

# WHAT IS THE SALVATION ARMY?



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# THE SALVATION ARMY MISSION STATEMENT

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*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*


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# FOREWORD

This booklet provides a brief overview of The Salvation Army and answers many frequently asked questions. It is presented with an earnest prayer for guidance as we worship God and serve the needs of others.

Today, the Army's religious and social-service activities serve millions of men, women and children in more than 108 nations around the world. Volunteers, contributors and other supporters make those services possible in local communities.

William Booth began The Salvation Army in July 1865, preaching to a small congregation in the slums of London. With the military spirit of a professional soldier, he battled bravely against almost overwhelming enemies: debasing poverty, biased public policy, ignorance, addictions, sin and despair.

Booth's undaunted spirit attracted local followers whose numbers grew over the years. Thirteen years later, The Salvation Army became a legal entity with a military structure. 

# HISTORY



Founder William Booth and his daughter, Evangeline

**W**illiam Booth embarked upon his ministerial career in 1852, desiring to win the lost multitudes of England to Christ. He walked the streets of London to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ to the poor, the homeless, the hungry and the destitute.

Booth 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, William Booth was invited to hold a series of evangelistic 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.

Thieves, prostitutes, gamblers and drunkards were among Booth's first converts to Christianity. To congregations that were desperately poor, he preached hope and salvation. His aim was to lead people to Christ and link them to a church for further spiritual guidance.

In 1867, Booth 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." Known as the "Hallelujah Army," the converts spread out of the East End of London 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,"



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



**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.**

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.

From that point, 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. Lieutenant Eliza Shirley had 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, eventually convinced



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

Booth, in 1880, to send an official group 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.

President Grover Cleveland received a delegation of Salvation Army officers in 1886 and gave the organization a warm personal endorsement. This was the first recognition from the White House and would be followed by similar receptions from succeeding presidents.

The Salvation Army movement expanded rapidly to Canada, Australia, France, Switzerland, India, South Africa, Iceland and Germany. Currently, the United States is home to more than 8,500 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

# PURPOSE

The purpose of The Salvation Army is succinctly stated in its 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.*

The vision of The Salvation Army has always been to lead men and women into a proper relationship with God. The Army recognizes that a physical, emotional and social restoration must go hand in hand with spiritual rebirth. The Army practices an integrated ministry, uniting spiritual, social and physical support.

Social-service programs are a practical expression of the dominating spiritual motivation of The Salvation Army. Aid is given wherever and whenever the need is apparent, without distinction as to race or creed. There are no demands for adherence, simulated or real, to the principles of The Salvation Army. 

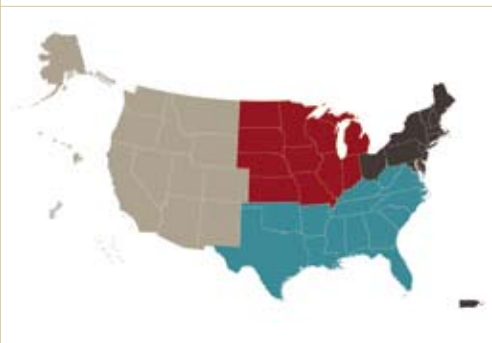
*“Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me.”*

—(Matthew 25:40, King James Version)

# STRUCTURE

The United States is divided into four territories, with headquarters in Des Plaines, Illinois; West Nyack, New York; Atlanta, Georgia and Long Beach, California. Each territory is a corporation and has its own commander, holding the rank of commissioner. The National Commander and national chief secretary serve in coordinating capacities at The Salvation Army National Headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia.

Each territory operates under the broad general policies established by International Headquarters. National USA policies are established by the Commissioners' Conference, com-



posed of all active commissioners serving at National Headquarters or in any of the territories in the USA, the national chief secretary and the respective USA territorial chief secretaries, and presided over by the National Commander. This structure permits local leadership 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. Some



**Officers become an integral part of their communities, seeking solutions that reflect local needs.**

cities may have several centers. They provide a variety of local programs, ranging from religious services and evangelistic campaigns to family counseling, day-care centers, youth activities and general programs. The religious and social services implement the Army's purpose of preaching the gospel to effect spiritual, moral and physical reclamation. The corps community 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 adult rehabilitation centers within these divisional commands.


## ADVISORY ORGANIZATIONS

Advisory organizations provide valuable assistance and advice. Local community leaders volunteer their efforts to help the Army in maintaining good business and professional relations. Local advisory boards review annual budgets, help coordinate programs with other agencies, and provide advice for local activities and fundraising campaigns. Other advisory organizations serve specific Salvation Army programs in similar ways. A National Advisory Board, for instance, provides guidance for programs and services throughout the United States.

## VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers from all walks of life strongly support The Salvation Army in almost all of its activities. Their time and commitment are

essential to the success of the organization. The millions of volunteers who function as part of the Army's ministry each year enhance the effectiveness of Army programs and services.

The Salvation Army owes its strength of service to the diversification of programs. Most of these programs are designed to involve community volunteers effectively to meet community needs. 

## OFFICERS & SOLDIERS

**O**perations 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. Lay members who subscribe to the doctrines of The



**Salvation Army officers dedicate their careers to serving and leading in their communities.**

Salvation Army are called soldiers. Along with officers, they are known as Salvationists.


Candidates for officership undergo an intensive, two-year course in residence at Salvation Army colleges in Chicago; Suffern, New York; Atlanta; and Rancho Palos Verdes, California. The curriculum combines theory and field practice, including Salvation Army doctrine, sociology and social work, psychology, Salvation Army regulations, homiletics, public speaking, Bible studies, church history, composition, community relations, business administration, accounting, and vocal and instrumental music.

After two successful years of training, cadets are commissioned as lieutenants, ordained as ministers, and assigned to active duty while continuing their education. Lieutenants are required to devote five years to additional studies. Numerous advanced training courses are available for officers wishing to specialize in a particular discipline. Institutes, seminars and conferences have been established to ensure that officers are informed of new and innovative programs and developments.

Promotion is based on length of service, character, efficiency, capacity for increased responsibility and devotion to duty. The ranks are lieutenants, captain, major, lieutenant colonel, colonel and commissioner. The international leader holds the rank of general and is selected by a high council of active-duty commissioners and territorial commanders.

Salvation Army officers must devote full time to Army work. An officer who marries must marry another Salvation Army officer or leave his or her officer status. Married lieutenants, captains and majors will individually carry the rank applicable to their own length of service, not

that of their spouse. In the case of married officers, the conferred ranks of lieutenant colonel, colonel and commissioner will be held jointly. As ordained ministers of the gospel, they are authorized to perform marriage ceremonies, funeral services and infant dedications. They also provide counseling and consolation to the bereaved.

The Army also employs lay personnel in many clerical, technical and professional posts. 

## SERVICES

### INDIVIDUAL REHABILITATION

**A**dult rehabilitation centers are among the most widely known of all Salvation Army services and comprise the largest resident rehabilitation program in the United States. Individuals with identifiable and treatable needs go to these centers for help when they no longer are able to cope with their problems. There they receive adequate housing, nourishing meals and necessary medical care, and they engage in work therapy. 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.

**Salvation Army programs offer a chance for people to rebuild their lives.**



Donated material, such as furniture, appliances or clothing, provides both needed work therapy and a source of revenue through the Army's thrift stores. More than 100 adult rehabilitation centers offer these programs in the United States.

## 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 men and women living on pensions or social security.

## WOMEN & CHILDREN

Efforts toward the rehabilitation of men are paralleled by aid to women and children. These services usually are provided at the local level, since The Salvation Army meets needs as they are identified within specific localities. In some areas, the need for both transitional housing and HIV/AIDS counseling occurs on a daily basis.

Outpatient care, aftercare for the young mother and counseling are helping to lessen repeated unwanted pregnancies. In order to restore young mothers to a productive place in society, some centers provide group therapy, vocational guidance, special high-school classes and day-care while mothers work.

Other major programs and facilities offered include emergency shelters, medical and counseling services for women suffering from substance abuse, homes for pre-delinquent adolescent girls, and children's homes. Day-care centers throughout the country maintain high standards of service, offering children wholesome food and affectionate care, as well



**Family programs respond to local needs with dedicated, caring staff.**

as activities designed to promote their physical, mental and spiritual growth and well-being. Education for parenthood projects is conducted for teenagers. Foster homes and adoption services are available in many communities.

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING

**T**he Salvation Army is actively involved in fighting against this international crime against human rights and in providing services for victims. It is estimated that nearly 1 million people are sold across international borders each year, having been bought and transported in slave-like conditions for sex and labor exploitation.

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

**T**he Salvation Army is stretching its "hand out to man" ministry to include additional programs for housing, employment, and community development.

## ADVOCACY

The Salvation Army affirms the necessary involvement of its personnel in facilitating change at the personal level, as well as effecting strategies that assist in shaping 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.



**The Salvation Army is committed to meeting both practical and spiritual needs.**

## YOUTH

An increased emphasis has been placed on youth activities for many years. Each corps community center has religious and character-building programming for young people. Among the activities are:

- Sunday school,
- troop-type programming for boys and girls,
- skill-building in a recreational setting.

Music classes, athletics, arts and crafts, and camping offer opportunities for developing special talents and skills.

Many youth programs, such as community centers and boys and girls clubs, have both full-time professional leadership and volunteers.

## FAMILY

**F**amily services endeavor to strengthen and unify the family unit, whether it is a traditional two-parent family, a blended family or a household led by a single adult. Emphasis is placed upon the importance of the family worshipping together.

Program services are constantly expanding and include financial assistance, counseling and case-work services when necessary. Counseling assists with child-parent relationships, marital problems, adolescent problems, unmarried mothers' situations and unemployment. Christmas activities and summer-camp holidays are planned, along with help for everyday family life.

## CORRECTIONS

**T**hrough cooperative arrangements with prison, probation and parole officials throughout the country, The Salvation Army plays a growing role in prison rehabilitation and crime prevention. In some jurisdictions, prisoners are paroled to the direct custody of The Salvation Army. Services include Bible correspondence courses, prerelease job-training programs, employment opportunities in cooperation with parole personnel, material aid and spiritual guidance for both prisoners and their families.

Community-based rehabilitation is provided in centers. Many Salvation Army 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 accept placement in community-service programs at corps community centers and institutions as an alternative to incarceration, or in the last months of their sentences.

In addition, Salvation Army officers and volunteers lead worship services in jails and prisons. Counseling and emergency assistance also are available to crime victims and/or families of those incarcerated.

## ANGEL TREE PROGRAM

The Salvation Army's Angel Tree Program provides new clothing and/or toys for children. A sponsoring company or corporation places a Christmas tree in a secure, high-pedestrian traffic area or lobby. The tree is decorated with numbered paper angel tags with the first name, age and gender of a child who will receive the gift. Contributors remove one or more tags from the tree and purchase appropriate gifts for

**Summer camps give children an opportunity to experience much more than fresh air.**

the child or children described on the tags. The toys are then delivered to the unit and later picked up by the parent to distribute to the child/children on Christmas Day.

## SUMMER CAMPS

Thousands of children from low-income families 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 who



understand their emotional needs and problems help them to mature.

Contact continues after the children return home. Often, entire families receive benefits from these camping experiences through expanded services. Seniors also find recreation and refreshment at camp sessions. Many camps have been winterized for year-round use by groups.



**The Salvation Army provides holiday assistance to more than 4 million persons annually.**

## CHRISTMAS

The “miracle” of Christmas is repeated over and over again through the joy of caring and sharing. The traditional red kettle is an integral part of the Christmas scene, with millions of dollars donated each year to aid needy families, seniors and the homeless, in keeping with the spirit of the season.

Donations provide Christmas dinners, clothing and toys for families in need. Financial assistance also helps with basic necessities, along with seasonal aid. Families of prisoners often are included.

Volunteers distribute gifts to shut-ins in hospitals and nursing homes, and shelters are open for sit-down dinners. The Salvation Army



**Salvation Army disaster teams stand ready to respond at a moment's notice.**

endeavors to bring spiritual light and love to those it serves at Christmas so that the real meaning of the season is not forgotten.

Many families receive aid over a period of months after the Christmas season as well—people struggling with difficult family, emotional or employment problems.

## EMERGENCIES & DISASTERS

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

With that constant awareness of people's needs, The Salvation Army is often among the first on the scene when disaster strikes. Officers are trained to meet all kinds of emergencies by providing food, shelter, clothing and spiritual comfort. Disaster canteens have become familiar sights to firemen, policemen and victims 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.

## MISSING PERSONS

**S**eeking missing persons is an international service provided by The Salvation Army. Cases are accepted for search in all parts of the world. Within the United States of America missing persons services are provided in the East and West territories. All other requests are referred to International Headquarters. Thousands of men and women have been reunited with their families.

## LEAGUE OF MERCY/ COMMUNITY CARE MINISTRIES

**T**he League of Mercy/Community Care Ministries provides a listening ear, a caring heart and a helping hand. With these simple tools, the men, women and youth volunteers assist individuals in their personal battles with loneliness, illness, sorrow and suffering.

They visit hospitals, convalescent and nursing homes, correctional facilities, veteran's medical centers, children's homes, and the homebound. They share a personal item (writing materials, magazines such as *The War Cry*, refreshments or a Bible), and also a gentle touch and a heartfelt "God bless you" with each person.

Members endeavor to follow Christ's injunction: "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it to me" (Matthew 25:40).

## SENIORS

**T**oday the 55-plus age category is the fastest-growing group in the country. This makes The Salvation Army programs for older adults more important than ever.

Each year thousands of older adults are served by The Salvation Army. In corps community centers throughout the nation, older adults gather to share interests, develop new skills and enjoy the company of their peers. The Salvation 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 the Army offers. Each center provides a variety of activities to meet diverse needs. Here, in an atmosphere of understanding and respect, new friendships are formed and talents discovered.

**Programs for seniors offer recreation and fellowship opportunities.**

### SENIOR CAMPING

Older adults also enjoy the beauty of God's great outdoors. Many Salvation Army camps are adapted to meet the physical needs of older adults. Clean, comfortable, easy-access camp facilities allow older adults an outing for the weekend or to enjoy week-long programs. Here God works His miracles of physical, emotional and spiritual renewal in the open air.

### ARMY RESIDENCES

The Salvation Army operates several residential facilities for



older adults. Here older people can live in an atmosphere of love, acceptance and encouragement. There are also several adult day-care service centers for those seniors who need specialized services.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE CLUBS

In many communities, The Salvation Army operates active men's fellowship clubs that provide service programs. Men meet for dinner meetings to plan community-service projects, special events and weekend retreats. They enjoy fellowship, music and speakers.

## THE ARMED FORCES

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 initiated a program that ministered to the needs of American military men at home and abroad. In the program, female Salvationists became known as "Sallies" 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.

## SERVICE UNITS

Service extension programs are available where no established corps community centers exist. These units work with committees of local citizens to identify and meet community needs, and to network with statewide

and interstate Salvation Army programs.

Services range from medical and dental assistance to sending children to summer camp or supplying gasoline, food, and clothing to the needy. Service units provide individual and emergency services according to general policies and the decisions of local committees.

## WORLD SERVICES

**T**he Salvation Army World Service Office (SAWSO) meets the challenges of its mission on a daily basis: SAWSO supports and strengthens the Salvation Army's efforts to work hand in hand with communities to improve the health, economic and spiritual conditions of the poor throughout the world. Established in 1977, SAWSO specializes in the areas of community health; HIV/AIDS; food security, water and sanitation; microfinance; international anti-human trafficking and disaster relief and restoration. With a small staff, SAWSO leverages its impact through The Salvation Army's worldwide network of churches, men's and women's fellowship groups and community care ministries.

SAWSO embraces community-driven solutions that improve living conditions; raise skill levels; increase productivity; and create community-wide participation for long-term development. This is accomplished by providing our local partners with technical expertise and facilitation of workshops on project design, planning, management, leadership and community development. Funding comes from both public and private sources. Visit our website for more information about our work and outreach as well as to learn how you can be involved: [www.SAWSO.org](http://www.SAWSO.org).

[SAWSO.org](http://www.SAWSO.org). 

# SALVATION


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

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. 

## ACTIVE SERVICE

**C**hristianity is synonymous with service for the Salvationist. The distinguishing feature in the religious life of The Salvation Army is active participation by its members. Corps community centers are the focus of the spiritual work and are organized in a military manner, using military terms throughout. The corps building is sometimes known as the “citadel.” The pastor serves as an “officer.” Members are “soldiers.” This sphere of activity is known as the “field.” Instead of joining The Salvation Army, members are “enrolled” after signing the “Articles of War.” When officers and soldiers die, they are “Promoted to Glory.”

Soldiers are disciples of Jesus Christ and are expected to accept responsibility in the work of The Salvation Army. Whenever possible, they participate in Army meetings. Soldiers may teach Sunday-school classes, play musical instruments, join the band, assist the corps officer in visitation among the poor and sick, or aid in general social work. Soldiers abstain from the use of alcoholic beverages, drugs and tobacco.



**Music has always been a key part of The Salvation Army's worship and fellowship.**

## MUSIC

**M**usic has been an important part of religious life in The Salvation Army. Throughout its history, music has symbolized the cheerful religion of Salvationists, providing both the expression of a joyous faith and a form of recreation. Many officers and soldiers play musical instruments and participate in informal musical sessions.

Bands and songster brigades (choirs) are recognized for their achievements and often are called upon to participate in community activities. Famous conductors and composers have commended Salvation Army bands for their musical excellence. The list includes John Philip Sousa, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Edwin Franko Goldman, Erik Leidzen, Meredith Willson, Dr. Rudolph Ringwald and others. Many prominent musicians throughout the world have received their music training in The Salvation Army.

## WORSHIP MEETINGS


**E**very corps community center designates space for weekly congregational worship services led by Salvation Army officers, who are ordained ministers. Responding to the spiritual needs of the local community, these services may occur on Sunday or another day of the week. Sunday school is also offered for all age groups. Members of the congregation are active participants, offering personal testimonies and sharing musical gifts. Congregational hymn singing is accompanied by organ and piano, brass ensembles, or the contemporary sound of guitars and drums. The public is invited to attend these worship services and can contact The Salvation Army.

## WOMEN'S MINISTRIES/ HOME LEAGUE

Women play a vital and dynamic role in home and family life. They also play an important role in shaping society. Women's Ministries/Home League provide opportunities and activities for personal development and enrichment based on the fourfold program—worship, education, service and fellowship.

The mission of Women's Ministries is:

- to bring women into a knowledge of Jesus Christ;
- to encourage their full potential in influencing family, friends and community;
- to equip them for growth in personal understanding and life skills;
- to address issues that affect women and their families in the world.

The motto of the Home League is, "I will live a pure life in my house..." (Psalm 101:2b, Good News Bible). 

## FINANCES

The Salvation Army's high standards for accounting practices and reporting have made it America's most trusted religious-charitable organization. All funds are managed and accounted within the highest generally accepted accounting principles. All financial accounts are audited annually by independent audit firms, and copies of the audits are available for public inspection. In addition, the regional divisional headquarters reviews the local corps records, and divisional accounts are examined by auditing staff from territorial headquarters. Territorial and national



**Donations provide for Christmas dinners, clothing and toys for families in need.**

accounts are reviewed by auditing staff from International Headquarters in addition to the independent auditor. All of these procedures are to ensure that moneys are expended appropriately. These procedures continue to affirm the high acceptance of The Salvation Army's accounting practices.


Programs provided by The Salvation Army are primarily supported by voluntary contributions from interested donors. Public and selected government sources provide financial support for some programs and services. Supplementary fund-raising programs are initiated for disaster services, camp and summer programs, association memberships, and world services and self-denial. The Salvation Army also participates in many United Way community campaigns. Capital campaigns may be necessary, as needs dictate.

Christmas brings about a special need to help those who are not able to provide their own gifts, clothing or food during this holiday season. Red kettles, bell ringers and Angel Trees have become


a tradition around the country.

Some income comes from collections made during open-air and public indoor meetings. Officers and members of the local congregation are encouraged to make regular weekly tithing contributions.

Approximately 35 million people benefit each year in the United States from the donations of individuals, foundations and corporations.

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. Gifts of stock, property and donations provided through the Internet allow The Salvation Army to help others throughout the year and around the world. Donors have come to know that The Salvation Army is one of the most efficient organizations in the United States at meeting the social-service needs of local communities. 

## COLLABORATION/ PARTNERSHIPS

The Salvation Army continues to seek partnerships with governmental and nongovernmental agencies. In doing so, the Army well recognizes the need for parameters that: affirm and promulgate the goals of each partner; carefully account for funds; provide for an adequate measure of outcomes; and encourage public interest and review. 

# PUBLIC INFORMATION & ADVOCACY

The Salvation Army carries its message around the world. Visibility has increased through traditional, everyday programs in communities across the nation. Disaster services, Christmas kettles and community services have expanded public awareness and solidified credibility.

As the world has progressed technologically, The Salvation Army has kept pace with modern communication methods. Trained officers and skilled professionals use the press, magazines, radio and television, and the Internet to tell the gospel story and to provide valuable information to the general public and to special audiences.

Communication occurs in the form of articles, news releases and announcements written by Salvation Army personnel for distribution to the media. Radio and television public-service announcements are produced for use by broadcast networks nationwide. Videos are produced for distribution to schools, churches, service clubs, women's organizations and other community groups.



**Public information efforts help spread news of The Salvation Army through all forms of media.**

Within The Salvation Army, territorial headquarters print their own newspapers, which serve as a source of information throughout the nation as they are distributed to other territories and the general public. Some divisional headquarters and corps community centers also produce newsletters at the local level.




*The War Cry* is the national, biweekly publication of The Salvation Army, with approximately 10 million copies distributed annually in the United States.

Other publications include *Young Salvationist*, a religious magazine for young people; *Word and*

*Deed*, a *Journal of Salvation Army Theology and Ministry*, published twice each year; and *Women's Ministry Resources*, an annual compendium of programs for Women's Ministry leaders. Crest Books is the official book publishing arm of The Salvation Army in the United States, publishing three books annually.

Periodicals published in London tell about activities around the world: *The Salvation Army Yearbook*, an annual international compilation of basic facts and statistics; *All the World*, a record of Salvation Army activity around the world; and *Global Exchange*, for Women's Ministries members.

In many communities, advisory boards or associations issue periodic newsletters and pamphlets providing information to the public. Social institutions and corps community centers maintain internal house organs for their membership. Religious literature and program materials (Bibles, books, pamphlets, songbooks and music) are available through a supplies and purchasing department in each territory. 

# SUMMARY

**T**he 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 125 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. 

*Coordination: National Community Relations  
and Development Department*

*The Salvation Army National Headquarters*

*Photographs: Greg Schneider, Ron Londen & The Salvation Army*

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[www.salvationarmyusa.org](http://www.salvationarmyusa.org)

CENTRAL TERRITORY

10 West Algonquin Road

Des Plaines, IL 60016

847-294-2000

[www.usc.salvationarmy.org](http://www.usc.salvationarmy.org)

EASTERN TERRITORY

P.O. Box C-635

440 West Nyack Road

West Nyack, NY 10994-0635

845-620-7200

[www.salvationarmy-usaeast.org](http://www.salvationarmy-usaeast.org)

SOUTHERN TERRITORY

1424 Northeast Expressway

Atlanta, GA 30329

404-728-1300

[www.uss.salvationarmy.org](http://www.uss.salvationarmy.org)

WESTERN TERRITORY

P.O. Box 22646, 90801-5646

180 East Ocean Boulevard

Long Beach, CA 90802-4709

562-436-7000

[www.salvationarmy.usawest.org](http://www.salvationarmy.usawest.org)