are given the opportunity to perform community service at corps community centers as an alternative to incarceration, or in the last months of their sentences.

Those for whom hope seems most lost are offered new hope in Christ and a new start in life.



— Seniors —



SINCE 2010, the 65-plus age category has been the fastest-growing age demographic in the country. This makes The Salvation Army's programs for older adults more important than ever.

In corps community centers throughout the nation, seniors gather to share interests, develop new skills and enjoy the company of their peers. The Army meets their needs in many ways:

ACTIVITIES

Educational classes, day care, hot-lunch programs and pre-retirement seminars are just a few of the programs offered. Here, in an atmosphere of understanding and respect, senior adults form new friendships and discover new talents.

RESIDENCES

The Salvation Army operates several residential facilities where older adults can live in a caring, encouraging atmosphere. Adult day-care service centers offer respite for families of those needing specialized services.



CAMPING

Many Salvation Army camps are adapted to meet the physical needs of older adults. Clean, comfortable, easy-access camp facilities offer weekend outings as well as week-long programs. Here, God works His miracles of physical, emotional and spiritual renewal in the open air.

— Youth —



EACH CORPS community center offers religious and character-building programming for young people in a recreational setting.

These programs involve both full-time professional leadership and volunteers to offer music classes, athletics, and arts and crafts as ways to develop special talents and skills.

Since 1998, a \$1.8 billion gift from Mrs. Joan Kroc, widow of McDonald's founder Ray Kroc, has undergirded 26 state-of-the-art centers across the country: Ray and Joan Kroc Community Centers. Here, youth enjoy everything from sports teams and



hands-on gardening projects to culinary classes and the performing arts. In each location, community members raise half the money needed to build the center, in order to foster greater community investment. (To learn more, visit kroccenter.org.)

Thousands of children from low-income families also enjoy fresh air, exercise and new friendships at annual summer camp programs. The camping experience is more than just a pleasant vacation: Children learn new skills and self-reliance; trained counselors help them to mature, staying in touch even after the children return home.



WORLD SERVICE



THE SALVATION ARMY World Service Office works to improve the health, economic and spiritual conditions of the poor throughout the world wherever the Army is active. Established in 1977, SAWSO specializes in the areas of community health; HIV/AIDS; food security, water and sanitation; microfinance; anti-human trafficking; and disaster relief and restoration.

With a small staff, the SAWSO still exerts a big impact: By connecting with The Salvation Army's worldwide network of churches, SAWSO can provide its local partners with technical expertise and experienced staff to facilitate workshops on crucial topics.

As one example, in Kenya, SAWSO helps elevate women out of the ruthless cycle of poverty through the WORTH project—offering basic business education and tools for starting a sustainable business. (To learn more, visit sawso.org/sawso/about.)



STRUCTURE

THE SALVATION ARMY was founded as an evangelical organization dedicated to bringing people into a meaningful relationship with God through Christ. Its doctrinal basis is that of the Wesleyan-Arminian tradition. It is composed of persons who are united by the love of God and man, and who share the common purpose of bringing others to Jesus Christ.

The Army cooperates with churches of all denominations to meet the needs of the community—offering a total ministry for the total person.

Those who have drifted away from God and those estranged from their own religious affiliations are often attracted to The Salvation Army. They are first urged to seek Christ for pardon and deliverance from sin. Then they are encouraged to return to active membership in their own churches or to enroll as soldiers in a corps community center. Young people often are attracted through local music groups, youth camps and recreational centers.

— *Territories* —

THE UNITED STATES is divided into four territories, with headquarters in Hoffman Estates, Illinois; West Nyack, New York; Atlanta, Georgia, and Long Beach, California. The National Commander and National Chief Secretary serve in coordinating capacities at the national headquarters, in Alexandria, Virginia.

Each territory is a corporation and has its own commander, holding the rank of Commissioner. While operating under the broad general policies



established at the International Headquarters in London, local leadership is empowered to respond to conditions and needs in each community, while maintaining unity on overall policies.

The basic service unit of The Salvation Army is the corps community center, and the centers within defined geographical boundaries comprise a division, with 40 divisions in the United States responsible to their respective territorial headquarters. Specialized social work is conducted through programs such as the Adult Rehabilitation Centers.

Advisory organizations provide valuable assistance and advice. Local advisory boards review annual budgets, help coordinate programs with other agencies and provide advice for fundraising campaigns. A National Advisory Board provides guidance for programs and services throughout the United States.

— *Service Units* —

IN COMMUNITIES where no established corps community centers exist, The Salvation Army still extends its caring presence. Service extension units first help local citizens identify general and emergency needs around them. They can then network with statewide and interstate Salvation Army programs to find medical and dental assistance, help send children to summer camp, or supply gasoline, food and clothing to the needy.



— Corps community centers —

CHRISTIANITY IS synonymous with service for the Salvationist. Corps community centers offer everything from spiritual care to family counseling, day-care centers and youth activities. Each designates space for weekly worship services and Sunday school led by Salvation Army officers, who are ordained ministers. The public is invited to attend these worship services.

Corps community centers are organized in a military manner, using military terms throughout. For example, the pastor serves as an officer; lay members who subscribe to the doctrines of The Salvation Army are called soldiers and are “enrolled” after signing the “Articles of War.”

Soldiers may teach Sunday-school classes, play musical instruments, assist in visitation among the poor and sick, or aid in general social work. They abstain from the use of alcoholic beverages, drugs and tobacco.

Women play a vital and dynamic role in home and family life. They also play an important role in shaping society. Women’s Ministries and Home Leagues provide opportunities to win women for Christ, and to assist in their spiritual growth, nurturing and awareness of the needs of the family, the community, the nation and the world.

Since its earliest beginnings, music has played an important part of religious life in The Salvation Army—providing both the expression of a joyous faith and a form of recreation. Many officers and soldiers play musical instruments and participate in organized bands and choirs. In fact, famous conductors and composers have commended Army bands for their musical excellence, including John Philip Sousa and Meredith Willson. And many prominent musicians worldwide received their music training in The Salvation Army.



— Officers & soldiers —

OPERATIONS OF The Salvation Army are supervised by trained, commissioned officers who proclaim the gospel and serve as administrators, teachers, social workers, counselors, youth leaders and musicians. These men and women have dedicated their lives, skills and service completely to God. Officers and soldiers are both known as Salvationists.

Candidates for officership undergo an intensive, two-year course at one of several Salvation Army colleges across the country. The curriculum combines theory and field practice, including: doctrine, sociology and social work, psychology, public speaking, church history, community relations, business administration, and vocal and instrumental music.

After training, cadets are commissioned as lieutenants, ordained as ministers and assigned to active duty.



FINANCES

MORE THAN 25 million people each year in the United States benefit from the donations of individuals, foundations and corporations to The Salvation Army for its work meeting the social-service needs of local communities.

The Salvation Army's high standards for accounting practices and reporting have made it one of America's most trusted charitable organizations. All funds are managed and accounted within the highest generally accepted accounting principles. Annually, financial accounts are audited by independent audit firms, and copies of the audits are available for public inspection.

Programs are primarily supported by voluntary contributions from interested donors. Public and selected government sources provide financial support for some programs and services. Officers and members of the local congregation are encouraged to make regular tithing contributions.

Supplementary fund-raising programs are initiated whenever needed for disaster services, camp and summer programs, association memberships, and world services.

The Salvation Army also participates in many United Way community campaigns. Capital campaigns may be necessary, as needs dictate. Christmas brings about a special opportunity to help those in need. Therefore, red kettles, bell ringers and Angel Trees have become a tradition around the country.

Gift annuities, charitable trusts and endowment funds provide operating income through planned-giving agreements, allowing people to perpetuate their concern for others. A steadily increasing number of people remember The Salvation Army in their wills.



PUBLIC INFORMATION & ADVOCACY

THE SALVATION ARMY affirms the necessary involvement of its personnel in facilitating change at the personal level, as well as effecting strategies to help shape public policy. Public-policy changes can then lead to improved services, access and opportunity for those whom the Army serves. The biblical message of salvation implies abhorrence for every form of alienation, oppression and discrimination.

In partnership with the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, The Salvation Army has created the Human Needs Index, a powerful tool that introduces a multidimensional way to measure poverty and its effects. Published quarterly and developed from on-the-scene, street-level data amassed since 2004, the HNI is a critical tool for policy makers, social services providers and researchers. (To learn more, visit humanneedsindex.org.)

As the world has progressed technologically, The Salvation Army has kept pace with modern communication methods for conveying its vital message. Trained officers and skilled professionals use the press, magazines, radio, television and the internet to tell the gospel story and broadcast valuable information. Videos are also produced for distribution to schools, churches, service clubs and other community groups.

Within The Salvation Army, territorial headquarters print their own media, as do some divisional headquarters and corps community centers. And the Army produces various



publications, including *The War Cry*, the national, biweekly magazine, with approximately 10 million copies distributed annually in the United States. The official book publishing arm, Crest Books, publishes three books annually. And several periodicals published in London tell about activities around the world.

With such a powerful, life-changing story to tell, the Army takes advantage of every possible opportunity to proclaim it.



SUMMARY

THE SALVATION ARMY is a religious and social service organization, a branch of the Christian church dedicated to the never-ending battle against the twin enemies of sin and despair. It is a holistic ministry to body, mind and soul. The Salvation Army seeks to improve the physical environment, provide for material needs and lead people to a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Even though The Salvation Army has been active in the United States for more than 135 years, its spirit is still young and in tune with contemporary needs. New knowledge and technologies are sought in carrying out an integrated ministry to the whole person. Improved operational procedures are required as changing times dictate the adoption of new programs and services and the upgrading of existing ones.

We believe that God raised up The Salvation Army and inspired its unique capability to meet temporal and spiritual needs. We continue to affirm service without discrimination.

Implementation of the foregoing guiding principles enables us to not only provide our best service but also appropriately respond to God's great gift to the world: our Lord, Jesus Christ.

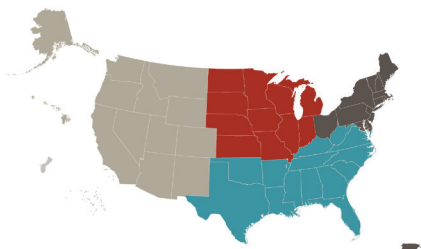
The "Army of Compassion" marches forward into a new era, dedicated to serving in the United States and around the world with the same passion and zeal that drove General Booth into the streets of London more than a century ago.



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