



# Central Connection

The Salvation Army / USA Central Territory  
News and Views from the Midwest



"We are all one body, we have the same Spirit, and we have all been called to the same glorious future." Eph. 4:3,4 (NLT)

Volume 45, Number 1

January 2015

## Central celebrates *Boundless Joy*

You won't want to miss the Commissioning weekend, June 12-14, 2015, themed *Boundless Joy*, at the Star Plaza in Merrillville, Ind. Welcoming guests Commissioners Kenneth and Jolene Hodder and featuring the Chicago Staff Band and the Bill Booth Theater Company, the full three-day event will inspire you as we remember God's blessings on the territory and look to the future.

Commissioners Kenneth and Jolene

Hodder, territorial leaders of the Kenya West Territory, are in charge of one of the largest and fastest growing territories in the world! In addition to a variety of corps, training college and headquarters appointments, they were coordinators for the International Millennium Congress in Atlanta, Ga., and served at International Headquarters in London, England.

The Friday night keynote will celebrate the territory's 130th anniversary. This gala will highlight some of the exceptional places, ministries and people since the territory's founding in 1885. Not merely nostalgia, this glimpse at how God has blessed and used the people in our territory will reaffirm your faith.

"We have boundless joy because God has been with us, and we know He will continue

to be with us in the future," said Lt. Colonel Paul Smith, territorial secretary for program.

Prominently featuring the Hodders, the Saturday morning meeting will focus on the global Army during its 150th anniversary year. It will include the World Services/Self-Denial Ingathering and summer mission teams dedication.

Saturday evening will bring a

dynamic festival by the Chicago Staff Band and Bill Booth Theater Company as they prepare to represent the Central Territory at the *Boundless...The Whole World Redeeming* International Congress in London.

"Although the Chicago Staff Band and Bill Booth Theater Company have always been mainstays of commissioning weekend programs, their principal role has been to serve as program support to featured speakers and guest artists," said Bandmaster William Himes. "But this year, these territorial ensembles will be featured center stage in what is sure to be an inspiring concert."

On Sunday, we'll join together in worship and to support the cadets of the "Heralds of Grace" session as they are ordained and commissioned. In the afternoon, the weekend will conclude with the exciting service of appointments.

Register at [centralcommissioning.org](http://centralcommissioning.org)



## MAP calls for commitment

by Major Tricia Taube  
Territorial Candidates' Secretary

What happens when more than 200 delegates and leaders unite with a common Mission and Purpose (MAP)? Blessings overflow, prayers are answered, and callings to ministry are confirmed.

From the initial welcome and challenge by Commissioner Paul R.

Seiler, territorial commander, until the final prayer, MAP was a time of discovery. The conference was dominated by the challenge to fully engage and commit our passions and our days to the Lord's work. The theme of commitment echoed through each message and in study and small group conversations. There was a cohesive message: get involved, be part of the mission, discover your individual calling.

A collaborative effort between the territorial corps mission and adult ministries department, the College for Officer Training (CFOT) and the candidates' department, MAP featured Daniel Wallace of Gull Lake Ministries, comedic team Bean & Bailey and Major Paul Fleeman, then-Western divisional commander. Worship was enhanced by the CFOT Praise Team and a variety of participants' testimonies.

On Saturday 67 delegates exploring officership joined cadets and staff at the CFOT to look closer at the candidate process. They were challenged to prepare themselves spiritually and



scholastically for the sacred privilege of being ministers of the Gospel. Also, those willing to step up in key employment and lay leadership positions looked at career and leadership opportunities through workshops led by those on ministry frontlines such as social services, corps growth and multicultural ministries.

Sunday concluded the weekend not only with worship but by considering the needs of others as delegates gave \$465 for the World Services/Self-Denial Clean Water Project. As delegates lingered over goodbyes and promised to stay con-

nected, there was a sense this precious experience would stay with them and inspire them to honor commitments they have made.



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## Pursuing mission through relationships

by Lt. Colonel Renea Smith  
Assistant Secretary for Personnel

**R**elationships can be powerful motivators. They can influence the way we dress, the food we eat, and how we think. Some relationships are inspirational, instructive, or even difficult and challenging, while others are life-changing.

Webster's Dictionary defines *relationship* as "the way in which two or more people, groups, countries, etc., talk to, behave toward, and deal with

each other; the way in which two or more people or things are connected; the state of being related or interrelated."

As we consider strategies to pursue mission, one of the most powerful and influential resources we possess is our ability to connect with others. Relationships are central to who we are as human beings, as Christians, and as the Church, the body of Christ. It's part of our DNA. God is relational,



and He created us to be in relationship with Him and other people.

Frankly, it's hard to describe ourselves without reference to our relationships, and if we're honest, we wouldn't be the people we are today without the impact of those relationships, whether the experience was good or bad.

Thinking about the influence of relationships reminds me of a song from the musical, *Wicked*. In the song "For Good," Elphaba and Glinda sing about their friendship. At one point, Elphaba declares: "So much of me is made of what I learned from you. . . And whatever way our stories end, I know you have rewritten mine by being my friend." Then, they

both affirm: "Because I knew you, I have been changed for good."

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus declares His followers are to be salt and light, providing the flavor of God's love in the lives of those we know, and shedding light on the path that leads people to Christ (Matthew 5:13-16). We do this by establishing relationships with others and letting them see Christ in us.

We pursue mission as we intentionally make connections with people, purposefully allowing the love of God to flow through us and impact others in His name. They will see Jesus and be touched by His love for them.

Are you willing to build relationships for the purpose of saving souls, growing saints and serving suffering humanity?

Because someone knows you, will they see Christ and be changed for good?

## Leadership changes

**T**erritorial Commander Commissioner Paul R. Seiler has announced the following changes of leadership appointments.

**Lt. Colonel Daniel Sjögren** has the additional appointment of Territorial Pastoral Care Secretary, effective January 1, 2015. **Lt. Colonel Rebecca Sjögren** is appointed Territorial Pastoral Care Officer, with additional appointments as



Lt. Colonels Daniel and Rebecca Sjögren



Majors Gregory and Lee Ann Thompson

Territorial Ambassador for Prayer and Territorial Order of the Silver Star Secretary, effective January 1, 2015.

**Majors Gregory and Lee Ann Thompson** are appointed as Divisional Commander and Divisional Director of Women's Ministries, respectively, for the Western Division, effective January 14, 2015.

## ASBURY UNIVERSITY Winter Access Days

**January 22-25, 2015 – Wilmore, KY**

High school juniors and seniors are invited to:

- Explore the campus
- Meet professors and students
- Discuss majors
- Attend classes
- Experience residence hall living

Then spend Saturday and Sunday with the SASF (Salvation Army Student Fellowship) at the Sallie Center. Enjoy fellowship, trips into town and joining in with the band and vocal ensemble.

Register online at [www.asbury.edu/visit](http://www.asbury.edu/visit)

For more information email [janice.fitzgerald@usc.salvationarmy.org](mailto:janice.fitzgerald@usc.salvationarmy.org)



### Get Connected!

Check out our complementary material on the web.  
[salarmycentral.org](http://salarmycentral.org)

#### Resources/Links

History of the International College for Officers  
Commissioning registration  
Officer Candidates website  
Registration for Regeneration Conference

#### Media

CSB Sounds of Season  
Ebola response video  
Women's Ministries Leadership Conference

#### Web exclusives

More fashions from Consignment Couture fundraiser  
Original "Donut Girl" Lt. Colonel Helen Purviance  
Corps that marked 125 years in 2014  
The Salvation Army in Trinidad  
Poetry submissions from Midland young adult retreat

### Central Connection

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## Stories to build faith



Major Gail Aho with Families Band members Erica Johnson and Justin Rose (on left) and David Shay, along with Courtney Rose and Singing Company member Sam Arias (far right)

Young adults from the Midland Division shared in a meaningful time of fellowship, worship and learning at a divisional retreat, which was held at the Melvin Theater in the historic Benton West neighborhood of St. Louis, Mo. Delegates reported a relaxed atmosphere and an engaging schedule following the theme "Stories."

Friday evening kicked off with a welcome party and games followed by a message by Lt. Mary Kim, St. Louis Maplewood, Mo., corps officer. She spoke on Psalm 139 incorporating God's story, her story and how delegates could use their own stories to further God's Kingdom.

"Lt. Mary's talk was deep, real and vulnerable," said delegate Lt. Christopher White, Jefferson City, Mo., corps officer who attended with his wife, Rachel.

The Salvationist band Families and

Sam Arias from The Singing Company were the musical guests, along with local musician Angie G.

Saturday morning delegates rose early to meet for breakfast at the St. Louis Temple Corps and to hear more from Lt. Kim and Families Band members who shared the stories behind their songs and interspersed their creative "stories-put-to-music" style with their personal testimonies.

The retreat culminated with a workshop facilitated by Major Gail Aho, divisional secretary for program, who challenged delegates to creatively encapsulate their story. Delegates wrote songs, poems and raps.

"Throughout the weekend we were challenged and stretched as we looked inward at our own story alongside others, as well as taking a closer look at the biblical narrative," said Lt. Christopher.

## Thorsons salute others

Majors Larry and Margo Thorson, both rooted in corps under the old Scandinavian Division, served as officers for more than 44 years sharing eight corps appointments in four divisions, the College for Officer Training and two territorial appointments. They retired from the positions of territorial pastoral care officer and pastoral care secretary.

The Thorsons' retirement service, themed "Passing the Mantle," was held at the Rockford Temple, Ill., Corps and conducted by their sons Chad, Ryan and Lt. Andrew Thorson. As well as saluting others, the Thorsons praised their sons as ministry partners. The lieutenant conducted his parents' retirement ceremony, and Chief Secretary

Colonel Jeffrey Smith presented a message. A "Texas barbecue" followed the service in honor of the Thorsons' retirement destination!

Larry accepted God's call to officership at youth councils in 1968 and entered training in 1969 as a member of the "Victorious" session. That December he proposed to Margo, who'd received God's call to officership at age 10. She entered training in 1970 as a member of the "Lightbringers" session. They married shortly after her commissioning in 1972.

The Thorsons believe the most important aspect of each appointment was the people to whom they ministered: "We'd say to each one, 'May God bless you and thank you for allowing us into your lives.'"



Pictured (l-r) are Colonel Jeffrey Smith, Major Stephen Harper, Major Larry Thorson, Lt. Andrew Thorson, Major Margo Thorson, Colonel Dorothy Smith and Major Linda Ibbs.



Yes, I want to join other Salvationists in the *Boundless...The Whole World Reading* International Bible Reading Challenge.

I commit to reading through the New Testament in 2015.

Please sign me up and send my free Bible, the reading schedule and study questions to:

English  Spanish  Children's

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Corps / ARC \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Major Carol Wurtz, Corps Mission and Adult Ministries Department, The Salvation Army, 10 W. Algonquin Rd., Des Plaines, Ill. 60016

Fax: 847/ 294-2114

Email: USC\_CMAM@usc.salvationarmy.org

## Fueled by the Holy Spirit

by Lt. Colonel Daniel Sjögren  
Territorial Ambassador for Holiness

During the fall my mind returns to Jamestown, N.D., and the days I spent harvesting wheat in the vast fields of the open prairie. This is when I learned to respect the large combine. I could control this powerful machine with just a steering wheel and speed control shift. Bushel after bushel of wheat was swallowed up and stored in its belly, and once it reached capacity, the combine would alert you to discharge the load and start over.

Before any of this could take place, it was imperative the mighty machine take on fuel. Often, I would fill the large tank until it ran over so I wouldn't be stranded. Imagine with me what it would have been like to have a tank that would only hold a couple gallons of fuel? No matter how much capacity the combine would have, it would prove useless without fuel to give it power.

We are privileged as Christians to



be filled with the Holy Spirit. Sometimes we might feel we're overflowing with power, while at others we might sense an emptiness. But as Annie Johnson Flint wrote, "When we have exhausted our store of endurance, when our strength has failed ere the day is half done, when we reach the end of our hoarded resources, our Father's full giving is only begun."

Being filled with the Holy Spirit enables us to draw on God's resources. It is His desire for us to remain in His love which increases our capacity to love others. It is His desire to carry out His mission through us.

The fields are white unto harvest, and God needs laborers to work with Him. Have you joined Him, fully surrendering to His will and claiming the power of the Holy Spirit?



## Zambranos bid adios

Captains Luis and Raisi Zambrano bid farewell to active officership and their colleagues at a retirement luncheon at Metropolitan Divisional Headquarters. After the meal, tributes were given (in person and by Skype!) and special music performed before Lt. Colonel Charles Smith, Metropolitan divisional commander, conducted the Zambranos' retirement ceremony. A prayer from Lt. Colonel Sharon Smith, Metropolitan divisional director of women's ministries, followed.

Natives of Venezuela, the Zambranos met while Raisi was in college and Luis was in charge of the country's Campus Crusade for Christ ministries after helping to bring it to Venezuela. They married and had three children.

In the early 1990s, the family came to the U.S. so Luis could earn a master of divinity degree from Northern Baptist Theological Seminary in Lombard, Ill., a Chicago suburb not far from Oakbrook Terrace. They began attending the corps and fell in love with the Army's holistic ministry. The Zambranos eventually felt God's leading to use their

ministerial experiences in The Salvation Army.

In 2004 they became auxiliary captains under the College for Officer Training's distance learning program. They served as associate corps officers leading Hispanic ministries at the Aurora, Ill., Corps. Three years later Luis and Raisi received the rank of captain. In 2008 they were appointed to lead the Chicago Lawn, Ill., Corps, where they served as corps officers until mid-2014 when they were appointed to divisional Hispanic ministries special services, the positions from which they retired.



Photo by Jacqueline Rachev

## Reaching out reaches goal

The North Platte, Neb., Corps is reaching out to their community, sharing the gospel and meeting new people as part of their STEPs (Strategic Tool to Engage Potential) goal of visitor follow-up and retention.

"This corps has always had good local leadership, but we wanted to be more engaged in the community," said Captain Brienne Bowers, corps officer with her husband, Captain Anthony.

Last May soldiers worked together to plan a corps block party. At the beginning of the month bags were packed with information about the Army's programs—day camp, financial aid and food pantry, volunteer opportunities—with an invitation to the block party. Soldiers divided into teams and went door to door.

The block party was a success with 100 people in attendance. Names of people interested in corps activities were collected and have been maintained on a database for follow-up. Each month a letter that includes



upcoming events and service opportunities is sent to them.

This past July a territorial summer mission team of young adults assisted efforts by running two outreaches in a park. They also mowed lawns for neighbors who have physical disabilities.

Territorial evangelists Majors Joseph and Lois Wheeler led an evangelism series in the fall called "Extreme Makeover—Spiritual Edition" which focused on making commitments to reach others.

Captain Brienne sees these efforts of planting seeds starting to pay off; not only are new people showing up on Sunday mornings but six senior and four junior soldiers have been enrolled in the last six months.

"We live in a town of 27,000, so everyone should know The Salvation Army here," said the captain. "What we had was good, but we want to be even more engaged. We want to reach new people and form new relationships."



Family game night was hosted by women's ministries to connect with families participating in the after school program.



Folks from the North Platte Corps went door to door to invite community members to their block party outreach.

## International College for Officers



### Major Harold (Butch) Frost

Session 224  
January 14 - February 25



### Major Lee Ann Thompson

Session 226  
July 15 - August 24

### Major Monty Wandling

Session 227  
October 14 - November 23



### Major Beverly Gates

Session 225  
April 15 - May 25



# Year-round growing season

Corps growth at the Chicago Englewood, Ill., Corps Red Shield Center could be likened to a game of dominos; start with one tile, match it to another and watch the grid grow. Except the tiles being used by Lts. Corey and Nikki Hughes to build their corps are labeled "love," "care" and "include." Serving as the Englewood corps officers since mid-2013, the Hughes have been impacting people in their corps and community by consistently loving, nurturing and including them in their lives.

"You just have to demonstrate Christ, then treat them like family. You ask how they're doing and show genuine interest," said Lt. Nikki. The lieutenants frequently circulate throughout the building and maintain an open-door policy to anyone who comes into the corps whether it's for the fitness center, basketball, activities, classes or social services.



Milk-crate gardening has helped grow women's ministries.



and figuratively thanks to a milk-crate gardening project that struck a responsive chord with community ladies. Like many others who live in cold-weather climates, the women already are thinking about what seedlings they're going to start this winter for planting in the spring, nurturing through the summer and harvesting in the fall.

The garden is on a large, third-floor balcony that receives plenty of sunlight. These ecologically responsible "urban farmers" even use a rain barrel to water the dozens of plants. Although the focus of the garden is on vegetables, occasional flowers provide spots of color as does the pretty décor of china tea pots, cups and saucers and other niceties. When representatives from the American Community Garden Association made a visit last summer, buttons were popping with pride! Bonds among the women have been strengthened through the shared effort on this project, which has facilitated invitations to join women's ministries from them to others.

Teen boys especially gravitate to Lt. Corey's office to chat and laugh. "Most of the boys don't have a positive father figure to emulate so their relationships with my husband, and other men at the center who've begun mentoring the boys, fill that void," Lt. Nikki continued. Up to 30 kids now attend Tuesday night character-building programs before which a meal is served.

Women's ministries has been another area of growth, both literally

# Wichita fashionistas help homeless

The runway sizzled for a second year in Wichita, Kan., with *outré* fashions by local designers using \$125 worth of their best finds from Salvation Army family stores!

The Consignment Couture Fashion Show and Benefit Dinner, which benefits the Army's transitional housing program in Wichita, already has become a highlight on the city's hip, young social scene, according to Bethany Fatkin, development manager and volunteer coordinator for the Wichita City Command. The event is organized and sponsored by The Salvation Army Young Professionals and is held at the exclusive Petroleum Club.

More than \$12,000 was raised, an increase of \$5,000 over the previous year, through the sale of event tickets, along with an auction of donated items, as well as the runway fashions, on the night of the event. This year local celebrities, such as state senator Michael O'Donnell, joined the host committee in judging the fashion show. In addition, attendees voted for a "people's choice" award by donating to red kettles tagged with the designers' names!

"In addition to raising funds for the program, the event has raised awareness in our next generation of donors, the 25 to 40 age group,"



The current Miss Kansas, Amanda Sasek

Bethany said. Interest in new membership for the young professionals board also is being generated, she continued, as well as year-round interest in volunteer and sponsorship opportunities from the private and corporate sectors.

Area fashion designers are invited to produce a collection of three runway looks that are modeled by women and children from the community. Amanda Sasek, the current Miss Kansas, also served as a model. Accessories to complete the ensembles are provided by local stores and boutiques that have partnered with the designers. The winning designer, as judged by the panel, receives a "Golden Hanger Award." Seven designers participated in this year's competition, the winner of which was Juliana Chary.



Designer Jenna Donovan (r) with models wearing her creations: a pants suit that was hand-painted and embellished, an *ombré* jumpsuit made from dip-dyed bed sheets and a halter top woven with strips cut from a white cotton tee.

# Territorial Social Services Conference

April 28-30, 2015  
Indianapolis, Ind.

Featuring guest speakers:

**Lt. Colonel Dean Pallant**  
Director  
International Social Justice Commission  
(International Headquarters)  
New York City

**David R. Hodge, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor  
George Warren Brown  
School of Social Work  
Washington University in St. Louis

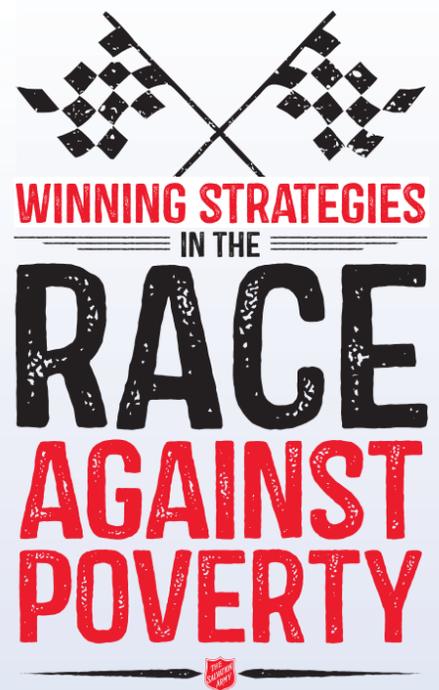
**Philip Young P. Hong, MSW, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor  
Loyola University of Chicago

### Workshop tracks

- *Revving up Human Potential* – best practices for working with program participants
- *Precision Performance* – enhancing skills for greater success
- *Minimizing Impact* – preparing for and responding to poverty inducing circumstances
- *Fortifying Your Pit Crew* – taking care of your team
- *Start to Finish Line* – poverty along the life span

Register online [sar.my/uscssconf](http://sar.my/uscssconf)



# Progress on the *Pathway*

## A new approach to living

**P**athway of Hope was introduced to the territory in 2011 as a way to do more than meet immediate needs of families in crisis but to help them move to a place of stability and sufficiency and to double the Army's impact with existing resources.

The overarching goals are to raise hope, increase stability or even sufficiency, and to break the cycle of intergenerational poverty. It uses strengths-based case management through a team approach with families who are ready to take life-changing action and have one child under age 18. Pathway of Hope empowers

vulnerable families by helping them address root barriers and setting and achieving a series of goals. One of the measures of their progress is increased income. Another is increased hope. (See box How do you measure hope?)

An electronic management system allows for evaluation not just of statistics but of how the Pathway of Hope approach is making a difference in people's lives. Fifty-five people attended a territorial summit last fall regarding this system. They represented not only all divisions in the Central Territory but the other three U.S. territories.



Delegates to the territorial summit were trained in the new management system.

## Brighter days ahead

**P**athway of Hope (POH) proved to be just the right approach for assisting Jamie and her family, reported Sharon Karpin, social service director for the Boone, Iowa, Corps. Single-mom Jamie and her two daughters, one of whom struggles with mental health issues, attend the corps, and the girls are involved in character-building programs.

Jamie struggled in the past with substance abuse. After making some

poor life choices, she ended up in a family shelter through which she was able to obtain permanent housing. After completing courses at a community college, she was hired by a nursing home.

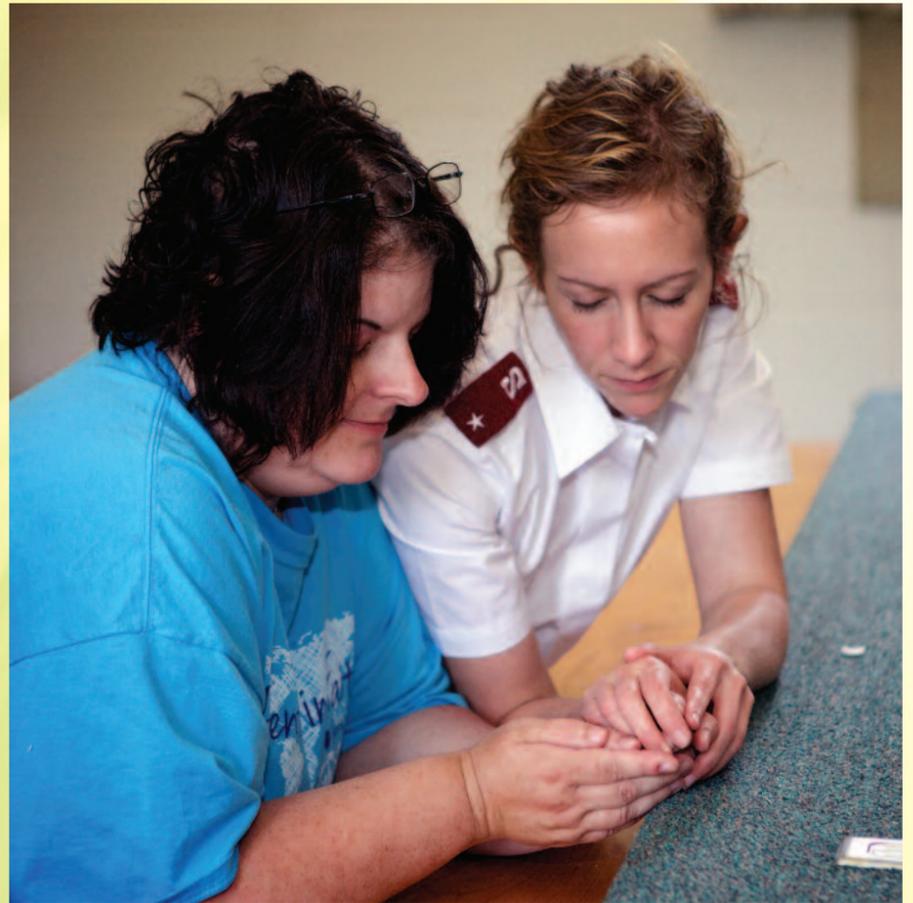
Things were looking up until last April when Jamie had to quit her job to manage her daughter's mental illness. She was in jeopardy of losing her housing assistance, ending up in the shelter again and perhaps even losing custody of her daughter.

Sharon engaged Jamie in Pathway of Hope. In July Jamie began working with Angie Quinn, POH case manager for the Boone, Des Moines, and Ames, Iowa, corps, and together they developed goals to improve her family's situation. The first step was financial stability. Jamie met with a financial counselor, and they created a budget to sustain her family. She was able to keep her housing assistance and began working with mental health professionals to help stabilize her daughter and learn new ways to cope with her daughter's needs. Despite this rough period, Jamie maintained her sobriety.

She still has barriers to overcome, but Jamie is making tremendous progress. In the fall she went back to college to earn a degree so she can better support herself and her family. Achieving yet another goal to remain active in her community, Jamie has been volunteering at the family shelter each week, now giving back to others.



Pathway of Hope client, Jamie, sees a brighter future.



## Finding a way out

**"T**here was a sign outside the house where we got arrested, and where the drugs were, that said 'Closed Alley,' and that's how my life was," recalled Lynn of her darkest days. "I didn't have a way out and didn't see the way out, because the drugs took over."

Lynn's life derailed when she started abusing prescription drugs and began associating with addicts. It led to time in jail and nearly killed her.

"I could have died, but God said to me, 'I have something else for you to do,'" said Lynn, who connected with The Salvation Army in Warsaw, Ind., when Corps Officers Lts. Esteban and Karen Pommier ministered to her family in the aftermath of a house fire and her arrest. After being put on work release, she enrolled in Pathway of Hope and began attend-

ing the Warsaw Corps' Sunday services. With the help of staff member Ken Locke, she set achievable goals and began to turn her life around.

Lynn also participated in corps activities and met with Lt. Karen Pommier to talk about her spiritual life. In November 2013 she rededicated her life to Christ and last May was enrolled as a soldier.

"When it comes to Pathway of Hope we want to go beyond case management," said Lt. Esteban. "We are making friends, building relationships and ultimately connecting people to the real hope, which is Jesus."

Lynn is grateful to have a second chance at life, not only as a functioning member of society and leader of women's ministries at the corps, but as a child of God.



Former Central Territorial Commander Commissioner Ken Baillie enrolls Lynn and others as soldiers of the Warsaw, Ind., Corps.

# of Hope

## One step at a time



Antoinette and her family are seeing real change in their lives.

Antoinette and her family were behind on their rent and on the brink of eviction when she met The Salvation Army through relatives who attend the Chicago Temple, Ill., Corps. There, Antoinette not only received assistance with food and clothing for her eight children, she discovered a larger support network ready to help her. She discovered Pathway of Hope (POH).

Through POH Antoinette has been identifying barriers to sufficiency, setting goals and developing ways to move toward a brighter future. Carmen Staggers, Chicago Temple POH case manager, has helped her in setting meaningful and measur-

able goals and continues to provide life-skills training.

For instance, a primary need was affordable and ample housing for her family in a safer neighborhood with less influence from gangs and drug dealers. She has learned how to be selective and observant when evaluating potential neighborhoods and housing, working to find a more stable home and living environment. The corps has become a safe haven for her children, providing a sense of hope and stability and helping them to improve in school.

Addressing the goal of employment, Antoinette has been attending the Chicago Harbor Light's job-search program as well as going to job fairs in the city. Yet another goal is to ensure her children graduate from school, so they've been working with tutors after-school. The two oldest are already on track to start college, and Antoinette herself plans to finish high school by earning a GED.



## At a glance

- As of October 2014, 186 corps and social service sites are using the Pathway of Hope approach.
- 600 families have participated in Pathway of Hope.
- A national committee is now working on going wider with Pathway of Hope.
- Pathway of Hope has been shared with other territories as far away as Australia.
- By 2016 all corps in the Central Territory will be trained in Pathway of Hope.

## Sustaining a future

by Rebecca Friede

Dan and Rebecca, a young couple with three beautiful girls, should have been celebrating the joys of life. They had so much to look forward to, or at least that's what they thought.

But shortly after giving birth to their third daughter in October 2013, Rebecca lost her job. With no income, the family was soon homeless. Six months later Rebecca finally met The Salvation Army through a multi-agency team meeting at a public school in Grand Haven, Mich.

The family entered Salvation Army emergency housing in April 2014 and started Pathway of Hope with high hopes. The two older girls fit right in at the corps, joining sunbeams and junior band and attending Sunday school and worship.

Dan and Rebecca worked hard at

the goals they set and by July were ready for independent living when crisis struck. Dan was diagnosed with a terminal illness. It turned the family upside down, but they didn't give up on their goals. They continued to walk the path to hope and in September were married by corps officer Captain Jay Davis.

They secured permanent housing through referrals and applied for Social Security disability benefits to increase their income. Through POH, they have better community support and involvement. And with a plan for their future, the family can deal with Dan's difficult health issues without constantly being in a state of crisis.

"The Salvation Army was very helpful and also very supportive," said Rebecca. "We're going to keep working to better ourselves, our family and our way of living."



Captains Jay and Sally Davis with family and friends of Dan and Rebecca (center) on their wedding day.

## How do you measure hope?

One way to assess if the Pathway of Hope approach is making a difference in people's lives is to actually measure their level of hope. Is that possible, you ask. Yes! To do it, Pathway uses a tool called the Herth Hope Index.

It's basically a self-survey comprised of 12 questions developed by Kaye A. Herth, PhD, RN. Clients complete the survey when beginning Pathway of Hope and then every three months during their participation and upon

completion of the program. Scores range from 12 to 48 with higher scores reflecting higher levels of hope.

The goal is for clients' hope to increase over time during their engagement and to be maintained afterward. Increasing hope is an essential component for achieving and maintaining increased social functioning or change related to the motivating factor for seeking help. Hope is a spiritual component, which undergirds the sense of faith to take difficult steps.



## Marking milestones

In late 2014, nearly two dozen corps and communities celebrated major anniversaries marking the start of the Army's work in their towns.

### Huntington, Ind., Corps

"We're so excited about this milestone in our history," reported Captain Barbara McCauley, Huntington, Ind., corps officer. To celebrate the corps' 125 years of service to the community—and to provide a kick-off for kettles, seasonal outreaches and social services—the captain scheduled a late October open house.

During the event special recognition was given to exceptional volunteers, supporters and corps leaders. Also recognized was the corps' pride in being the home corps of Lt. Colonel Helen Purviance, one of the original Salvation Army donut girls who bravely served during World War I in Europe's frontline trenches; for the rest of her life the colonel remained a powerhouse of Army ministry.

### Muncie, Ind., Corps

Under the theme "Great is Thy Faithfulness," the Muncie, Ind., Corps celebrated its 125th anniversary to raise awareness of the Army's work in the community before launching its vital Christmas fundraising and activities, reported Lts. Kevin and Mary Robbins, corps



Envoy James Hulett, Wayne/Westland corps administrator, and Captain Derrick Rose, the prior corps officer, receive a 25-year plaque from the community.

officers. Also scheduled that weekend was an evangelistic campaign conducted by Lt. Colonels Daniel and Rebecca Sjögren, territorial ambassador and associate ambassador for holiness.

The anniversary celebration began with a Saturday-afternoon open house at the corps, followed by a celebration service and dinner. As guests mingled, the Indianapolis, Ind., Harbor Light Gospel Choir shared their talents while pictures of corps life, people

and events through the years were projected on a screen. During the service testimonies were shared by community and corps people on how the Muncie Corps has impacted their lives, and Colonel Daniel Sjögren presented the message.



Honoring the Huntington Corps' 125th year were (l-r) Chief Deputy Chris Newton, Captain Barbara McCauley, Jason Sell, Sheriff Terry Stoffel and Gerri Snow.

## Celebrating God's blessings

These corps in the Central Territory, which itself celebrates 130 years this year, will also be celebrating significant anniversaries in 2015.

### 125 Years

Detroit Temple, Mich., Corps  
Dodge City, Kan., Corps  
Fond du Lac, Wis., Corps  
Galesburg, Ill., Corps  
Grand Haven, Mich., Corps  
Kenosha, Wis., Corps  
Madison Temple, Wis., Corps  
Newton, Iowa, Corps  
Pittsburg, Kan., Corps  
Racine, Wis., Corps  
Saginaw, Mich., Corps  
Springfield, Mo., Corps  
Wyandotte Downriver, Mich., Corps

### 100 Years

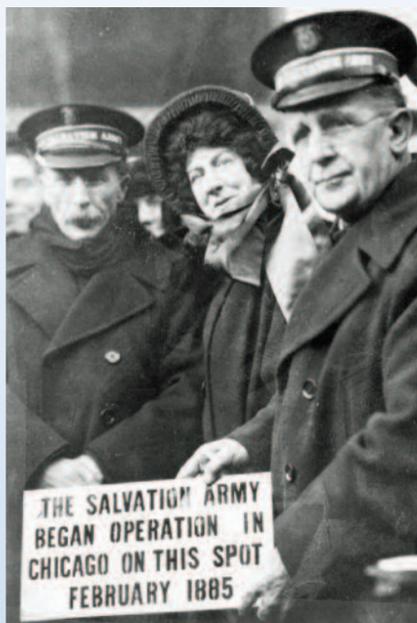
Alma, Mich., Corps  
Hammond-Munster, Ind., Corps

### 75 Years

St. Louis Maplewood, Mo., Corps

### 25 Years

Mount Pleasant, Mich., Corps



Celebrating 125 years in Muncie were (l-r) Lt. Colonel Daniel Sjögren, Majors Mike and Shirley Meyers, Lts. Kevin and Mary Robbins, soldiers Ron and Josh Johnson, and Majors Doug and Sandy Rick.

### Wayne/Westland, Mich., Corps

The 25th anniversary of the Wayne/Westland, Mich., Corps was celebrated with a gala fundraising event graciously organized by the Westland Community Foundation working with the corps' fundraising committee. The dinner featured entertainment from a Frank Sinatra song stylist and a silent auction of donated items. More than \$13,000 was raised through the event, which was attended by 137 people, reported Envoy

James Hulett, corps administrator.

Special guests included Lt. Colonel John Turner, Eastern Michigan divisional commander, Major Mark Anderson, general secretary, and Westland Mayor William Wild. Major Anderson and the mayor each spoke at the event, which also honored people and organizations in the community for outstanding contributions of time and resources to the Army over the last 25 years.

## This gal's got gusto

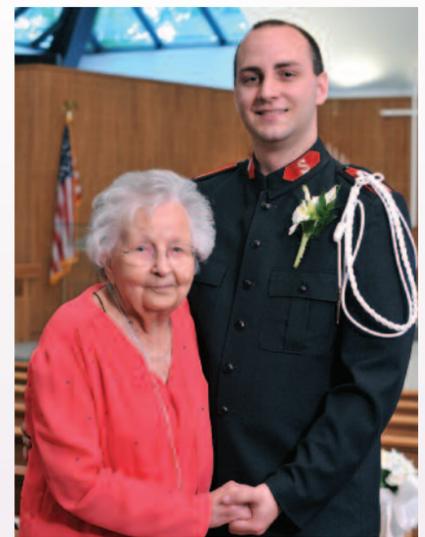
"This getting old business is for the birds," quipped 106-year-old soldier Stella Lennox, who has been attending The Salvation Army with her family for 72 years.

Not only does Stella look great, but she's sharp and witty. Perhaps it's a result of 25 years of nursing on the surgical ward at Cook County Hospital in Chicago, or maybe it's what she calls the secret to life: "Trust in the Lord, then give yourself a kick in the pants and get going!"

Majors Lefty and Mildred Knowles introduced Stella and her husband, Hugh, to The Salvation Army in 1942. The Lennox's children, Gerald and Willa Marie, received an invitation to roller skate at the Chicago Kedzie, Ill., Corps, and soon they were asking Stella for a quarter to have dinner there.

"When I heard about it, I said to my husband, 'What in the Sam Hill are they feeding people dinner for only a quarter at The Salvation Army?'" She visited the corps to see for herself. "He [the major] had me washing dishes like I should have been there all along, and I've been washing 'em ever since."

As Stella reflected over her years as a soldier she remembers fondly the family atmosphere and the way everyone took care of each other. "No one [in The Salvation Army] figured they were a cut above. They were meeting our needs whether it was entertainment, help with illness, or encouragement. They helped us through any problems and were a real part of our lives," she said.



Stella with her great grandson, Lt. Steve DeLacy, Shelbyville, Ind., corps officer, at his wedding in 2013.

Not only was Hugh the corps sergeant-major for 25 years, but Stella attended home league, taught Sunday school and led vacation Bible school. After the kids were grown a move to Streamwood, Ill., brought the Lennoxes to the Elgin, Ill., Corps, where they were "Nanny" and "Grandpa" to the corps children, and their own five grandchildren.

The legacy of commitment continues with three great-grandchildren who have become officers.

"Looking back, if it hadn't been for the Lord, I would have never made it," said Stella. "I want them [future generations] to know they could never do better than being connected with The Salvation Army."



Stella (fourth from left) at a Kedzie, Ill., Corps dinner led by Majors Dallas and Jeannie Leader (second and third from left)

# Ebola Response: An interview with the General Secretary in Liberia

Major Samuel Amponsah, general secretary of the Liberia Command, spoke with Linda Leigh, staff writer from the Canada and Bermuda Territory, in November about The Salvation Army's ongoing response to the Ebola epidemic in Liberia and Sierra Leone.

## Please describe the situation in Liberia over the past 10 months and today.

The Ebola outbreak took place in March. It was the first of its kind, and many people didn't take precautions. They didn't think it would last—that it would go away. Therefore, it spread from one country to another. Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea have a common border.

When Ebola arrived in the cities, the government asked people to minimize movement, but by that time people had come with their sickness. Liberia was not prepared. Protective measures had not been put in place, and the virus started killing people. In July/August when The Salvation Army realized that the illness wasn't going away and was killing people, we contacted International Headquarters (IHQ) and began our response. We gave out sanitizers and chemicals [for cleaning].

Today, locals say that 4,000 people have died in Liberia. We question if all deaths are due to Ebola or natural causes because people won't go to

clinics out of fear of catching the disease. There are many uncertainties. The radio news says numbers are decreasing, but other sources say Ebola is still killing people, and people are still being admitted to clinics.

A number of parents have died, leaving their children as orphans and alone in homes. There is no one to care for them, and they are very afraid.

People live in fear, afraid of contracting the virus. The Salvation Army is going into the hardest-hit communities to distribute food items. The distribution team is careful not to stay too close to the affected community, and people are invited to come and receive the items.

## Is the situation similar in Sierra Leone, where The Salvation Army also has a presence?

The Salvation Army began its work in Sierra Leone in 2010 [overseen by the Liberia Command] and remains in three areas where we have newly commissioned officers. We haven't begun to fully respond to the out-



break. When the crisis began in Sierra Leone the government required people to stay indoors for three days. No contact between people made a difference to the spread of the disease. Liberia didn't have the same quarantine at the beginning. That's why the death toll is high in Liberia.

In Sierra Leone we will provide food items such as oil, rice, sardines (canned) and beans.

## What are the difficulties The Salvation Army has faced in responding to the epidemic?

There are highly infected communities where no one will go because of fear of contracting the sickness. Some communities are not open for people to respond. The need is great, and our resources are limited.

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## BOUNDLESS THE WHOLE WORLD PRAYING

General André Cox has challenged Salvationists worldwide to a year of 24/7 prayer for the Army, the world and in preparation for the Boundless the Whole World Redeeming International Congress in July. The Central Territory has been assigned the week of January 15-21, 2015.

**Thursday, January 15, 12:00 a.m. – 11:59 p.m.**

**Northern and Western Divisions**

**Friday, January 16, 12:00 a.m. – 11:59 p.m.**

**Kansas/Western Missouri and Midland Divisions**

**Saturday, January 17, 12:00 a.m. – 11:59 p.m.**

**Heartland and Wisconsin/Upper Michigan Divisions**

**Sunday, January 18, 12:00 a.m. – 11:59 p.m.**

**Adult Rehabilitation Centers Command**

**Monday, January 19, 12:00 a.m. – 11:59 p.m.**

**College for Officer Training and Territorial Headquarters**

**Tuesday, January 20, 12:00 a.m. – 11:59 p.m.**

**Metropolitan and Indiana Divisions**

**Wednesday, January 21, 12:00 a.m. – 11:59 p.m.**

**Western Michigan/Northern Indiana  
and Eastern Michigan Divisions**

For more information and resources visit,  
[www.salvationarmy.org/csld/boundlessprayer](http://www.salvationarmy.org/csld/boundlessprayer)



## "Please God"

by Kierra Jackson

And like that, the territory's Global Mission Team trip to the island of Trinidad was over. Well hopefully not completely over, "please God."

Many people in the beautiful city of Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, utter this phrase after sharing something they hope will come true. It's almost synonymous with "Lord willing," said Major Violet Ezeh as we ate our lunch one day at the Port-of-Spain Central Corps amidst scaffolding, paint containers, strong will and genuine camaraderie. Major Violet (a Centralite) and Captain Dr. Felix Ezeh are the corps officers, among their other duties in the Trinidad and Tobago Division.

This was just one of the many things we learned about the warm culture of Trinidad. Throughout the entire week, "please God" served as a constant reminder of why each of us participated in this experience and how the blessings we received were exponential to what we felt deserving.

In fact, I'd say the entire team, which also included Costas Arhos, leader Mark Bender, Major Jim Curl, Major Karen Felton, John Gantner and Ed Higgins, were the recipients of a far greater gift than anything we gave. God's blessings even extended to the weather—in the Caribbean's rainy season only twice did it rain during the week, and even then it was in the morning



Ed Higgins paints the entrance to the Port-of-Spain Central Corps.

before our workday began!

Mark Bender observed, "The team gelled quickly and all seem to work well together. We're all gifted with great talents and skills—God handpicked this team!" Each of us contributed a special quality no one else could, and we found ways to balance each other's strengths.

In addition to the practical work performed by a global mission team, we learned another purpose is to "plant seeds" along the way. So, although our team's projects concluded, the work that was done, the impressions made and the love shared for Christ and one another continues.



The Global Mission Team with Major Violet Ezeh and son Matthew.

# Canadian and Chicago Staff Bands reunite



*Two internationally renowned maestros. Two world-class brass bands. One four-star night of music!*

by Colonel Dennis Phillips

led by William Himes, in his 38th and final season as staff bandmaster, and joined by Bandmaster John Lam and the Canadian Staff Band, the Chicago Staff Band's 2014 Sounds of the Seasons concert—notably the second half—was a salute to the Himes' music legacy which spans the Army world.

Wheaton College's Edman Chapel was abuzz with animated conversation as the more than 2,300 concert-goers arrived, but when the first band members appeared on stage, a momentary hush occurred followed by spontaneous and explosive applause as the Chicago Staff Band filed smartly to their sections. When Bandmaster Himes appeared, the applause rose to a powerful and sustained fortissimo. The anticipation was electric.

Without announcement, the percussion section opened with a dramatic cadence, while the cornet and trombone sections stood to play their fanfare opener, *In good company* (Dudley Bright). As the music peaked the Canadian Staff Band made a

striking entrance greeted by cheers.

The program's first half surely satisfied every listener's appetite as Dean Goffin's classic treasure, *Symphony of Thanksgiving*, was spectacularly performed by the Canadian Staff Band, while the Chicago Staff Band played Steven Ponsford's exciting *Energize*, which lived up to its title.

Providing perfect balance was Canadian Staff Band soloist Douglas Chaulk playing Andraé Crouch's "My tribute" on flugel and trumpet.

The last two selections of the first half perfectly segued into the second as Himes was surprisingly featured playing the euphonium solo *Journey into Peace*, which he wrote in 1974 and performed brilliantly. Then came the first item featuring the united bands: Himes' varient suite *Aspects of Praise*. After the dramatic introduction played by both bands, they alternated performances of the four movements and then joined together in the conclusion of the work. It was a performance musicians will speak about for years.

After a brief intermission the audience returned to see the stage refitted into a massed band performing a repertoire that was completely Himes, or as the composer joked, "All Himes at all times!" He confessed, "I know it's an indulgence, but I only get to do this once every 38 years."

The second half played out like a good old Salvation Army meeting as Himes led the audience in singing Charles Wesley's "Amazing love," conducted by John Lam. And what is a great salvation meeting without a testimony? On this occasion it was *The Witness*, Himes' first published composition which he wrote at age 18.

Hilarity ensued as Chicago Staff Band alumnus Major Steve Harper regaled the audience with his delightful reprise of *Jericho (Re-visited)* as band members hammed it up with musical, visual and special effects.

Then the tone quickly changed as the united band joined voices to sing "Jesus, Thou art everything to me," which featured Canadian Staff Band pianist Bill Way. The soul-stirring intensity and gentleness of the music prepared the audience for the message by Colonel Jeffrey Smith, Central chief secretary, based on 2 Corinthians 4:18.





# Ebola Response

Continued from page 9

ed. We rely on what is provided by the international Salvation Army.

## **The government in Liberia has required that schools be closed. Are there other closures? And how have church meetings/gatherings changed?**

Apart from the schools some government departments are closed. Non-essential workers don't go to work. Places with public gatherings are closed. Shops and malls are open but with restrictions and fewer people because everyone is cautious. Churches, including The Salvation Army, meet but are taking preventative measures. People don't shake hands or touch. There are buckets at the entrance full of water mixed with chlorine to wash your hands because chlorine will kill the virus. They don't use towels or tissues to dry their hands.

Attendance has gone down, but we are grateful to meet to encourage each other.

## **What support is The Salvation Army currently offering?**

At the beginning we offered preventative materials like sanitizers to kill the virus. Now our attention is focused on food and preventative garments for people working in clinics.

It's not only The Salvation Army distributing food; other agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are because of the demand. Naturally, when there is demand, prices go up. Also, because of Ebola the influx of food is not easy. The airlines have curtailed movement. Before Ebola, a 25kg bag of rice sold for US\$29. It sells now for US\$40. Prices for almost everything have doubled.

## **What are The Salvation Army's strengths?**

We have a trained team on the ground. Two of our officers attended the disaster preparedness training session run by International Emergency Services in Nigeria in September 2013. Preventative measures are in place. We have coordinated support from IHQ, which is in regular contact, asking for input and giving guidance. Most of the materials we use are accessible and purchased locally.

## **Can you share a story of individuals or families affected to help us better understand the gravity of the situation?**

The corps sergeant-major (CSM) in Monrovia (the capital of Liberia) contracted the disease and passed away on October 26. He was the principal of

The Salvation Army's William Booth High School and an outstanding leader. This has devastated Salvationists. His wife, mother and children (ages 10, 7 and 6) have been quarantined in their house for 21 days. The Salvation Army keeps in touch with them by phone every hour. Three weeks before he knew he was sick he visited the education office at command headquarters. There is always a concern when people come here. We never know where they have been or if they have been touched by people infected with Ebola.

There is a woman in the community where the Army distributes food whose husband passed away from Ebola. He was the breadwinner for the family (including two children under 10). She is a teacher, and the schools are closed. When the schools are not in session, the teachers are not paid.



## **How many Salvation Army staff, officers and their families have contracted the virus?**

Apart from the CSM we aren't sure. There may be one or two others. It is difficult to collect information. We caution our staff and volunteers to leave food items at the door and call the home to let them know the items are there.

## **How has the epidemic impacted Salvation Army staff and volunteers?**

Teachers from our 15 schools that are closed have provided health education. They are paid from school fees, and when schools are closed they are affected. They have not been paid since August, and the government doesn't anticipate schools to reopen until January, provided Ebola ends.

We have a clinic that is closed. Workers have been without salary for three months. This has been a major blow. Volunteers and Salvationists are risking their lives to go into affected communities.

## **What will be The Salvation Army's role moving forward?**

Many of the people who died have left behind children, meaning that large numbers are orphaned. These children will need to go to school and be helped with their basic welfare needs. We will organize assessments and responses when the outbreak is over.

Many communities need food items. We anticipate the need to be long-term, and we will need IHQ support. We continue to attend United Nations meetings to discuss areas that need great attention. The meetings discuss who is doing what and which communities still need assistance.

The Salvation Army continues to distribute food and protective materials. We will look at how best to sup-

port orphans and hope to provide antibiotics to community clinics.

Going into the community is not easy. We use the phone as an opportunity to pray with people. We want them to know Jesus.

## **What support do you need from the international Salvation Army?**

Food distribution and food items appear to be the major issues now because of the restrictions in movement of people and vehicles. We need support to fund the distribution of food. Sometimes we have to travel distances to get better prices.

## **How would you ask Salvationists and friends to pray for Liberia?**

Pray that the people won't contract the disease. Pray that the mindset of rural folks shifts so they understand



the magnitude of the disease and put in place preventative measures. Pray for those affected—that the Lord will heal them. Pray for orphans and many families who have lost loved ones. Pray for our friends and partners. Pray for command headquarters and for protection in the midst of calamity.

Don't forget about us!

Monetary donations to the ongoing disaster relief work in Africa can be made online: [www.salvationarmy.org](http://www.salvationarmy.org) Click on banner "Donate Here" Specify "IHQ Africa Fund"



# Promoted to Glory

## **Mrs. Commissioner Ivy Roberts**

Mrs. Commissioner Ivy Roberts was promoted to Glory on October 28, 2014. She was 94.



As a soldier of the Marshalltown, Iowa, Corps, Ivy Anderson took part in corps activities and as a musician played in the band and was a pianist. She entered the School for Officer Training from this corps and was commissioned in June 1943. As a single officer she served as assistant at four corps in Iowa before marrying William Roberts in 1945. The Roberts served together in corps for 19 years where Ivy's musicianship was an asset to their ministry. This was a gift she used throughout her officership and in retirement until recent months.

Divisional appointments followed for the next 15 years. Mrs. Roberts served first as divisional guard and sunbeam director, then as divisional league of mercy secretary, and finally as divisional director of women's organizations for six years. Appointed to territorial headquarters, she served as nurses' fellowship secretary and later league of mercy secretary.

In September 1982 the Roberts were called upon to leave their homeland and take up appointments in the Australia Southern Territory, where Mrs. Colonel Roberts became vice-president for women's organizations. The Roberts were transferred to International Headquarters in 1985 where she worked in various departments, always willing to do what was needed.

Commissioner and Mrs. Roberts received their retirement certificates from General Eva Burrows (Rtd.) in London in May 1988.

Throughout her officership Mrs. Commissioner Roberts gave leadership in women's ministries, while giving wonderful support to her husband in his leadership responsibilities.

She is survived by her husband; children, Commissioner William A.

(Nancy) Roberts, Suzanne (Victor) Danielson, Major Linda Mitchell, Betty (Joseph) Baunoch, and John (Patricia); nine grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren.

## **Brigadier Harriett Phillips**

Brigadier Harriett Phillips was promoted to Glory on October 5, 2014. She was 101.



Harriett was the only child born to Thomas and Sue Phillips in Streator, Ill., in 1913 and grew up in a Polish/Slavic neighborhood. She was well liked by her peers at school.

After completing training in 1935 with the "Challengers" session, Harriett served the Army faithfully for over 40 years. She held seven corps appointments which ranged from Peoria to Waukegan, Ill., and in 1943 she was transferred to Central Territorial Headquarters in Resource Connection (then the supplies and purchasing department) for 33 years until her retirement in 1976. During her officership she also attended Moody Bible Institute in Chicago.

Harriett was honored as "Soldier of Year" in 1982 for her volunteer work, and worked with prison ministry until her mid-nineties! She had a heart for Korea, most notably the Seoul Children's Home.

At Bethany Retirement Community, where she spent her last 15 years, she had many friends and served as the Sunday worship service pianist.

Harriett is remembered as a gentle, sacrificial, humble and faithful servant both during active officership and in retirement. She had a spiritual strength that belied her tiny stature; her strength and confidence were found in God.

The brigadier was loved by many in her community, touched thousands of lives and will be dearly missed.

