



Giving
Hope
Today

Global Link



Sending Support to Nepal

India Eastern Territory

On April 25th, people were going about their daily activities when just before noon, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck in the central and western regions of Nepal. The quake's effects were devastating. In minutes it destroyed homes, commercial buildings, roads, infrastructure, temples, churches and access to remote areas.

"We were having a holiness meeting and were opening a time for sharing testimonies," says Major Ralte on her experience of the quake. "There was a great rumbling sound and the whole ground was shaking. Outside, people were shouting and calling out to their respective gods. The pipelines and the water tank broke off the roof. Cows were mooing, dogs were barking and the crows were hovering. The house was shaking so much that it was difficult to get to the door, but after some time, we managed to get out."

The local Salvation Army quickly sprang into action, caring for their neighbours, while support from the international Salvation Army family provided additional resources and personnel. The Canada and Bermuda Territory, from the generous support of donors, sent funding to provide food to 8,000 people living in 25 villages in the remote mountainous area of northern Ghorka.

The Salvation Army partnered with MountainChild, a US charity that works in the remote areas of Nepal.

MountainChild has been working in these regions for over 10 years, and have built strong relationships with village leaders. This partnership has delivered food to the people in the area. Usually these items would be delivered on foot but since the quake, all walking trails have been destroyed and all food was delivered by helicopter.

The Salvation Army is continuing to respond to the needs of Nepal's most vulnerable. International Headquarters' emergency relief team is on the ground providing emotional, spiritual and practical support.



Children in Nepal pray and give thanks as their family receives food items from The Salvation Army.

God's Love

Recently, I attended the 25th anniversary celebration of Health Partners International Canada. In his words of appreciation, the CEO focused on our interdependence on one another as organizations that provide support for communities in crisis.

It's a theme I have been pondering throughout this past year. John writes of this in his first letter as he emphasizes the mark of the Christian is in how he loves others. "If anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Let us not love in word or speech but in deed and in truth."¹



Major Gillian Brown
World Missions Director

In this issue of Global Link we share stories of love in action in the response to emergencies, with the earthquake in Nepal one of the most current disasters. Responding in love at such times is rooted in our commitment to one another as an international Salvation Army, a day to day commitment to care for one another through sunshine and sorrow. It is a relationship where our interdependence is normative, not optional. It is through the pooling of resources and partnering with other organizations that we often do our best work.

Thank you for your generous support of the international Salvation Army. You have played a part in the success of each of the stories shared in this issue!

Gillian Brown

Gillian Brown (Major)
World Missions Director

If you would like to support The Salvation Army's disaster relief efforts, please visit www.salvationarmy.ca/giftsofhope and choose the disaster relief option.

¹ 1 John 3:16-18

Providing Hope

Sri Lanka Territory

In February 2015, World Missions team member Manjita Biswas visited Sri Lanka. Manjita visited the Polonnaruwa community and was blessed to meet two of the 14 women in The Salvation Army livelihood support program.

Mrs. S. Muthumenika, 67, widowed and suffering from kidney disease, is one of the beneficiaries of this program. Her daughter, who lives with her to help with daily chores, also assists with the business as Muthumenika is unable to perform certain tasks due to her illness.

Muthumenika has a small business where she purchases milk from local farmers and then resells it from her home. She is one of the suppliers to Nestle. On average, she will make 500-600 rupee's a day (CDN \$9.00). This money will cover the cost of living and medical expenses. In order to sustain her business, she required a larger area to store the containers of milk. The Salvation Army Canada and Bermuda Territory funded an extension on her roof through the livelihood support program to allow her to store the milk in a safe and protected area.

Mrs. W.G. Vimalasiri, 45, is another beneficiary of the program. She just recently began the program, but has already seen the benefit it has had on her business. Vimalasiri makes joss sticks, otherwise known as incense. Joss sticks are used for worship and cultural celebrations in Sri Lanka.

Using a machine that The Salvation Army Canada and Bermuda Territory purchased for her through the program, she is able to dip the wooden sticks in the fragmented oil. The sticks and oil are provided by a local merchant who pays her for the labour. Currently, she is producing 2000 sticks a day, but is hopeful that she can produce 4000-5000. The joss sticks sell in bundles of 1,000 for 95 rupees (CDN \$1.18). This is the only steady source of income for the family. Her husband, 51, suffers from kidney disease and is on dialysis, unable to work. They have two girls, six and nine. This business provides the income needed to feed the family and care for her sick husband.

The livelihood support program will benefit 100 recipients. It began in February 2015 and 14 women are currently participating. The main objective of the livelihood support program is to empower women and vulnerable people through training and support to develop sustainable income.

The Salvation Army will continue to work in the community, providing opportunities for people to see the love of God in action and give opportunities to share the Gospel.

Mrs. Vimalasiri, her husband and two children, with the joss stick machine The Salvation Army gave to her as part of the Vocational Training program.



Mrs. Muthumenika outside her home.



Sponsor Support for Quality Care

Uganda Territory

Uganda has emerged from its years of dictatorship and civil wars as a poor, yet beautiful, country. There are many orphans as a result of the war and HIV/AIDS. The elderly and child-led households continue in the cycle of poverty.

The Brighter Futures children's sponsorship program supports three institutions in this territory. The Salvation Army Tororo Children's Home is a long-standing beacon in the eastern part of Uganda and filled to capacity. The home raises cows and goats; providing milk and meat, with the added benefit that they naturally 'mow' the grass. The children receive proper nutrition and medical attention as needed. Each child sleeps under a mosquito net, protecting them from malaria. Life is basic, but it is providing a good foundation for the children to have hope for a brighter future.

The Kampala Home for Joy is a home for physically disabled children. Some children have multiple handicaps, but they are glad to be taken to the local school to receive an education. They know that without an education there is no hope for a future. In the evenings they have devotions, giving praise and thanksgiving to God for loving them and taking good care of them through the home.

The Brighter Futures program also provides support to a nursery school for children in the neighbourhood of the Territorial Headquarters in Kampala. The children and their families are grateful for the nursery school. Without it, a child enters primary one at a disadvantage and often does not survive in the school environment. The support from Canadian sponsors provides an opportunity for young children to receive a great educational start preparing them to enter the government school system. There is also a vocational training program in sewing and tailoring for young adults. There is always a waiting list for the training, as it helps each graduate to make a living in their home area.

Uganda sends greetings and thanks to all Brighter Futures sponsors who contribute faithfully toward a good beginning in children's lives.



Despite her challenges, a 14 year old girl leads evening devotions at Kampala Home for Joy.

A child at Kampala Home for Joy, playing his crutch as a guitar, praising God for his blessings.



Children from the nursery school at Tororo Children's Home wave hello to Brighter Futures sponsors.



Boys from Tororo Children's Home are grateful for a nutritious meal.





Brighter Futures
THE SALVATION ARMY CHILDREN'S SPONSORSHIP

Thank you

"Hello from Joyland! We are all well and we hope that you are fine also! All of us are blessed with the opportunity to study in our home. We have fun in the evening while we play with friends, we love to go to church and we have a wonderful Sunday school! This home meets all of our needs; food, bedding, education, play, protection and growth in body, mind and spirit! We are heartedly thankful for your every support and your help. God bless you and we all pray for you!"

Thank you from all of us here at Joyland Children's Home!"



Schrish	Nicola	Akshay	Mitham	Jasica
Tanya	(Meerab)	MARYAM	Newbal	Joy
Amir	Neha	Raiba	Sanaul	Mohak
Rahab	Sayant	Hing	Aimee	Rohit
(Pooja)	Prada	Robing	Sadaf	Sara
R	Arzoo	Arsha	Arjoj	
Anela	Alina	Arsh	Alina	

A thank you letter received from
Joyland Children's Home in
Lahore, Pakistan.



100 Homes in Haiti

Caribbean Territory



The Salvation Army Canada and Bermuda Territory is pleased to report that 100 homes have been built in Haiti, with another 150 in process.

On a recent visit to Haiti, Manjita Biswas met Monique, 58. Monique's home was destroyed by the earthquake in 2010. Until three weeks ago she, along with her four children and three grandchildren, lived in a makeshift home.

Everyday Monique kneels on her prayer mat to give thanks and to pray for The Salvation Army and its donors.

World Missions
THE SALVATION ARMY
CANADA & BERMUDA TERRITORY

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