

GLOBALLINK



Giving
Hope
Today

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Children pump fresh water from a new borehole in the Nyagatare District, Rwanda.

BRINGING CLEAN WATER AND HOPE TO RWANDA

By Kyle Mangio and
Manjita Biswas

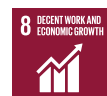


For many families in Nyagatare District, Rwanda, access to clean water has long been a daily struggle. People from this community travel two to three hours searching for water, a journey that is often fraught with danger. Without safe drinking water, communities have been forced to rely on expensive or unsafe sources, increasing the risk of waterborne diseases. But thanks to The Salvation Army, this reality is changing.

Through the Rwimiyaga WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) Project, The Salvation Army, in partnership with local government and community members, has successfully drilled four boreholes, bringing clean and affordable water to thousands. Funded by The Salvation Army Canada and Bermuda Territory, these boreholes are already transforming lives.

"We have an issue of lack of clean water not only in Rwimiyaga but also in the whole district," explains Gasan Stephen, mayor of the Nyagatare District. "As you contribute to solving this issue, you are helping us reach our goal of supplying clean water to everyone. We truly appreciate your project."

To ensure long-term sustainability, borehole management committees have been established, training 24 local leaders in maintenance. Additionally, 200 people have joined Village Savings and Loan Associations, empowering them with financial literacy and income-generating skills.



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COMPASSION IN ACTION: Bringing Hope to Communities

In times of crisis, The Salvation Army stands as a beacon of hope for communities in need. Whether responding to natural disasters, tackling food insecurity or ensuring access to clean water, its Christian mission remains the same: to serve with love and dignity.

Because of you, hope is alive.

In Mozambique, your generosity brought food, hygiene supplies and comfort to families devastated by cyclone Filipo. In Rwanda, clean water now flows to thousands, improving health and opportunity through the Rwimiyaga WASH Project. In Uganda, the William Booth Nursery School in Masese is now a vibrant centre for 130 children from low-income fishing families. Thanks to your support, new classrooms, toilets, computers and a tricycle utility vehicle are helping build a brighter future.

These and other initiatives demonstrate the power of compassion in action. They are not just about meeting immediate needs but about restoring hope and empowering people for a better future. Through your generous support, The Salvation Army continues to transform lives—one meal, one borehole and one act of kindness at a time.

Every meal, drop of water and act of relief is possible because of your kindness. Thank you for changing lives and delivering hope where it matters most!

Sincerely,
Lt-Colonel Brenda Murray
Director of International Development

For residents, like Therese Nyiransabimana from Byimana Village, the impact is immediate. “During the dry season, we used to pay 200 Rwandan francs for 20 litres of water. Now, at the borehole, we only pay 20 Rwandan francs. We are grateful that The Salvation Army has provided this for our community.”

Beyond water access, the project has distributed water tanks and street dustbins, improving hygiene and sanitation. Community training is equipping families with knowledge to prevent diseases and helping them ensure a healthier and stronger future through kitchen gardening and nutrition.

For a young mother like Alphonsine, the new borehole is now a 20-minute walk from her home. Before, she had to wake up in the darkness of night to get to the nearest water source. Having a clean water source in this area of Rwanda is saving lives and is a tremendous gift for the people who live there.

With clean water now flowing, the people of Nyagatare are stepping into a future filled with hope, dignity and new opportunities.

HOPE IN THE WAKE OF THE STORM

By Major Elaine Locke

In March 2024, cyclone Filipo unleashed devastation across Inhambane Province, Mozambique, striking the districts of Morumbene and Vilankulos with relentless force. The storm left behind a path of destruction, claiming two lives, injuring 25 people and affecting more than 48,000 individuals. Homes were torn apart, vital infrastructure, such as schools and health-care centres, were severely damaged, and communities were left grappling with immense loss and uncertainty.

Recognizing the urgent need for relief, The Salvation Army stepped in to provide critical assistance to 400 families impacted by the cyclone. Their response focused on delivering essential supplies to those most in need, offering not only sustenance but also a sense of hope. Families received staple food items, such as rice, beans and cooking oil, to help sustain them in the wake of the storm. Additionally, hygiene and comfort items, including soap bars and blankets, were distributed to offer a small but meaningful source of relief. Beyond material aid, The Salvation Army also provided emotional support, offering counselling and a compassionate presence to those struggling with the emotional toll of the disaster. By simply listening, providing words of comfort and standing with the affected communities, The Salvation Army played a crucial role in helping individuals navigate their grief and uncertainty.

While the devastation left many feeling vulnerable, The Salvation Army’s presence in these communities reassured residents that they were not alone. The provision of food and necessities served as a powerful reminder that, even in the face of disaster, compassion and solidarity can help rebuild lives. For those affected by cyclone Filipo, the aid they received went beyond practical support and let them know that someone cared, they were seen and hope remained even in the most difficult of times.



A FUTURE OF OPPORTUNITY:

Michael's Journey at Bali Boys Home

By Kyle Mangio

For the past eight years, Bali Boys Home has been more than just a shelter for 17-year-old Michael—it has been a place of growth, learning and belonging. Coming from a difficult background, Michael found stability and support through The Salvation Army's care, which equipped him with the skills to follow his passion and areas of interest.

"After I graduate from school, I want to find a job related to coding. Maybe I will be a programmer or a website developer," Michael says. "Living here has helped me reach my goals, and I love this place. We are like brothers—a family."

Michael's days at the home begin early, starting at 4:30 a.m. with prayer, followed by daily chores and school. The structured environment has taught him discipline and responsibility, while also fostering his love for technology. He dreams of using his skills to build a successful career in programming and hopes to create opportunities for others in the future.

Bali Boys Home, established in 2003, provides education, shelter and holistic development for boys in need. The Salvation Army ensures that each child receives:

- Nutritious food and health care for their well-being.
- Access to quality education and vocational training, including coding, music and handicrafts.
- A supportive, faith-centred community that helps them grow emotionally and spiritually.

"This home was established to give children a platform to develop their potential through education," says Mary Satriana, who serves on the staff at the Bali Boys Home.

Through The Salvation Army, Michael and many others now have the chance to build a brighter future. His story is a testament to how education, support and faith can change lives and create endless possibilities.



A BRIGHT BEGINNING AT WILLIAM BOOTH NURSERY SCHOOL

by Major Heather Matondo

In February 2024, the William Booth Nursery School officially opened in Uganda, bringing new hope to the community of Masese. The nursery school operates in a previously unused block on the grounds of the Officer's Training College that has been repurposed into a vibrant learning space.

The school anticipated welcoming 30 children from local families, many of whom rely on fishing in nearby Lake Victoria as their primary source of income and have limited resources to access early childhood education. An overwhelming response from the community quickly soared enrolment to 120 children, far exceeding initial expectations. It became clear that the demand for early education was not only real, but urgent.

Recognizing the importance of this initiative, plans were quickly put in motion to expand the school. In partnership with the Brighter Futures Children's Sponsorship Program, funding was secured to construct three additional classrooms—complete with furniture—as well as to purchase a tricycle utility vehicle to transport food from local markets to help feed the children. The project also includes the construction of additional toilets and the provision of eight computers to introduce the children to basic digital skills.

Today, the William Booth Nursery School is fully equipped to serve the 130 children currently enrolled and is ready to welcome even more. What began as a small vision has become a transformative project—laying strong educational foundations, one brick at a time. The future is indeed brighter for these young learners in Masese.



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