

GLOBAL LINK



Giving
Hope
Today

TERRITORIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLD MISSIONS DEPARTMENT IN CANADA AND BERMUDA

SUMMER 2017



Children at The Salvation Army Kibera Nursery

NURTURING THE FUTURE IN KIBERA

By Brianne Zelinsky

The Kibera slum settlement – a division of Kenya's capital city, Nairobi – is home to an estimated one million, many of whom live in abject poverty earning less than \$1 a day. With mass unemployment in the settlement, the communities are forced to grapple with many social issues as a result of underdeveloped infrastructure, including poor sewage disposal, limited access to water, cramped living quarters, and common illnesses.

The Salvation Army Kibera Nursery operates within the heart of the slum, providing education to children in the surrounding neighbourhoods, as many families cannot afford the cost of school fees. At the nursery, local Salvation Army officers and teachers host two full classes for young children and support them in their education both within and outside the

classroom. Upon arrival at school, children are given a nutritional breakfast and later provided lunch, which often consists of porridge. The meals provided at the nursery are vital to a student's well-being, as many return to school undernourished after an academic recess.

In addition to the childcare offered on the compound, many mothers of the students will gather during school hours to craft handmade ornaments as a small source of income. These beaded figurines are frequently sold to visitors for 450 Kenyan Shillings (\$5.95) each, and the profit is distributed among the women. A majority of these women cannot secure stable jobs and are HIV-positive. The Salvation Army covers a large sum of each child's education, while still requesting a small contribution from the parents.



Continued on page 2



*All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.*

As summer quickly approaches I am reminded of the song *All Things Bright and Beautiful* written in 1848 by Cecil F. Alexander and set to the light and airy English melody arranged by Martin Shaw. Over the years this hymn has been sung in many languages and in many countries and contains a simple but profound message: God made the earth and all that is in it.

As I travel, I meet wonderful people, God's creation, who are positively impacted as a result of your support. In this issue, we share some of the practical ways your financial assistance is helping people in Bangladesh, Kenya, Zimbabwe and Papua New Guinea through projects such as education, water and micro-finance. Our projects aim to improve the well-being of communities around the world as we address the urgent needs identified in the United Nations' *Sustainable Development Goals*: www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment. We have used icons to identify which goals are addressed by particular projects.

All Canadians are called to support the Sustainable Development Goals. As you contribute to Brighter Futures, Gifts of Hope and the World Services Appeal, you are supporting this global approach to end poverty and as a result, lives are changed, one person at a time. As we enter this summer, let us be mindful of all of God's creation, here and beyond our borders.

I want to thank you on behalf of the many beneficiaries for your continued interest in the lives of others. Today, around the world, you are making a difference!

Major Brenda Murray
World Missions Director

Kibera continued...

This is done to ensure that the parents remain in the habit of generating income when their children graduate from the nursery.

When a team from The Salvation Army Canada and Bermuda's World Missions Department visited the project, they were able to observe how these women carefully crafted each chicken and

reindeer figurine. They are able to do this activity while observing their children joyfully reciting nursery rhymes and running around the playground.

While the microfinance project affords them a small, infrequent income, the strong community they build while fellowshiping with other women stands out as the most empowering benefit.



IMPACTING CHILDREN'S LIVES IN ZIMBABWE

By Major Donna Barthau



Brighter Futures Children's Sponsorship helps provide primary education to 771 children in impoverished, drought-prone areas of Zimbabwe.

With sponsor support, children from child-headed households, orphans and those from homes led by the elderly or suffering from disease are assisted with school fees, uniforms and school supplies. In addition, all students benefit from the assistance of educational materials provided to their school.

A special nutrition element is added into our support, especially for the lower primary students, since many come to school hungry and malnourished. The terrible droughts of recent years mean that even the little bits of crop produced are of very poor quality and many people cannot provide enough food for their families.

Brighter Futures also supports the

Tshelanyemba area, in partnership with the Silokwethemba Project led by Max Vincent, a Salvationist from British Columbia. They supply school fees, shoes, and host a soccer school and tournament each summer.

In the past 12 years, over 5,800 children have been assisted by the hard work of this team and Brighter Futures Children's Sponsorship has been happy to partner with them. All of the children helped are orphans or come from vulnerable families. There are wonderful success stories, such as a qualified secondary school teacher who finished his own secondary education through this program.

Thanks to our sponsors, the lives of thousands of children in Zimbabwe are being influenced, enhanced and empowered through education, nutrition and good care.

HOPE LIVES IN DHAKA

By Major Brenda Murray

The Integrated Children's Centre (ICC) is a residential program located in Dhaka, Bangladesh, that provides quality education, housing and health facilities for up to 48 children, some of whom are visually impaired. Presently, 27 girls and 13 boys call the ICC their home.

Built on the same compound is a school where the children are integrated into the regular curriculum with additional supports as necessary. This bright and spacious compound provides lots of space for the children to run and play safely.

On any given day, you can hear the sounds of happy children as they go about their day with a variety of activities, such as playing, studying or doing chores.

During school hours, some of the visually impaired boys attend a class that teaches them how to make stools out of bamboo which can then be sold in local markets. This opportunity provides a life skill that the boys will always have, and for some, this may be a means of supporting themselves in the future.

Upon a recent visit, the boys showed us



their dorm and their new renovations of wall tile. The tiles were installed to keep the walls clean as the boys who are visually impaired guide themselves around their living quarters. This renovation project was

provided by Brighter Futures Children's Sponsorship funding and according to the staff at the home, has made a big difference in the cleanliness of the dorm.

Captain Sara Bapai, presently the Education and Mission Support Officer at the Salvation Army Bangladesh Command, moved into the home at the age of six and grew up there. She speaks of her time in the home as a happy time and says "they taught us to do many things like sewing and cooking and keeping our rooms clean."

Later, Sara became a teacher and taught for eight years at the ICC before training to become a Salvation Army officer. She believes that her time residing, studying and later, teaching, at the ICC provided the foundation for a meaningful life and she is pleased to give back to her community now as a Salvation Army officer.



WATER BRINGS LIFE TO PAPUA NEW GUINEA

By Bayardo Gonzalez

The Salvation Army Koki Clinic is located in Papua New Guinea's capital, Port Moresby. Situated within a city that is home to over 250,000 people, the clinic has proven to be a vital resource for the continued health of the area.

The settlements that surround Koki Clinic host some of the most vulnerable people in the country. Here, basic human needs are an everyday struggle – food, clothing, health care and water all come at a premium.

In Papua New Guinea, Koki Clinic is classified as a Stage 3 health centre (the equivalent to a Canadian 'Urgent Care Centre'). It offers outpatient support and also focuses on HIV and sexually transmitted infections, particularly for at-risk persons, such as sex workers.

Within the first two months of 2017, Koki Clinic treated over 2,800 patients. With only 23 staff members and frequent power outages, the clinic faces significant challenges in its operations.

Worse still, Koki Clinic experiences frequent cuts to its water supply. When this happens, the facility has no choice but to close down and turn patients away.



Medical facilities cannot provide adequate, hygienic services without steady access to water – custodial staff must be able to sanitize, health care workers are required to maintain clean hands and, most importantly, incidences of heavy bleeding trauma depend on a consistent water supply.

Thanks to the incredible support of our Gifts of Hope donors, The Salvation Army has purchased a life-saving 9,000 litre water tank for the clinic that will ensure the facility has access to clean water.

The tank will be connected to the town's water supply, and will act as a back-up water source during the frequent shut-offs. Along with installation, there will be regular maintenance checks to ensure that the tank and pump are in excellent working order.



Getting water is not as easy as
turning on the tap in the kitchen.



Gifts of *Hope*

Give the gift of water
and give families in
developing countries
access to safe
drinking water.

SalvationArmy.ca/giftsofhope



GLOBAL LINK – SUMMER 2017

Published by The Salvation Army World Missions Department
Territorial Headquarters for Canada and Bermuda
2 Overlea Boulevard, Toronto, Ontario M4H 1P4

Phone: 416-422-6224 Email: world_missions@can.salvationarmy.org
www.sawworldmissions.ca

© 2017 The Salvation Army. All rights reserved.



[salvationarmyincanada](https://www.facebook.com/salvationarmyincanada)



[@salvationarmy](https://twitter.com/salvationarmy)