

GLOBALLINK



Giving
Hope
Today

TERRITORIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IN CANADA AND BERMUDA

FALL 2024



The Brighter Futures Children's Sponsorship Program in Phyu, Myanmar.

PHYU CHILDREN'S HOME

By Major Heather Matondo



Phyu Children's Home in Myanmar currently supports 26 boys between the ages of eight and 17, providing all their daily essentials, from nutrition and education to health care.

The main source of water for the home is an onsite water tank, which supplies clean water for washing, cooking, bathing, and more.

Thomas Fuller once said, "You never know the worth of water until the well is dry." This is something the home did not want to experience. When the staff noticed that the wooden structure holding the tank was becoming worn and at risk of collapsing, they acted quickly to find a solution.

The Brighter Futures Children's Sponsorship Program worked alongside the Singapore, Malaysia and Myanmar Territory to replace the wooden structure with a more solid and secure concrete one. After just a few months of work, the project was completed, and the children and staff at the home are delighted to know that their water supply is now protected for years to come.

This is just one of the many ways Brighter Futures ensures that children and youth around the world have all their daily needs met, including access to a clean, safe water source.





RESPONDING TO CRISIS WITH COMPASSION

The recent wildfires in Western Canada and heavy rainfall in Toronto, which led to severe flooding, highlight the global impact of natural disasters.

In this issue of *Global Link*, we focus on The Salvation Army's remarkable efforts in Myanmar, Liberia, Pakistan and Ukraine, made possible by the generosity of Canadians.

Take Liberia, for example. The Albert Orsborn School, a beacon of hope for many children, was tragically destroyed by fire. For the children in this community, The Salvation Army is a lifeline for their education. As you read, think about how you can help shape the future for these young minds.

In Pakistan, the harsh realities of climate change are becoming increasingly apparent. Severe floods have wreaked havoc in several communities, but The Salvation Army is there, providing critical support and relief.

In Ukraine, conflict has displaced countless individuals, forcing them to seek refuge in neighbouring countries, but many remain behind. Learn how The Salvation Army in Ukraine provided a special Christmas for some children.

These stories highlight the resilience and solidarity of communities. People are making a tangible difference, supporting one another in times of need. Let these accounts inspire you to be part of the change, positively impacting our world.

Sincerely,
Lt-Colonel Brenda Murray
Director of International Development

SUPPORT EDUCATION IN LIBERIA: Rebuild Albert Orsborn Primary School for Children in Surrounding Communities

By Melissa Yue-Wallace

On February 14, 2023, at approximately 5 a.m., a fire destroyed The Salvation Army's Albert Orsborn Primary School in Liberia. Established in 2001, the school had provided a safe and engaging learning environment for 108 students aged 2 to 12 years in Kakata, Margibi County. With six classrooms, each averaging 18 pupils, the school operated at full capacity and often had to turn away new students due to space limitations.

For years, the semi-permanent structure served as a secure space for education. However, the fire—possibly caused by a lightning strike—altered everything.

The director of education for The Salvation Army in Liberia and staff acted swiftly, rallying parents and resources. Within six days, classes resumed in makeshift classrooms at a local Salvation Army church. Of the 108 students enrolled before the fire, only 79 returned.

In collaboration with the community, including the Albert Orsborn Parent-Teacher Association, The Salvation Army is proposing the reconstruction of the Albert Orsborn School. The new facility will support students from kindergarten through Grade 6, with plans to accommodate 200 students, averaging 20 per classroom.

Will you consider making a life-changing gift to education in Liberia? Your donation will be matched by an anonymous donor who has pledged to cover 50 percent of the funding for this school project. Please give today to bring hope and to support a bright future for children and youth in Liberia.



Scan or visit:
donate.salvationarmy.ca/page/63278/donate

RISING TIDES, RISING HOPE

By Kyle Mangio

The relentless downpour of monsoon rains has created a humanitarian crisis in Pakistan as certain communities struggle with the aftermath of unprecedented flooding, widespread devastation and loss of life. In Balochistan, 77 people have died, including women and children, and more than 100 others have been injured.

The situation in Quetta has reached a critical point, prompting a state of emergency for 150,000 people in urgent need of humanitarian aid, with 30,000 facing dire circumstances. Floodwaters have submerged hospitals in Muslim Bagh and cut off essential routes in Qila Saifullah, Zhob and Harnai, severely hindering rescue efforts. In Pishin, the sight of hundreds of homes washed away underscores the urgent need for immediate assistance.

During the critical period from July to September 2022, The Salvation Army played a pivotal role in providing essential aid to affected families. Food, clean water, hygiene kits, and household items were distributed to 500 families, benefiting nearly 3,000 individuals.

The Salvation Army observed families determined to rebuild, with children remaining hopeful, parents expressing deep gratitude for the supplies, and elders demonstrating remarkable strength and appreciation in every interaction.

The Salvation Army's team worked closely with local government agencies and community leaders to ensure the aid reached those most in need. The mission in Umeedabad, Peshawar, aimed to provide immediate relief, restore a sense of dignity and build community support despite financial constraints. This effort highlighted the critical importance of co-ordinated relief and community solidarity.

Heartfelt thanks go out to all who contributed, making a significant difference in the lives of the residents.



CHRISTMAS IN UKRAINE

By Robyn Goodyear

While many have fled Ukraine for neighbouring countries due to the ongoing crisis, millions still there continue to feel the impacts. Amidst the chaos, life carries on as people try to maintain a sense of normalcy. Last year, eight Salvation Army centres in Ukraine, with support from Canada and Bermuda, held celebrations for their communities during the Christmas season, including many fun activities. Families received clothing, essential items and Christmas gifts for children.

Nikita is a young boy living in Kharkiv. In between air alarms, Nikita took a walk in the community with his mother, during which they were invited to visit the Salvation Army corps. Nikita's mother shared, "Thanks to The Salvation Army, Nikita and I have started a new life. Nikita and I were able to find many new friends and the much-needed support! Nikita is very grateful for the Christmas gifts from The Salvation Army."

Roma and his family were forced to leave their home amidst the crisis. At Christmas, he received a stuffed cat from the corps. "This cat was my dream. I wanted it so much, but my mother could not afford to buy it for me. Thank you for reading my mind and making my dream come true," said Roma.

An estimated 3.7 million people have been internally displaced within Ukraine so far, according to UNHCR. The Salvation Army continues to serve the community in this time of need by providing practical support, positivity and love. This is made possible with your generous support.



Gifts of Hope



INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Empower Children with the Gift of Education

SCHOOL FEES \$50

Your gift of school fees will ensure every child has the ability to receive an education.



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Territorial Headquarters for Canada and Bermuda
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Phone: 416-422-6224 Email: SAID@salvationarmy.ca
salvationist.ca/international-development

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