Date

Dear:

The Emergency Disaster Services (EDS) team at The Salvation Army requests to present school-aged children with a short interactive disaster preparedness presentation.

Disaster Preparedness: What is it and why is it important?

Experts agree that exposure to hazards (technical, natural, and anthropogenic) is inevitable, however, the impacts and effects of these hazards are preventable and subject to the level of preparedness, planning, and contingencies in place. The most vulnerable sectors of society are generally the ones who are most at risk, are the most impacted by disasters, and require the most support, including children. That is why it is critical to familiarize students with the hazards they face and how they can contribute positively to disaster planning.

Our EDS team has developed training guides outlining how children can recognize risks, improve disaster communication, plan for emergencies, and promote personal resilience. Preparing before disasters is vital to ensuring the essential skills, competencies, equipment, and resources are in place to meet disaster concerns.

At The Salvation Army, we emphasize that underscoring the importance of mitigation and preparedness, particularly at a young age, can change the culture of emergency awareness and foster a more resilient society.

Hazard-prone countries like Japan and Pakistan have proactively integrated these preparedness learning modules into school curriculums. Studies show that through effective risk education, children can actively identify their exposure and the levels of risk and vulnerability to various disasters for those around them. Such courses provide students with the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively prepare for disaster impacts and reduce the scope of response and recovery.

To genuinely champion our organizational ethos and become a transformative agency and leader for change throughout the NGO landscape, we must strive to improve program efficacy and integrate resilience and disaster risk reduction competencies. Engaging in emergency preparedness activities teaches children practical skills that can empower them during crises.

Teaching students what to do before and during disasters will help them remember how to integrate the necessary emergency measures for themselves and others.

Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,