

GLOBALLINK



Giving
Hope
Today

TERRITORIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IN CANADA AND BERMUDA

WINTER 2024/25



The Brighter Futures Children's Sponsorship Program in Tecpán, Guatemala

GIVING HOPE IN GUATEMALA

By Robyn Goodyear



The Salvation Army is giving hope to students in Guatemala through the Brighter Futures Children's Sponsorship Program. The Children's Integrated Learning Centre in Tecpán, Guatemala, supports children in need in their community by providing the tools they need to succeed. With support from Canada and Bermuda, 50 children at the centre benefited from educational supplies, nutritious meals, health-care assistance, and the care and support of officers and teachers.

Maria Angellica, the oldest of four siblings, is grateful for the centre's support to her education. During the pandemic, she could not attend school because it was closed. The teachers at the centre prepared lessons to be completed at home so that students could continue their education.

Thanks to these packages, she was able to complete the school year and move on to the next. "I want to continue studying and go all the way to university because I want to be a police detective," Maria says.

The centre also aims to improve children's nutrition and overall health through hot daily meals and food packages for their families. The students are also taken to the local clinic for health check-ups. With this support, children can focus on school and having fun!

Thanks to your generous support, The Salvation Army can serve children in need and ensure the hope of the brighter future they deserve.

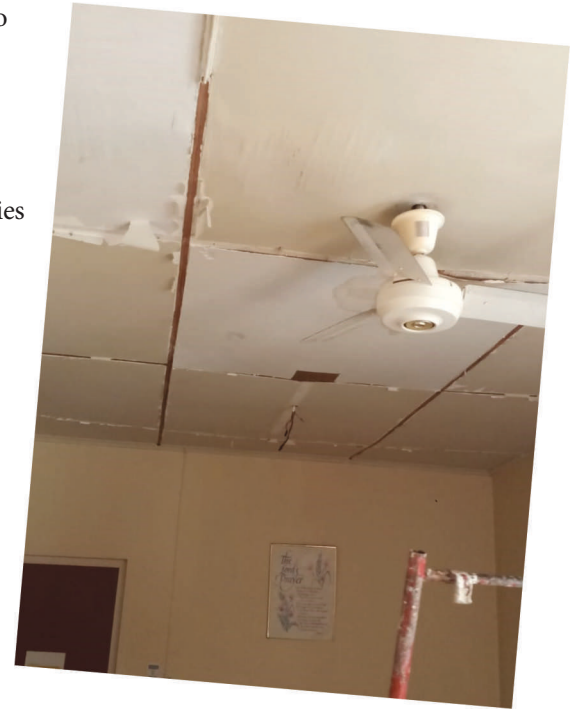




RESTORING LIVES AFTER THE STORM

By Major Elaine Locke

In April 2024, heavy rains led to severe flooding in Homa Bay Kisumu, Kenya which rapidly intensified, displacing families and causing widespread disruption. Communities faced ongoing devastation and hardships as families struggled to cope with the loss of homes, livelihoods and loved ones. The agricultural sector, including both livestock and croplands, a cornerstone of the region's economy, was severely impacted, further exacerbating the crisis. In collaboration with humanitarian partners, the government launched relief efforts to provide vital assistance to approximately 20,590 individuals.



The Salvation Army Kenya West Territory stepped in to join the relief effort and pool their expertise with other partners to quickly deliver meaningful support to those affected by the devastating flood. The Salvation Army was able to assist 1,500 families in areas hardest hit by the flooding, including Karachuonyo, Nyakach, in Homa Bay County. These regions, situated in low-lying areas with inadequate infrastructure, poor drainage systems and significant difficulties in accessing clean water, faced severe challenges.

The Salvation Army provided temporary shelter for those affected by the flooding by utilizing church halls and other available spaces. They also provided essential food items, such as rice, beans and cooking oil, along with non-food items, such as blankets and hygiene supplies. Their effort offered crucial comfort, helping families face this challenging period with renewed hope, dignity and care.

The shared mission of The Salvation Army Kenya West Territory, along with its many partners, including The Salvation Army Canada and Bermuda Territory, is to ease the burden on communities and individuals affected by disasters. Their aim is to offer hope and reassurance, ensuring that those facing hardship know they are not alone.



Christmas is quickly approaching, a season filled with joy, generosity and, most importantly, the smiles of children. It's often the little ones who bring the true spirit of Christmas to life, and The Salvation Army continues to focus on uplifting children around the world.

We encourage you to read the inspiring stories of children's projects in India and Guatemala, where The Salvation Army is working tirelessly to provide education, nourishment and hope.

Discover how The Salvation Army sprang into action, responding swiftly to a community in Kenya overwhelmed by severe flooding. In the wake of this disaster, where homes and livelihoods were washed away, The Salvation Army brought critical relief and comfort, offering hope when it was needed most.

As we celebrate the season of giving, we want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our generous donors. Your contributions make this work possible. May you have a blessed and Merry Christmas, filled with peace and joy.

Sincerely,
Lt-Colonel Brenda Murray
Director of International Development



HEALING HEARTS AND HOMES

By Kyle Mangio

The Francis Ham Residence for Retired Officers and the Elderly in Jamaica has always been a place of safety and care for elderly women. Over time, the building started to show signs of age, and a persistent termite problem added to the concerns. It became clear that significant repairs were necessary to ensure that the residents could continue living in comfort and safety.

In May 2022, The Salvation Army took action with a project to repair the residence. The work involved fixing the damaged ceilings in the dining room, kitchen and staff areas, and treating the entire building to get rid of termites. By the end of July 2022, the project was completed, and the residence was much improved.

These improvements have enhanced the living conditions for the elderly women who reside there, providing them with a safer, more comfortable home. Their families can now rest easy, knowing that their loved ones are well taken care of in a secure and well-maintained environment.

But the story does not end there. Recognizing the need for long-term sustainability, The Salvation Army has ensured that the residence is now equipped with an annual maintenance budget. This means that the Francis Ham Residence is better prepared to face future challenges, safeguarding its role as a sanctuary for the elderly for years to come.

This project underscores The Salvation Army's commitment to providing quality care for the elderly and vulnerable, reflecting its broader mission of serving those in need with compassion and excellence.



SECURING A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

By Major Heather Matondo

Access to education can be difficult for children living in rural India. The Salvation Army India Central Territory has been meeting this challenge head on for many years through its children's homes. During the school year, the children stay at the home where they have access to education and the educational tools they need to succeed. At the same time, they are provided nutritional support.

This past year, the Brighter Futures Children's Sponsorship Program provided additional support to the 12 children's homes throughout the India Central Territory and the 315 children who reside there. Each child received a trunk which gave them a personal space for their clothing and other belongings. Chairs were also given to the homes to provide extra comfort during study time and aid with better concentration. And finally, each of the homes received weigh scales, which may not seem to be important, but they are invaluable. With many children coming from backgrounds where malnutrition is a common condition, keeping track of their weight is critical to ensure proper nutritional development.

These additional supports, added to the regular day-to-day assistance the children receive while in The Salvation Army's care, help to provide a solid foundation for their growth and development, ensuring a bright future.



THE SALVATION ARMY
Giving Hope Today

HOPE THROUGH FARMING

HOPE THROUGH HEALTH

HOPE THROUGH EDUCATION

HOPE THROUGH COMMUNITIES

Gifts of Hope

Gifts that make memories

This Christmas, share the true spirit of the season by giving gifts that make a lasting impact.



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