

# GLOBAL LINK



Giving  
Hope  
Today

TERRITORIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLD MISSIONS DEPARTMENT IN CANADA AND BERMUDA

WINTER 2017



Primary school children in the Caribbean



## SNAPSHOTS FROM THE CARIBBEAN

By Major Donna Barthau

Recent hurricanes in the Caribbean have wreaked havoc across many islands. Fortunately, the pre-schools and children in St. Lucia and St. Kitts that we support through *Brighter Futures Children's Sponsorship* survived the devastation, experiencing only hydro outages and minor problems from heavy wind and rain.

After attending our nursery and kindergarten schools, the children are well prepared to start primary school. In St. Kitts, primary school students with developmental disabilities can also attend a separate program twice a week to receive extra help with their studies.

In St. Lucia, one child was forced to leave school when his family could no longer afford the fees. Levi missed so much school that his development regressed and he stopped talking. Thanks to your support, Brighter Futures was able to help Levi and

other impoverished children pay for their school fees and other educational materials.

After he had returned to school for several weeks, Levi began to talk again and is now doing well in class. The principal of his school presented Levi's case to the Ministry of Special Education and he is assured a place at a new school with teachers who are trained to assist students with special needs. Levi's family is truly grateful to all our sponsors who have helped Levi return to school so he can develop to his full potential.

In Jamaica, we support a rural basic school, which teaches children social and academic skills, and provides them with a nutritious cooked lunch every day. The children are happy and developing well.

There are several projects currently in the planning stage, including providing assistance to The Salvation Army Jamaica School for the Blind, as well as a nutritious

Continued on page 2





*A thrill of hope; the weary world rejoices,  
for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.*

*O Holy Night* was written in 1847 by the French poet Placide Cappeau de Roquemaure while travelling by train through France. It is noted that the inspiration for this beautiful carol was the desire of the poet to insert himself into the centre of the Christmas story, as recorded in the Gospel of Luke. What I love about this carol is the visualization of hope as a new and glorious morn.

As you read this issue of the *Global Link*, you will see the many ways in which the international Army provides hope to people within our reach.

Over the past few months, we have witnessed devastation caused by hurricanes, floods and mudslides. In the midst of recovery from these disasters, Salvation Army first responders seek to be a beacon of hope as they provide shelter, food and hygiene kits to those in need.

In the article on the pig project in China, you will see how the gift of a pig impacts the lives of individuals, families and entire communities. Our *Gifts of Hope* program gives Canadians the opportunity to purchase special items that provide support for our integrated community development projects.

Lastly, children's sponsorship projects, such as in Tanzania and the Caribbean, make a lasting impact, giving vulnerable children hope for a brighter future.

As you prepare for Christmas this year, may the peace of Christ and the hope found in Him be known to you.

Sincerely,

Major Brenda Murray  
World Missions Director

## Snapshots from the Caribbean continued...

feeding program for children living in a rural village in Haiti. Our Hurricane Matthew relief efforts in Haiti are coming to a close. Over the past year, we helped repair schools and provided educational materials to child victims of the hurricane.

By sponsoring the Caribbean Territory through **Brighter Futures**, you are helping over 200 vulnerable children in four different countries. Together, we are making a difference in the lives of children, their families and communities.



# RESPONDING TO INTERNATIONAL DISASTERS

By Major Brenda Murray



In recent months, we have witnessed numerous catastrophic natural disasters and The Salvation Army has been in the thick of these crises, responding to human need brought on by hurricanes, earthquakes, flooding and mudslides. The following projects are financially supported by The Salvation Army Canada and Bermuda Territory, through the World Missions Department:

### Landslides in Rangamati, Bangladesh

Heavy and incessant rainfall from June 11 to 13 caused a massive landslide and flash floods in many parts of the Chittagong Hill Tracts in Bangladesh. This tragic disaster claimed as many as 135 lives, 30% of whom were children. In partnership with the Bangladeshi government, it was decided that The Salvation Army would focus its efforts on rebuilding houses for 150 of the most severely affected families in the Rangamati Hill district.

### Floods in Bangladesh

This project is assisting 750 families (approximately 3,750 people) who have been affected by flooding in northern Bangladesh. The floods, which were caused by heavy rains and excessive water flow, have impacted 31 districts in this part of

the country. The Army's response includes the distribution of food and housing repair materials.

### Hurricane Irma – Barbuda

The Caribbean Territory is assisting individuals from Barbuda, who were evacuated from their island and relocated to Antigua. Hot meals, food parcels, hygiene kits, cleaning materials and baby care items were provided to over 300 people, along with emotional and spiritual support.

### Hurricane Irma – Cuba

Hurricane Irma hit Cuba as a category 5 hurricane, leaving destruction in her path. The Salvation Army responded by providing food, shelter and personal items for the individuals whose homes and livelihoods were destroyed. One hundred affected families and patients from the Rehabilitation Clinic will benefit from this much needed support.

If you would like to support our current and future international disaster work, please visit [saworldmissions.ca](http://saworldmissions.ca).

On behalf of the many beneficiaries,  
**thank you!**



# DID YOU KNOW?...

**Goderich, Ontario**  
In August, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau participated in a back-to-school event run by The Salvation Army in Goderich, Ont., helping to fill backpacks with school supplies for children in need. As a thank you, the Ontario Great Lakes Division of The Salvation Army made a \$75 donation to **Brighter Futures** on behalf of Justin Trudeau's children, and a \$100 donation to **Gifts of Hope** to support adult literacy on behalf of Justin Trudeau and his wife, Sophie.

**St. John's, Newfoundland**  
Congratulations to St. John's Citadel for raising \$1,900 for the Malbork Children's Centre in Poland. Children attending the St. John's Vacation Bible School in Newfoundland were excited to take part in numerous fundraising activities (including a collection, love offering, and recycling program) to help provide healthy meals for vulnerable children in Poland. Enthusiasm for the fundraiser grew each day, and the children learned the value of helping others less fortunate than themselves.



**International Headquarters**  
The Salvation Army in Kenya and International Headquarters, along with the Sweden and Latvia Territory, Switzerland, Austria and Hungary Territory, International Development Services and International Emergency Services, created a video promoting peace ahead of the recent elections in Kenya.

Some of the children we support through **Brighter Futures** are featured in this video! Coming from different tribes, towns and cities, and having different outlooks in life, the video captures the essence of what it means to be peaceful – knowing that “everyone is somebody”, “Kenya is home” and, because of that, people can live together as “one family, united and free.” To watch the video, type “kenya my home” into the search bar on YouTube, or follow this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RHHwrrx3M>

Want to see your fundraiser highlighted?  
Email us at  
[world\\_missions@can.salvationarmy.org](mailto:world_missions@can.salvationarmy.org)

## HOPE FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE IN TANZANIA

By Major Donna Barthau

**T**he Swahili word for “Hope” is “Matumaini.” **Brighter Futures Children's Sponsorship** is thrilled to assist the Matumaini “School of Hope” for physically disabled and Albino children in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

This boarding school, which houses 200 residents, has been a beacon of hope for children with disabilities since 1969. In Tanzania, it is common to meet disabled professionals who received their educational and therapeutic grounding at Matumaini.

One significant component of our support at Matumaini is providing funds for prosthetics, braces, crutches and custom-made shoes for the children. Helping with school supplies, recreational equipment, nutritional meals and clothes/uniforms also makes a big difference in the children's lives.

In Africa, children with Albinism are at great risk of being kidnapped or sold to human traffickers who believe they possess special qualities that can be used for witchcraft. Offering these children a safe place to live and study ensures that they not only survive, but thrive, giving them and their families hope for the



future. With your support, we also provide special sun lotion, hats, sunglasses and other equipment to help prevent skin damage and vision failure caused by the sun.

One of the newest joys for some of the children are the sewing classes that are offered after school. Earlier this year, Grade 7 students went on a fascinating and educational trip to the museums in Bagamoyo. This was the last stop for

former slaves who were then shipped to Zanzibar for further transport to other destinations around the world.

The children and staff at Matumaini send their heartfelt thanks to all our sponsors who support their school.





# PIGS BRING HOPE TO RURAL CHINA

By Ruth Hobbis

We are thrilled to share with you the success of our income-generation program in Sichuan, China, in which members of the community were involved in a variety of activities aimed at reducing poverty. This sustainable project continues to improve the villagers' lives, a year after its completion.

189 households participated in pig breeding, each receiving two sows, while 14 households also received a boar. Initially, some of the government staff and village leaders were skeptical about this project, but over time they became increasingly enthusiastic as they saw the positive impact it had on the community. They have now taken on a more active role in delivering relevant skills training to communities within the township.



Positive communication has also increased between villagers as they share helpful information and experiences with one another. From the original 392 pigs, 2,959 piglets were born, and the average household income of those involved increased by 50%.

Following the completion of this project, the local government continues to support the villagers by providing further training and vaccinations for the pigs. As part of the sustainability of this project, the villagers will re-distribute 300 pigs to nearby villages as they develop pig breeding industries of their own.

All of the pigs were provided by our *Gifts of Hope* program. By giving this gift, you have truly made a difference in the lives of impoverished communities in China. Without you, this project would not have been possible. Thank you!

## A PARTNERS IN MISSION CAMPAIGN SUCCESS STORY

By Marilyn Kershaw

It is with a grateful heart that we express sincere thanks to all the divisions in our territory for their ongoing support of our *Partners in Mission* campaign. Ministry units continue to be creative in their fundraising efforts to support and provide awareness, while challenging donors to make a difference in the lives of our international partners.

The Prairie Division increased their contribution in the 2017 campaign by 22.5% over the previous year amidst fundraising challenges at some of their ministry units. To offset these challenges there has been steady growth in giving at other locations, plus a new avenue of support from DHQ itself. Major Shawn Critch, Divisional Commander, explained that, "The Divisional Finance Board was very pleased to commit a portion of our interest income from our investments at territorial headquarters to the 2017 campaign. As we sought to finance the mission throughout the division, we realized that there was an opportunity to support the work of brothers and sisters in Christ in other parts of the world. It is a small gesture but one which we believe is important and honours the faithfulness of God in resourcing our work in the Prairies."

The Canada and Bermuda Territory is making a world of difference through the *Partners in Mission* campaign.



## Gifts of Hope



When a family has a small herd of goats, school fees, medical bills and basic living costs can be met.

*Give the gift of hope this Christmas!*



[salvationarmy.ca/giftsofhope](http://salvationarmy.ca/giftsofhope)



### GLOBAL LINK – WINTER 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](mailto:world_missions@can.salvationarmy.org)  
[www.sawworldmissions.ca](http://www.sawworldmissions.ca)

© 2017 The Salvation Army. All rights reserved.



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



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