

# GLOBALLINK



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Hope  
Today

TERRITORIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLD MISSIONS DEPARTMENT IN CANADA AND BERMUDA

SUMMER 2018



Students eager to learn at Bapatla High School



## A PROMISING FUTURE

By Major Bill Barthau

Officially opened in 1952, The Salvation Army's Bapatla High School is located in the town of Bapatla in the India Central Territory.

I recently had the opportunity to travel to India and visit this school. When I entered the classroom, the pupils were excited to speak to me in English. This was a surprise to me since the national language is Hindi, but the students' mastery of English is testament to their enthusiasm to learn.

During my visit, the students were preparing to write their national exams, hoping to earn the good results needed to continue their studies at the next level.

Mrs. J. Elizabeth, a Salvationist, is the current headmistress at Bapatla and is a former student of the school. After graduating, she went on to become a certified teacher and has since been at

Bapatla for 28 years. Mrs. Elizabeth is not the only member of staff who is a former student—in fact, many have returned to teach a new generation of youth.

Each day, the school's 300-plus students participate in classes and receive a hot meal. The student body represents a mix of religious communities, with Muslims, Hindus and Christians studying alongside one another. A number of pupils come to the school from the nearby Salvation Army Bapatla Boy's and Girl's Homes, which **Brighter Futures** sponsors have supported for over seven years.

Growing up, many of the students' parents were unable to receive an education or learn how to read and write. The majority now earn daily wages working as agricultural labourers in the rural villages surrounding Bapatla.

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Education is the key to unlocking future opportunities. Nelson Mandela said, “Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” If we want to change the world, we will need to work together to help provide educational material and opportunities for marginalized children and young adults across the globe.

This issue of the *Global Link* highlights educational opportunities supported by our *Brighter Futures* program and shows the difference education makes in the lives of individuals. For example, Mrs. J. Elizabeth, the headmistress at Bapatla High School who was once a student at this school, today is in a position of leadership. She is utilizing the education she received to give back to her community as a teacher. I am happy to say that in my various travels to schools abroad, I often hear this narrative repeated. I believe that when we work together and provide educational opportunities, we break the cycle of poverty.

I hope you enjoy reading each of the articles in this summer’s issue and, through them, are challenged to see the difference you are making in communities around the world.

Sincerely,

Major Brenda Murray  
World Missions Director

## A Promising Future continued...

The Salvation Army’s early establishment of educational institutions in India has been instrumental in the development of youth and leadership. Bapatla High School continues to be actively engaged in providing the best education and leadership development possible to build and shape all of its students for a promising future.

The youth grow not just academically, but also spiritually, as they adhere to the school’s strong Christian values. By obtaining a quality education, these young people have been given an opportunity their parents did not have, to break free from the cycle of poverty.



## ELIMINATING BARRIERS TO EDUCATION

By Ruth Hobbis



Over 900 children have been left without parents in Kawama, Zambia, due to HIV/AIDS and other life-threatening diseases. As their new guardians are often unable to afford school fees, especially with children of their own to care for, orphans in the region are forced to leave school. Without their parents to care for them and the opportunity to receive an education, these children have little chance at success.

Since 2016, *Brighter Futures* children’s sponsors have supported Kawama Community School, providing school fees and uniforms to children in need. By eliminating these barriers, our sponsors give vulnerable children the chance to receive a quality education, which will pave the way for them to succeed in adulthood.

A guardian from Kawama Community School wrote a personal thank you to Salvation Army sponsors:

*“As the guardian of one of the beneficiaries from the sponsorship program at Kawama Community School, I am writing to thank you for all the support you have extended to my son during his fifth grade at the school. Your support means more than you’ll ever know to us as a family.*

*The children now attend classes daily because they do not need to worry about paying the fees. We are thankful that our children will be able to read and write in the local and English languages and we thank God for the work that The Salvation Army is doing.”*



# GIFTS OF HOPE PARTNERS WITH BRIGHTER FUTURES CHILDREN'S SPONSORSHIP

By Marilyn Kershaw

Education is one of the most significant tools in tackling poverty and inequality around the world. When girls and boys are provided with quality education, they have the knowledge and skills needed to reach their full potential, find work and contribute to society. In line with our holistic approach to international development, our *Gifts of Hope* program supports the *Brighter Futures Children's Sponsorship* program in a variety of ways. The following are two examples that illustrate this partnership:



## Latin America North

At the Children's Comprehensive Development Centre in Gualache, El Salvador, children are provided with nutritious meals and clean water in this after-school educational support program. Sustainability of this program is possible through chicken farming using donations allocated to Chickens in the *Gifts of Hope* program. Income from breeding the chickens and selling eggs supports the children's education program and also provides nutrition for the children's meals. While participating in chicken farming, the children develop character and learn important life skills.



## Pakistan

When cholera began to spread through various Salvation Army institutions due to unclean water sources, the Joyland Girl's Home requested support to install a water purifier and treatment system. This was made possible through donations allocated to Water and Sanitation in the *Gifts of Hope* program.

Miriam, one of the beneficiaries at Joyland states, "We are thankful for the management of The Salvation Army to care for us so the clean and hygienic environment is giving us a healthy lifestyle and is helpful to decrease the ratio of illness in the home."

Thank you for helping us to provide education and hope to children in the care of The Salvation Army.



For more information about gift ideas visit [SalvationArmy.ca/giftsofhope](http://SalvationArmy.ca/giftsofhope)

# ENCOURAGING EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

By Yamuna Kanagalingam

The first five years of life are the foundation that shapes a child's future health, happiness, growth and development. The Salvation Army St. Kitts Preschool, located in the Caribbean, provides early childhood education to give young children the very best chance at long-term success. The preschool also provides nutritious meals and extra tutoring for older children.

As a teacher, Mrs. Paulette Tyson is very grateful for the teacher training and materials she has received from The Salvation Army through *Brighter Futures Children's Sponsorship*. The High Scope Curriculum is an educational approach that encourages children's active participatory learning and direct, hands-on experience.

"Before these materials were introduced, it was difficult for me because I was always searching for something to teach and sometimes it was hard to keep the children focused," says Tyson. "With

the use of these materials, I am able to manage my class better and my students are more interested in their lessons."

These materials have also helped her to be a better teacher. "The content has helped me structure my weekly lesson plan. I am better able to communicate and interact with my students using the books and materials now available to us. Teaching and learning have become easier and more enjoyable."

Mrs. Tyson is very grateful to sponsors for giving her the opportunity to apply this theoretical and practical training in her work as a teacher. We are encouraged to hear that the children are more creative in their play and are developing socially, emotionally, physically, spiritually and academically.



# TOOLS FOR SUCCESS

By Ruth Hobbis

Can you imagine having to share a single textbook with a whole class, or worse—having no textbooks at all? Unfortunately, this is the reality in many high schools in Liberia, where looting during times of civil unrest has left many lacking the materials necessary to provide a quality education.

Thanks to generous donors such as you, The Salvation Army set out to improve science education at Len Miller Secondary School, John Gowans Secondary School and William Booth Secondary School in Liberia. Donations were used to purchase textbooks, informational posters, anatomy models, beakers, chemicals and other lab equipment so that now over 2,000 students benefit each year from practical lab demonstrations.

The students take great pride in these new materials and treat them with utmost care. Science classes have become more interactive and engaging, which has led many to increase their interest in the sciences and earn higher grades in these subjects. Lab demonstrations are often held on Saturdays and, even on the weekend, they are always full. Given the opportunity, the students have shown they are eager to learn.

As a result of this project, The Salvation Army school system in Liberia was selected to pilot the West African Senior School Certificate Examinations (WASSCE). Students who pass these exams are eligible to further their studies at the university level.

Students and staff at these three high schools would like to thank Salvation Army donors for giving them the tools to succeed.



4 QUALITY EDUCATION



**THE SALVATION ARMY**

# Gifts of Hope

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