

Doing the Most Good in the USA Western Territory



# DO GOOD Dispatch

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SPRING 2020



## ON THE FRONT LINES

- Feeding the hungry
- Sheltering the homeless
- Comforting the fearful
- Providing childcare for essential personnel

Salvation Army volunteers provide food boxes to seniors in Long Beach, California.

PHOTO BY JOHN DOCTER

# Responding to COVID-19

These are challenging and uncertain times for us all. Be assured, your local Salvation Army center is hard at work to meet the physical and spiritual needs of your community, providing food to the hungry, shelter for the homeless and sharing hope in the place of fear.

**If you need help**, visit [westernusa.salvationarmy.org](https://westernusa.salvationarmy.org).

**If you can help**, give today at [give-usw.salvationarmy.org](https://give-usw.salvationarmy.org).

You can also send a check to your local Salvation Army location.

**THE SALVATION ARMY**, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.



PHOTO BY JOHN DOCTER

Salvation Army officers from the College for Officer Training pass out food at Southeast Communities Corps in Los Angeles.

# Devotional

**BY COMMISSIONER KENNETH G. HODDER**  
WESTERN TERRITORIAL COMMANDER



Recently I read a story by Kevin Miller in Wheaton, Illinois, that resonated with me and I'm confident it will with many of you as well. It's based upon 2 Timothy 2:15, in which Paul writes to Timothy these words: *"Timothy, do everything you can to present yourself to God as a man who is fully genuine. A worker unashamed of your mission. A guide capable of leading others along the correct path defined by the word of truth."*

Just as with Kevin Miller, when I was a little boy, I remember the occasions when my father had a certain project to do around the house. He would assess the situation, and very often he would say, "We need an additional part," and so he'd invite me to go down to the local hardware store—a small place in a row of shops, and the only parking available was on the street.

When my father and I would go into that shop, I would be astonished at the way that materials and tools were hanging from the ceiling, and the walls and covering the floor. There seemed to be no organization of any kind, and yet, there would always be a man who had poked his head out from the side and say, "Can I help you?"

In Kevin Miller's situation, that individual's name was Clarence. I remember that my father would say, "Well I think I need a piece that does this or that does that." The man would listen, then he would say, "Oh yes, I know just what you

need," and he'd make his way through the very cramped aisles and he'd lean over and he'd rummage around on the bottom shelf, pull something out, dust it off and say, "This is what you need."

He described exactly the process that needed to be followed in order to complete the project successfully.

Today, when I have a list of things to do around the house, when I need a part or a tool, I won't go to a local hardware store, I'll go to a large DIY retailer, where there are acres of off-street parking, and when I walk into the massive warehouse, I'll see all kinds of things displayed beautifully throughout, and yet, I'll find myself completely lost. I don't know exactly where I need to go or even exactly what I need when I go down an aisle.

I'll see someone in an apron on the other end of the aisle and I'll start toward them, but then it's as if they see me coming, because suddenly they disappear across and around the corner on the other end of the aisle, and eventually if I do find someone, they'll say to me: "I'm sorry, sir, I don't know anything about this section, I'm just filling in for someone who was sick today."

It's important for you and I to remember the parallels of this story when it comes to the things of the church. It's very common to believe today that what

we need in our worship of the Lord is enormous sophistication, that we need large facilities, that we need world-class presentations in video and music and in every other meeting, but I think what's most important, and what Paul is trying to say here to Timothy, is: The most important thing is sharing our faith from one generation to the next.

In Scripture we see that Moses taught Joshua, and Eli taught Samuel, and Paul taught Timothy. Today, therefore, the challenge for us is not to make grand and glorious presentations, but rather, perhaps, to become a Clarence.

Become someone who knows what it is to live the Christian life and to be able to share it in simple unadorned terms and thereby strengthen what the Church will be in the future and what someone else's relationship with Jesus Christ can be.

I encourage you, therefore, to identify someone in your life to whom you can be a Clarence. To share the faith, to share your experience, and you'll find that you have contributed more to the kingdom of God than any elaborate presentation ever could. God bless you.



## DO GOOD Dispatch

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At The Salvation Army, we are dedicated to one thing:

# DOING THE MOST GOOD®

So, what exactly do we do?

## FOOD

More than 49 million Americans live in food-insecure households.



## SHELTER

Every year, 1 in every 30 children in the U.S. experiences homelessness.

(That's 2.5 million.)



## REHABILITATION

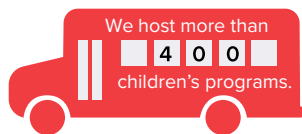
The Salvation Army assists more than 200,000 people annually in 144 rehabilitation facilities.



We have more treatment facilities than any charity, anywhere.

## CHILD PROTECTION

Almost 20% of violent juvenile crimes occur between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. on school days.



These nationwide programs keep 300,000 kids safe, fed, and engaged.

## POVERTY RELIEF

45.3 million Americans live in poverty.



The Salvation Army works to give a hand up, not a handout, through our three million volunteers...

...and 7,700 centers of operation.

## COMMUNITY SUPPORT

10.6 million Americans are considered working poor.



The Salvation Army operates community centers that serve **1.2 million** people annually.

## ANTI-TRAFFICKING

The Salvation Army actively seeks to prevent, and protect victims of human trafficking.



We assist hundreds of individuals through **43** anti-human trafficking programs across the country.

## DISASTER RELIEF

When disaster strikes, The Salvation Army stays on-scene to ensure long-term recovery, for as long as it takes.



We deliver relief to an average of **1,600,000\*** people annually.

\*2012-2018 average



### Did you know?

We assist more than 23 million Americans annually, in every ZIP code in the U.S.



# How to help your child through anxiety

BY KELLY RODRIGUEZ

LICENSED MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST WITH CIFT COUNSELING AND BELLFLOWER CORPS WORSHIP TEAM MEMBER IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

The coronavirus pandemic is something none of us have previously faced—parent or not. You're likely trying to help your child through it while wondering when this will all be over, too.

Most of us are experiencing anxious feelings about the sudden changes, social distancing, safety measures, disrupted daily routines and other shifts in family dynamics. We simply do not have answers and are also grieving different losses—including our sense of freedom. Without a doubt, this will impact a

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*Be willing to talk. If your child asks what a pandemic is or what is happening, don't avoid the conversation—be truthful.*

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child's mood and behavior, whether they verbalize it or not. It is important to pay attention to how children are coping.

Look out for tantrums. Young children may have more tantrums than usual, be withdrawn, clingy, hypersensitive or regress in their behaviors. Older children and adults may have increased mood swings, physical complaints, nervousness, worry, distractibility or difficulty sleeping. No matter the age, we are trying to cope and seek safety and comfort amid the stress.

Be willing to talk. If your child asks what a pandemic is or what is happening, don't avoid the conversation—be truthful. Be curious about what your child already knows. Use age-appropriate



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## WHILE YOU'RE HOME...

### *Worship with us*

In this time of social distancing, you can still join in worship with The Salvation Army. Follow along with this YouTube playlist to join in guided worship from your home at [salarmy.us/saworship1](https://salarmy.us/saworship1).

### *DIY Sunday school*

Find weekly videos and devotionals kids can do at [orangekidmin.com/coronavirus](https://orangekidmin.com/coronavirus) (for preschool and elementary kids) or [orangestudents.com/coronavirus](https://orangestudents.com/coronavirus) (for middle and high schoolers).

### *Listen in and be inspired*

The Do Gooders Podcast from The Salvation Army's *Caring Magazine* features guests with ideas on doing good to inspire you to take action—however you can—to make the world a better, brighter place. Find episodes to help you find joy, define your core values, learn more about The Salvation Army's service, understand how to better live in the five love languages and even a practical tip to start decluttering at home at [caringmagazine.org/podcast](https://caringmagazine.org/podcast).

## ANXIETY FROM PAGE 5

language and examples your child can relate to to help him or her feel safe.

Name your emotions. Identifying and naming your emotions will provide validation and a sense of control during this time of confusion. If you and your child are experiencing uncertainty, fear, powerlessness, anger or frustration, make an effort to practice healthy outlets for those strong emotions.

Create a routine. Providing a sense of structure will allow you and your child to feel empowered during this time. Keep in mind that “structure” right now looks different for everybody. Avoid the color-coded schedule if it’s not for you. The purpose of a routine is not to add more stress to a situation that is already anxiety-producing. Work together with your child to create one as including them in the process will make them feel seen and valued.

Have a mood check in. We are our child’s safety net, so we need to allow a release of those emotions they may not understand or be aware of. Give a comforting hug, encourage journaling, dance to a song, pray together, engage in pretend play or simply listen to whatever is on their mind. All you need to do is be there and be fully present. Our children do not always want specific answers; often, what they want is validation.

Stay connected. Social distancing does not mean social isolation. During this time, technology is a great source for staying connected to the people and things we value and miss. Knowing your limits and taking a break from media when needed is a good way to model healthy boundaries and self-care.

Some days will be easier than others. Remember to be gracious to yourself and your child. You know your family better than anyone. Focus on what works for you and what has helped you thrive in times of past adversity. Please remember that you are an amazing parent—you are there for your child during a time that is challenging for us all.



PHOTO BY JOHN DOCTER

Hot meals are prepared and served by the Southeast Communities Corps in Los Angeles.

**WHAT MAKES A GOOD STORY?** *Where can you find “the magic” in one? And how do our values integrate with our own story? Take our free email course and discover exactly how to find your voice, own your story and share it with others at course.* [caringmagazine.org](http://caringmagazine.org).

**DID YOU KNOW** *The Salvation Army served more than 23 million Americans last year fighting hunger, homelessness, substance abuse and more—all in a fight for good? Where can you help? Take our free quiz to find your cause and learn how you can join in today at* [caringmagazine.org/quiz](http://caringmagazine.org/quiz).

**START YOUR DAY WITH HOPE.** *Visit our study library, download one that sparks your interest and turn to the Word of God for 10 minutes when you get out of bed. Visit* [caringmagazine.org/downloads](http://caringmagazine.org/downloads).





# 10 ways we're fighting for good

PHOTOS BY JOHN DOCTER

*As the country's largest social service provider, The Salvation Army is uniquely positioned to meet the greatest needs of the most vulnerable. In times of great distress, including this pandemic, we are committed to being a beacon of hope and healing as we have for more than 150 years.*

## *Distributing food*

The Salvation Army in Long Beach, California, got a call from a senior who couldn't leave home and didn't have enough food. The corps promised to deliver a food box. That person called her neighbors, and pretty soon the word got out The Salvation Army would deliver food. The corps delivered eight food boxes in its first day doing so. Days later, the need for food had greatly increased, resulting in The Salvation Army delivering 309 food boxes and food bags to seniors, families and individuals in the community, an effort that served more than 1,200 people over the course of that week.



## 10 WAYS WE'RE FIGHTING FOR GOOD

### *Caring for kids*

The Salvation Army Suisun City (California) Kroc Center is one of several facilities across the western U.S. that has transitioned into emergency child care for healthcare workers and first responders. "Our center has closed to the general public, but we're now offering emergency child care for up to 50 kids of essential personnel in the county," said Major Randy Hartt, Suisun Kroc Center Administrator. "It just made sense...and the size of our facility really makes it conducive for social distancing."



### *Leading drive-in worship*

Before Hawaii issued a "stay at home" order, Honoka'a (Hawaii) Corps members on the Big Island's northeast coast joined for a drive-in worship service. Corps Ministry Leader Gary Todd preached from the lanai on grace to attendees who remained in their cars. "Remain socially distant and be blessed this Sunday," Todd said in inviting his congregation.

### *Giving support*

A call center in Denver is taking calls from four states with six newly hired case managers to field rent and utility assistance requests, refer callers to local corps for food assistance and take information for people seeking emotional and spiritual care. Those individuals will each receive a personal call from one of eight retired Salvation Army officers who were recruited to provide emotional and spiritual care by phone.



### *Sheltering people*

All Salvation Army Family Stores in the western U.S. are now closed, and instead, The Salvation Army is transforming the stores into shelters for the most vulnerable in our communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. "They will have a safe place tonight...that's what The Salvation Army always does," said Territorial Commander Commissioner Kenneth G. Hodder. "We transform places to transform lives."

### *Dropping off supplies*

Beneficiaries from the Riverside County, California, Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC) packaged toilet paper to deliver to the homes of local retirees. They rang the doorbell, dropped the items and ran, but were still caught a few times.



### *Offering virtual fitness*

The Coeur d'Alene (Idaho) Kroc Center transitioned to an emergency services center while launching a virtual exercise platform for its members. Held via the online meeting platform Zoom, participants can virtually engage with instructors alongside their peers. Classes for both adults and children, accommodating up to 100 individuals in a session, include yoga, pilates and zumba.



## 10 WAYS WE'RE FIGHTING FOR GOOD

### *Entertaining seniors*

Administrators at the Chula Vista (California) Silvercrest held an outdoor concert from the parking lot so residents could listen from their balconies. Guided exercise also got them moving as they stood in the fresh air and sang along. "The residents were delighted to get this interaction and we had a huge participation as we visited each side of the building for 30 minutes," said Resident Wellness Director Karin Michelle Ingrande.



### *Delivering fun*

In Roseville, California, volunteers are packing lunch and activity bags and delivering them each week to the homes of more than 200 kids—each with a different theme from welcoming spring, to animal fun and Easter. "We want to keep the kids connected to us and remind them we're a safe place and safe people for them," said Lt. Stephanie Pavlakis, Roseville Corps Officer. "Expanding beyond that, we hope to introduce other families to programs The Salvation Army has to offer and keep kids entertained with simple, fun things."

### *Making Cards*

Youth in Rancho Palos Verdes, California, are doing their part to reach out to others during the COVID-19 crisis. The children are preparing messages of love—writing notes of encouragement to be delivered along with Salvation Army food boxes and meals to those in the Army's shelters, senior residences and to people living on the streets.



PHOTOS BY JOHN DOCTER

Cadets from the College for Officer Training ready supplies for distribution at Bell Shelter in Bell, California.



## COVID-19 response around the world



*A Salvation Army officer shares hand sanitizer with a bus driver in India.*

The Salvation Army is at work in more than 130 countries, and is responding to COVID-19 around the world—meeting newfound needs while endeavoring to maintain its services to those who are vulnerable.

Examples of how The Salvation Army's officers, soldiers, employees, volunteers and supporters are responding to COVID-19 internationally, include:

The Salvation Army's Mirpur Clinic in **Bangladesh**, which usually has a focus on treating tuberculosis and leprosy, is gearing up to support patients presenting with coronavirus symptoms. The Salvation Army is planning to provide awareness material and a starter hygiene pack to around 2,500 people.

Evangeline Booth Hospital in Ahmednagar, Maharashtra, run by The Salvation Army's **India** Western Territory, has had one of its wards declared by the government as an isolation ward for coronavirus-infected patients. The authorities are referring patients to the hospital.

Salvation Army-run children's homes in **Jamaica** have adapted by providing residents with online teaching tools, enhancing the materials provided by local schools. Technology is also being used to provide access to Bible study materials and online opportunities for worship.

In **Argentina**, The Salvation Army's Buenos Aires Social Services Office is distributing bags with non-perishable food and basic necessities to people with limited resources or none at all during these challenging days.

Across **Uruguay**, Salvation Army personnel have been supported by fast-food giant Burger King to offer food parcels to families in need in the Patule neighborhood, Salto. Major Elena Miño is heading up the logistics in order to distribute the food in the best way possible so that they can reach most families in the area. Her team is going house-to-house with the packages in order to minimize social contact.



*Salvation Army volunteers deliver food to villagers in Uruguay.*

## COVID-19 response around the world



Salvation Army officers unload medical relief kits in Korea.

In **Singapore**, dedicated volunteers and staff from The Salvation Army's Family Support Services team have been distributing food rations to frail and elderly people. Although elderly day centers across the city-state have closed, Salvation Army social workers are continuing to check in on service users through phone calls and to afford any necessary assistance.

Global healthcare leaders Johnson & Johnson have collaborated with The Salvation Army in **Korea** to distribute 20,000 face masks and 4,000 emergency relief kits to vulnerable individuals and medical professionals. Each emergency relief kit includes five KF94 masks, disinfection tissues, hand sanitizer and quantities of the company's Neutrogena hand cream, Listerine mouthwash and Aveeno body wash.

With the closure of all schools in **Japan**, one unintended consequence is that a significant number of children are going without lunches. Salvation Army corps in strategic locations have stepped in to provide midday meals, meeting basic needs as well as giving children a carefully-managed opportunity to enjoy interaction in small groups.

In **Norway, Iceland** and **The Færoes**, food is being served in the streets and left on the doorsteps of vulnerable and elderly people. A new phone service for concerned and isolated people has been established. Parents with toddlers have met with corps leaders for a moment of toddler song through the Houseparty app, in order to make the days of isolation more bearable. Salvation Army officers have walked the streets singing to isolated people on their balconies and have been undertaking visitation by phone.

In **Latvia**, The Salvation Army's 11 soup kitchens have been continuing to prepare food for distribution in plastic containers, ensuring that recipients maintain a safe distance apart. Outreach to homeless people in the capital Rīga is operating in a similar way.

Due to supply chain problems, The Salvation Army in **Belgium** has taken the unusual step of asking supporters to use their sewing skills to make new facemasks, to an approved design. Meanwhile, in **Estonia**, The Salvation Army's rehabilitation center has amended its soup kitchen provision to instead provide nutritious meals outdoors while maintaining social distancing.




In Greenland, Salvation Army personnel serve sandwiches through a walk-up window.

PHOTOS COURTESY INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS





“PEACE I leave with you; my peace I give you.  
I do not give to you as the world gives.  
Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”

John 14:27 

IN UNCERTAIN  
TIMES, YOU CAN BE  
CERTAIN OF THIS:  
YOUR GENEROSITY  
WILL MAKE  
A DIFFERENCE.

Today, thanks to donors like you, The Salvation Army is helping those affected by COVID-19. We are there for the most vulnerable in our community. For those whose wages are gone, for those who need food, for those who have no place to call home, and for so many others who desperately need help and hope in this time of crisis. To see how you can continue to make a difference in your community, give today at [SalvationArmyUSA.org](https://www.SalvationArmyUSA.org).

DOING THE  
MOST GOOD

