

# GLOBALLINK



Giving  
Hope  
Today

TERRITORIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IN CANADA AND BERMUDA

FALL 2025



Providing supplies to the needy in communities across Kenya.

## RESTORING HOPE in Kenya's Drought-Stricken Communities

By Major Elaine Locke

Communities across Kenya faced a harsh reality as prolonged drought took its toll. After consecutive seasons of failed rains, crops withered, water sources dried up and food prices soared. More than four million people were left in urgent need of support, including nearly a million children suffering from malnutrition.

During this crisis, The Salvation Army Kenya East Territory responded swiftly and compassionately. Working through local corps and supported by many dedicated volunteers, teams delivered baskets filled with a three-month supply of items that included maize, beans, cooking oil and soap to 5,581 households across 142 drought-affected communities. Schools also received food supplies,

ensuring that children could stay nourished and continue learning amid immense hardship.

For many, the support meant more than just supplies; it was a reminder that they weren't alone. In the middle of uncertainty, communities felt seen, cared for and supported.

"The relief of food came in our hour of need," shares a mother of four. "I was at the crossroads with no job, not able to feed my children. This was a miracle. I saw God."

Her words reflect what so many experienced, not just the provision of food, but a moment of divine reassurance.

Hope broke through despair.

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## TOGETHER, WE SET THE TABLE FOR HOPE

Thanks to your generosity, more people around the world are finding a place at the table—both literally and figuratively.

In Sri Lanka, seniors at the Rajagiriya home receive daily meals, funded entirely by Canadian donors. For many, it's not just nourishment, but a sign they are remembered and loved.

In drought-stricken Kenya, your support helped deliver essential food baskets to over 5,500 families. "This was a miracle. I saw God," shares one mother, whose children are now stronger and back in school.

Meanwhile in Moldova and Liberia, your commitment to education is transforming lives. From guitar lessons and life skills in Ialoveni to sponsorships that keep students like Diamond and Rancy in school at John Gowans School, futures are being rewritten.

Together, you are feeding bodies, minds and spirits.

You are restoring hope.

And you are making room at the table—for dignity, for dreams and for brighter tomorrows.

To continue supporting projects like these, please visit:

[SalvationArmy.ca/HopeForTheWorld](http://SalvationArmy.ca/HopeForTheWorld)

Sincerely,

**Lt-Colonel Brenda Murray**

*Director of International Development*

Soon, parents noticed a difference. Children were growing stronger, energy returned to classrooms and grades began to improve. With food provided, families could redirect limited resources toward school fees and other basic household needs. While the drought continued and challenges remained, hope was restored in the hearts of people, knowing they were not forgotten and that someone cared enough to walk alongside them.



## HOPE IN THE CLASSROOM: *Stories from John Gowans School*

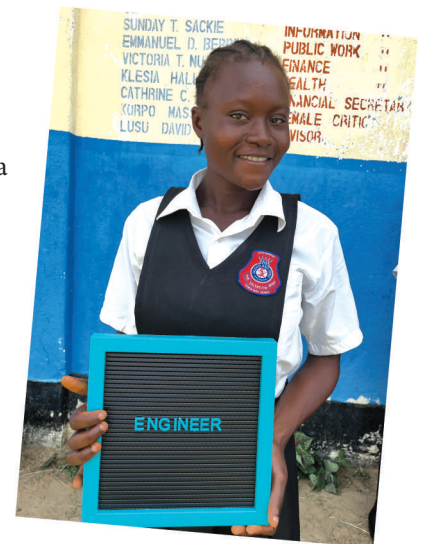
By Major Heather Matondo

In the town of Salala, approximately a two-hour drive from Liberia's capital city, Monrovia, stands The Salvation Army John Gowans Junior and Senior High School. It's one of 11 Salvation Army schools in the Liberia Territory, all dedicated to providing quality education to children in their communities.

Through the Brighter Futures Children's Sponsorship Program, several students at John Gowans have received crucial educational support. For many families, basic school necessities, such as uniforms and backpacks, can be difficult to afford, and school fees are often out of reach. But for some students, having these costs covered each semester through sponsorship is life changing.

During a recent visit to John Gowans, I met Rancy, a Grade 9 student who had once dropped out of school because his family couldn't afford the fees. With encouragement and support from a teacher, he was added to the sponsorship list. Thanks to financial support from Brighter Futures, Rancy is now back in the classroom.

I also spoke with Diamond, a Grade 11 student and the only one among eight siblings currently attending school. Her education has been made possible entirely through the support of Brighter Futures.



These are just two examples of how access to education is transforming lives. Students who once faced an uncertain future can now dream and plan for something brighter. As one student beautifully put it during my visit: "Our hope for a better future has become a reality because of our education."





# THRIVING THROUGH LEARNING

By Kyle Mangio

At the Ialoveni Corps in Moldova, a small but powerful program is making a big impact. The Thriving Youth project welcomes young people aged 11 to 18 into a safe, structured space three days a week, offering opportunities to grow in confidence, learn new skills and build brighter futures.

With parents often away at work, and limited extracurricular options available, many youth in the community are left to navigate difficult environments alone. Through this project, they instead gain hands-on experience in several areas, such as English language learning, guitar playing, cooking, hygiene and time management. With help from dedicated facilitators and teachers, participants also explore self-development and vocational possibilities, equipping them with tools for adulthood.

“Instead of wandering the streets, these teens now have a place where they’re supported, inspired and guided toward purpose,” says the corps officer.

Thanks to generous donor support, the project not only fosters individual growth but strengthens the entire community by investing in its future leaders.





# A PLACE AT THE TABLE

## —Thanks to You

By Lt-Colonel Brenda Murray

When you hear the phrase “a place at the table,” what comes to mind? Perhaps it’s the warmth of family dinners, shared laughter, or a sense of belonging. The table, for many of us, is more than just a place to eat—it is where we are nourished in body, mind and spirit. It is where connection happens.

But for millions around the world, this image feels out of reach.

Food insecurity is rising at an alarming rate. The **2025 Global Report on Food Crises** reveals that in 2024 alone, 295.3 million people across 53 countries faced acute food insecurity, a staggering increase from the year before. These are not just numbers; they are individuals and families, children and seniors, going without the most basic of needs. Thanks to your generosity, The Salvation Army is responding—with open hands and full hearts.

All around the world, your support is making a tangible difference through humanitarian relief and development projects focused on food security. One such example is at the Rajagiriya Seniors Home in Sri Lanka. I had the privilege of visiting this home, meeting the seniors and seeing first-hand the impact of your kindness.

Because of donors like you, every meal served at the Rajagiriya home for the next three years is fully funded. The seniors expressed deep gratitude, many with tears in their eyes—knowing they are not forgotten. You have given them not just food, but dignity, comfort and care.

Thank you for preparing a place at the table—for making room, extending love and nourishing lives. You are part of a global movement that says no one should go hungry. And because of you, more people can finally say, “I have a place at the table.”



## Gifts of Hope

Your gift of agricultural training helps farmers grow more food using modern, sustainable methods—improving nutrition, income, and family support.



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