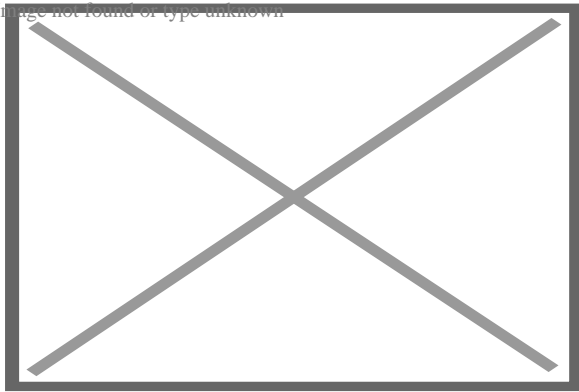


## The Salvation Army responds to drought in Kenya

**The Salvation Army is working with multiple local and international leaders to best serve the communities who have been most impacted by the widespread famine.**

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*The Salvation Army's Captain Moses Njagi hands food supplies over to a school in Kitui, Kenya*

Drought and crop failure in different parts of Africa—particularly in East Africa—are causing a “humanitarian crisis of staggering proportions,” according to The Salvation Army’s world leader General André Cox. The Salvation Army’s response to the widespread famine is focused initially in northern Kenya, where the country’s president has declared a national disaster in 23 counties. In Turkana, which borders South Sudan and Ethiopia, officers from The Salvation Army’s Kenya West Territory are on the front line of serving communities where hunger, starvation and disease are a daily occurrence. More than 8,000 men, women and children are receiving emergency food supplies, including maize, beans, rice and cooking oil. This will directly address the acute malnutrition impacting 13 separate communities. The Salvation Army’s coordination with other agencies in the region will ensure that immediate assistance will be provided to the most vulnerable residents. Ongoing development work by The Salvation Army in Turkana is helping equip community members to cope with the effects of the lack of rainfall. One resilience project is teaching children at a local school how to grow drought-resistant crops, such as pawpaw, by surrounding the plants with protective, thorny species which act as a deterrent to animals.

Elsewhere, The Salvation Army’s Kenya East Territory is undertaking a school feeding program in Kitui County. This initiative ensures that the children attending seven primary schools in the county receive at least one nutritious meal each day.

Meanwhile, in Isiolo—the most impacted county in Kenya—The Salvation Army has just completed the drilling of a borehole. This provides immediate access to safe drinking water and enables members of the community to use the new, reliable supply to irrigate their crops and ensure their livestock are well cared for.

A further needs assessment is underway in other drought-stricken areas to explore how The Salvation Army can best respond in cooperation with national and local authorities and other non-

governmental organizations.

Reflecting on scenes from East Africa, General Cox acknowledges in his Easter message that “we might feel a sense of powerlessness by a pending disaster of this magnitude...yet our faith in God should drive us to more than thoughts of compassion. Perhaps we should, in this time of Lent, consider what things we can do without so that others may have something.”

*Donations to The Salvation Army’s Africa Disaster Fund can be made [securely online](#).*