

GLOBAL LINK



Giving
Hope
Today

TERRITORIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLD MISSIONS DEPARTMENT IN CANADA AND BERMUDA

SPRING 2020



BUILDING A CHURCH COMMUNITY IN MONKEY BAY

By Kathy Nguyen

Church services are an integral part of a person's spiritual growth, and your corps building serves as a meeting place to connect with peers, join in fellowship and praise God. For more than seven years, Salvationists in Monkey Bay, Malawi, didn't have a corps building, but that didn't stop them from meeting every Sunday and glorifying God.

Many kilometres away in western Canada, The Salvation Army's Forest Lawn Mission in Calgary was getting ready to close their building. Deciding to use their saved reserves for a worthy cause, they funded a permanent corps building for the deserving congregation in Monkey Bay.

Working together with the Canada and Bermuda Territory's world missions

department and the Malawi Territory, the Monkey Bay Corps officially opened its doors on July 15, 2018.

This corps continues to be a cornerstone for Salvationists and worshipers in Malawi, with more than 100 people continuing to meet regularly.

But this story didn't end there! The spirit of support and togetherness continued as Collingwood Community Church, Ont., generously covered the cost for an officers' quarters—living accommodations for the corps officers and their family—in Monkey Bay.

These Canadian corps came together and embodied the mission of The Salvation Army – with their selfless giving and



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A few years ago, as The Salvation Army's Ontario provincial camping director, I was exploring a theme for the summer camping program when one of the team members picked up on a phrase I had at the end of my emails: "Together, we can!" What a great theme to instil in the lives of campers and staff. Since that time, I have used this tag line in various ways as it speaks to the importance of team-building and collaboration—and that together, we can accomplish so much more.

Now, as the director of world missions, I see the many ways staff, volunteers, beneficiaries, community leaders and supporters from around the world come together to work towards a common goal of ending global poverty.

The stories in this edition of *Global Link* have a common thread woven between them—togetherness. You will learn how some Canadian congregations came together to build a corps in Malawi and read about a woman from Bangladesh who needed a lifeline. Take time to discover the stories of a man from Tanzania who was sponsored at a young age, a teacher from Kenya who is leading her blind and visually impaired students to singing success, and a daycare in Costa Rica that is supporting vulnerable families.

Henry Ford once said: "Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."

We hope you are inspired to see the difference it makes when we all come together.

Together, we can!

Sincerely,

Lt-Colonel Brenda Murray

World Missions Director

Continued from cover...

generosity they truly showed what it means to share the love of Jesus Christ. Thank you to Forest Lawn Mission and Collingwood Community Church for spreading the gospel and enriching the devoted congregation in Monkey Bay.

To donate to ministry resources for vulnerable communities overseas, visit salvationarmy.ca/giftsofhope



BREAKING THE CYCLE OF POVERTY IN TANZANIA

By Kathy Nguyen

When you think of "togetherness," your thoughts may turn to your family, friends and community. Whether it's hearing a friend's laughter, following a teacher's guidance or feeling the simple touch of a mother, it truly does take a village to raise a child.

James Bongo Augustino was raised on a farm in Tarime, Tanzania, where, at a young age, he was mauled by a farm animal and left paraplegic.

In developing countries, children with disabilities are often shunned from society and lose educational and employment opportunities. Determined that this would not happen to her son, James' mother carried him to and from school every day.

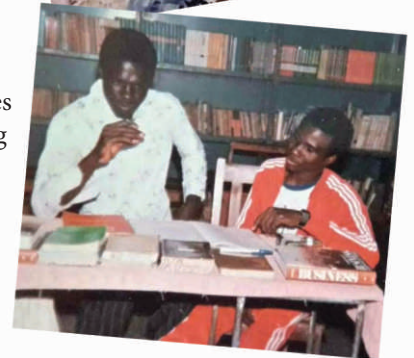
One day, while receiving treatment, James met Mwalimu Sendoro, the former head teacher at The Salvation Army Matumaini School, Tanzania's largest boarding school for children with disabilities and albinism. James expressed interest in becoming a student and Mwalimu accepted him on the spot.

At Matumaini, which when translated into English means "hope," James received quality education, rehabilitation and specialized care.

"Our teachers insisted that if we have discipline and respect for the Lord, we would be successful," James says. "Therefore, I studied hard and was disciplined—we loved one another at Matumaini."

Today, James is working for the government as an accountant. He is happily married with six children and with his support each has earned a professional certification, degree or diploma.

James was able to break the cycle of poverty thanks to his resilience, his mother's unwavering support, the assistance of his teachers and peers at Matumaini, and the generosity of sponsors—like you!



BRINGING HOPE TO AT-RISK FAMILIES IN COSTA RICA

By Emily Chinnery

The Salvation Army world missions department adopts a holistic and intentional approach for every strategy, project and program implemented around the world. When Salvationists came together to address local issues such as youth crime, malnutrition and severe poverty, the Salvation Army daycare centre was born. As a result, great things are happening in Santa Cruz, Costa Rica.

This daycare centre is making a real difference in the lives of at-risk children. Here, they participate in worthwhile educational and recreational activities, and receive spiritual guidance and nutritious meals. This centre also provides peace of mind for their parents – they are able to work extra hours, study and look for employment, knowing their children are in a safe space, away from potential harm or dangerous influences.

Karol is a single mother battling leukemia. While balancing work, medical appointments and immediate health issues, she desperately needed care for her two children.

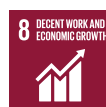
“This centre welcomed us with open arms when we needed it most,” says Karol. “It’s a second home for my children, and gives us all love and hope.”

The parents have found this program extremely helpful in relieving their stress and strengthening their families. By working with both parents and children, these at-risk families have a real chance to raise themselves out of poverty and create a stable and secure future. They would like to extend a thank you to the sponsors who have been instrumental in relieving pressures and transforming lives.



SEWING A NEW FUTURE

By Kathy Nguyen



Childhood should be a time of innocence, but for many children, poverty, lack of education and fractured families force them to grow up far too quickly.

Such was the case for Lucky, a young girl from Dhaka, Bangladesh, who faced a bleak future when she was sold into the world of human trafficking and subjected to exploitation. But thanks to her determination and the assistance of The Salvation Army Counselling and Development Centre, Lucky was able to change the course of her life and make sure her two children would not suffer as she did.

The Salvation Army Counselling and Development Centre allows vulnerable women to enrol in a two-year vocational training and adult literacy program to help them earn a meaningful living.

A friend informed Lucky of this special program, and she was able to enrol and learn valuable skills, such as reading, writing and sewing.

“I cannot tell you where I would be without this program,” Lucky says. “This is the best thing I have ever been given.”

Products created by Lucky, and many other women just like her, are sold through The Salvation Army’s **Others—Trade for Hope** initiative, which ensures fair compensation to all workers. Proceeds from the sale of the products are used to fund the centre’s ongoing programs.

Together, these women are creating products that represent freedom, dignity and hope. And thanks to the generosity of our donors who help fund the international work of The Salvation Army, programs such as this are possible.

To learn more about the **Others—Trade for Hope** initiative, visit: salvationist.ca/women-s-ministries/others-trade-for-hope

THE POWER OF ONE

By Major Donna Barthau

One act of generosity can change a person's life, and sometimes that one person can start a ripple effect that changes an entire community. For Elizabeth Ngare, her sponsors gave her that opportunity.

Child marriage is a long-standing tradition in Kenya, and even though a young Elizabeth was still in primary school, the search for her husband would soon begin. Her father knew he didn't want this future for her, and the only way he could redirect this path was if Elizabeth was in school. That's when he sought support from a local Salvation Army school, where she would soon become part of the children's sponsorship program. Through the generosity of sponsors, Elizabeth's school fees, uniforms and books were paid for.

Fast-forward to 2020, and that vulnerable girl is now the headmistress at The Salvation Army Likoni School for the Blind. Not only is she in charge of the school, but she also leads the choir.

"I used to look to Him and say, 'God, I have this talent,'" Elizabeth says. "One day, I need to teach these children how to sing."

And that's exactly what she did. Under Elizabeth's leadership, the school choir has received many accolades, including winning national competitions and singing for the president of Kenya. In fact, he was so impressed by their skill and enthusiasm that he purchased a bus for the school, allowing them to attend music festivals and other educational opportunities.

Elizabeth's story is one of triumph and a shining example of how the generosity of sponsors can inspire hope and bring change around the world.



Brighter Futures

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