

THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS

A Ministry of Word and Deed

The mission of the Canada and Bermuda Territory is to share the love of Jesus Christ, meet human needs and be a transforming influence in the communities of our world. Community care ministries (CCM) is a tangible expression of this mission, ensuring that our faith is lived out through compassionate service.

From its origins in the league of mercy to its refreshed vision today, CCM remains deeply rooted in holistic, Christ-centred service—caring for people in body, mind and spirit. This new approach recognizes that practical ministry is an extension of our worship, and every Salvationist has a role in sharing the love of Jesus through action.

Biblical Foundation: Serving as the Hands and Feet of Christ

The Salvation Army in Canada and Bermuda holds firmly to the belief that our faith must be expressed in action. The refreshed CCM model aligns with this conviction by expanding our reach beyond visitation to include any initiative that supports our corps in demonstrating the love of Jesus in practical ways.

- **Faith in action:** “Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth” (1 John 3:18). CCM is not just about talking of love—it’s about living it out in service to others.
- **Serving the whole person:** “I have come that they may have life and have it to the full” (John 10:10). We recognize that meeting human needs is an act of worship, and we are called to care for physical, emotional and spiritual well-being.
- **A community of compassion:** “Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ” (Galatians 6:2). CCM calls corps to be a place of belonging and support, where all people—seniors, families, youth and the vulnerable—find care and connection.

Holistic Ministry: A New Approach to CCM

In the Canada and Bermuda Territory, we recognize that corps are centres of mission, where practical service and spiritual care go hand in hand. The refreshed CCM approach is designed to:

✓ **Engage the whole corps:** CCM is not the responsibility of a select few but an opportunity for every ministry, program and person in the corps to participate in practical outreach.

✓ **Integrate service into existing ministries:** Whether it is youth groups doing a community cleanup, a worship team leading music at a seniors’ residence or a small group partnering with a



social mission unit to provide a bible study, CCM connects what we already do with the mission of serving others.

✓ **Build meaningful partnerships:** Inspired by the early church (see Acts 2:42-47), we recognize that our reach is greater when we work together. This means corps partnering with local organizations, social mission units and community groups to increase impact and deepen relationships.

Shining the Light of Christ

Jesus tells us, “Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven” (Matthew 5:16). This is the essence of CCM: every act of kindness, every visit, every shared meal and every word of encouragement becomes a reflection of Christ’s love.

This refreshed approach to CCM is not just about doing more: it’s about doing ministry differently. It’s about ensuring that every corps has the opportunity to reach their community in a way that is practical, sustainable and centred in Christ.

As The Salvation Army, we are called to serve. As CCM, we are called to care. And as the people of God, we are called to love.