

# GLOBAL LINK



Giving  
Hope  
Today

TERRITORIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLD MISSIONS DEPARTMENT IN CANADA AND BERMUDA

WINTER 2018



Three students at the Denpasar Girl's Home in Indonesia display their recovered birth certificates.

## ALONE NO MORE

By Major Donna Barthau

It's thrilling to know that children who were abandoned as babies are now being given a name, nurtured with love and nutrition, and provided with the opportunity to go to school. These are dramatic stories worthy of a movie—a rescued child is given a chance in life, succeeds, and goes out to make a difference in the lives of others.

This is the story of many of the girls that **Brighter Futures Children's Sponsorship** supports at our Denpasar Girl's Home in Indonesia. Here, our sponsors are providing such basic, yet significant, contributions to the lives of abandoned, impoverished and at-risk children.

Supporting the entire girl's home, as opposed to individual children, has many

benefits. We can make sure the girls enjoy nutritious meals and, with extra support from our **Gifts of Hope** program, teach them how to grow their own vegetables and raise fish through aquaponics. Last year, the girls' home was able to earn additional income through their agricultural activities, baking, cooking and craft-making. Our **Brighter Futures** sponsors provided the home with the materials necessary for the girls to learn these valuable life skills.

One of the greatest provisions is the gift of education, including school fees, supplies, uniforms, and legal documents for the girls who were abandoned as babies. It's exciting that the girls can continue their education beyond high school by studying at university or a vocational training college.



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The sound of the ringing bell echoes in the midst of the Christmas hustle and bustle, reminding us to think of others. The Salvation Army Christmas kettle has become an iconic symbol of Christmas cheer as many reach into their pockets to give a little to support others along the way. Similarly, your generous gifts to our various international programs make a difference in the lives of children and families around the world.

In this issue of *Global Link*, I hope you become truly aware of the impact your ongoing support is making in countries such as India, Indonesia and Brazil. The funding you have so selflessly given enables us to upgrade resources, support school fees, operate after-school programs and provide professional job training. In addition, you have supported international disaster response projects by providing food, water and medical support to those affected by disaster this year.

We hope you enjoy the articles. And please, don't forget to try the recipe for Sri Lankan Coconut Rock—it's amazing and will make a great treat to share with family and friends during the Christmas season.

There are many needs in this world of ours, both local and international, and that is why during this season, I simply want to thank you, once again, for your support of the global work of The Salvation Army.

Sincerely,

**Lieut.-Colonel Brenda Murray**  
World Missions Director

Continued from cover...

"There are seven of us who have gone into further education at the moment—nursing, social work, accounting, law and tourism," says Delviana. "My best friend here is so good at sewing that she's taking fashion and design at a vocational school. Through our lessons at the home, I learned that I love to cook and bake and that's what I'm studying."

A letter from another girl named Vanny says, "I would like to say thank you for all the help that has been given to me during my stay at Denpasar Girl's Home. Right now I'm studying at the nursing academy. I am very happy and thankful to God because I am the first in the class. I go back to stay at the girl's home during holidays and love to see everyone there. Even though I love my nursing studies, I miss the girls who are my family."

Thank you for helping to provide vulnerable girls in Indonesia with a loving family and a bright future.



## HOPE RESTORED

By Kathy Nguyen



In order for children to have a chance at leading a successful life, it's important that their basic needs are met. How can a child be expected to learn on an empty stomach or to thrive when there is a shortage of clean water and air? How can we assume that society will be sustainable if we fail to protect the welfare of our children?

The Salvation Army runs various schools and hostels throughout its different territories, including the TISSOT Sunrise and Training and the Stuartpuram Girl's and Boy's Hostels in Bapatla, India. Staff at these hostels care for vulnerable children—children who are generally orphaned or who come from impoverished and/or child-headed homes—while they attend the local Salvation Army school.

Although these longstanding institutions were established in 1951—with

nearly 67 years of providing loving homes to vulnerable children—they are in need of additional resources. The homes relied on wooden stoves and old pots and utensils, and due to environmental changes in the surrounding area, the water is now contaminated.

Through donations to our **Gifts of Hope** program, we were able to provide these hostels with gas cylinder cookers, kitchen utensils, water purifiers, coolers and water motors. With these new and improved resources, the children are now thriving in a healthy environment.

We would like to send our heartfelt thanks and gratitude to all those who have contributed to our **Gifts of Hope** program. It is because of your generous hearts and donations that we are able to provide children with the tools for a better tomorrow.

# WHEN DISASTER STRIKES

By Ruth Hobbis



Throughout the year, The Salvation Army collects donations for disaster relief to be added to a special funding reserve. These funds are critical to our ability to respond quickly when disasters strike across the globe, providing life-saving food, water, comfort and counsel to those in need. In many cases, The Salvation Army is one of the first organizations to respond and, perhaps more importantly, one of

the last organizations to leave thanks to our commitment to helping communities rebuild in the aftermath of disaster.

Below is a breakdown of just *some* of the ways we've been able to provide emergency support this year, as a direct result of your generous donations.

- Replaced school uniforms and textbooks damaged by Hurricane Irma and Maria in Turks and Caicos benefitting 339 children.
- Provided 500 internally-displaced families in Nigeria with food to last up to three months, clothing and sleeping materials.
- Partnered with Guatemala's National Committee for Emergencies and Disasters to provide food, water, clothes and spiritual and emotional support to those affected by the Fuego volcano eruption.
- Provided solar lamps to 2,800 vulnerable families living in Rohingya refugee camps in Bangladesh.
- Helped citizens of Dominica rebuild their homes following devastation caused by Hurricanes Irma and Maria.
- Distributed clean drinking water and emergency food packages to 6,000 individuals affected by flooding and landslides in Kerala, India.
- Provided medical support, food items and pastoral care to those affected by earthquakes in Lombok, Indonesia.

# SAFE HAVEN

By Major Donna Barthau

The Vila dos Pescadores Community Centre has a vibrant after-school and Saturday ministry for at-risk children and youth in the slum community of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Each week, 300 children and youth receive educational support and participate in drama, music, martial arts, games and art. In addition, teens learn computer skills, job training, how to write a résumé and interview skills. This program, made possible by **Brighter Futures Children's Sponsorship**, has helped reduce school dropouts and chronic unemployment in the community.

The Vila is considered a safe haven for children and adolescents, away from the gang and drug culture of the favela. Local drug dealers do not allow any traffickers in The Salvation Army Centre and value the importance of this safe environment. The program is so well-regarded that there is a long wait list to enroll.

"This is a good place that helps many youth, and reassures mothers who work because they know their children are inside and safe, learning the best," says Karina, age 15. "My brother Pietro is eight and he also attends the Vila. He likes it and has learned a lot. I believe that it's essential for the project to support children because it helps with their literacy. Since I've been through this process, I know it will be very good for him and will support his growth. I'm sure that when I leave this place I will remember how important this has been in my life and I'll miss it."

Thank you to our **Brighter Futures** sponsors who enable The Salvation Army to continue to be a beacon of hope in Rio de Janeiro.





# COOKING INTERNATIONALLY

By Yamuna Kanagalingam

## How to Make Sri Lankan Coconut Rock

Coconut Rock is a popular sweet in Sri Lanka made during Christmas and other special events. My family loved when my mother used to make it. Both children and adults will love this sweet as it's colourful, makes any occasion festive, and is easy and inexpensive to make.

### INGREDIENTS:

- 0.45 kg (1 lb) grated coconut (available at South Asian stores)
- 0.6-0.9 kg (1 ½ – 2 lbs) sugar
- Chopped cashews (optional)
- 175 ml (6 oz) condensed milk
- 2 ml (½ tsp) butter
- A few drops of food colouring (red or green)
- 2 ml (½ tsp) vanilla extract

### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Boil sugar, condensed milk and butter together in a saucepan.
2. Add grated coconut and cook until the mixture comes off the sides of the pan.
3. Add chopped cashews, vanilla extract and food colouring.
4. Mix well and spread into a greased pan.
5. Cut into squares before it gets hard. **Enjoy!**



Photo: Yamuna Kanagalingam



## 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)



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