ISAIAH 41:10

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.”

WHAT WE BELIEVE

We work faithfully with those affected by poverty, so they are fed, sheltered, and empowered to remain so.

We work faithfully with those affected by disease, so they are healed and further sickness is prevented.

We work faithfully with those affected by disasters, so they are restored and strengthened against future misfortune.

We work faithfully with those who are victims of slavery, so they are safe and made forever whole.

We work faithfully for God, always.
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Dear Friends,

"Lo I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

This is the comforting, departing promise of Jesus provided to us at the end of the gospel of Matthew – words that come to mind when I reflect on the growth and impact of The Salvation Army around the world.

Indeed, His presence was revealed to us throughout 2015 as we celebrated 150 years as an organization. We established offices in Slovakia, the 127th country to welcome our services to those in need. And the programs and activities of The Salvation Army World Service Office (SAWSO) continue to demonstrate the compassionate interest of United States donors in supporting our international neighbors.

We hold fast to His promise when we consider the countless individuals and communities who suffer around the world as a result of manmade, natural, and uncontrollable circumstances. We rejoice in the opportunity to be with them, to share His words and boundless provision through prayer, programs, and international presence. These are the same strengths by which SAWSO works to improve the health, economic, and spiritual conditions of the vulnerable in the developing world.

In collaboration with The Salvation Army and its communities on the ground, SAWSO has been rebuilding livelihoods and strengthening resiliency of Nepali community members; increasing literacy and financial education for women in Kenya; and diagnosing and preventing chronic kidney disease. Every day through SAWSO-funded programs such as these, individuals are realizing their ability to help themselves, to end poverty in their own homes, combat disease, and discover newfound faith, purpose, and joy.

Accomplishing such necessary and glorifying work is made possible by the heartfelt presence and generosity of SAWSO donors. We give thanks for you and for the spiritual gifts that inspire your faithful support of SAWSO’s work around the world.

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

David Jeffrey
Commissioner
Dear Friends,

I am continually amazed by the all availling presence of our Lord, who cares for the people of his creation and desires all to take refuge in Him.

Throughout this last year, He was with us – motivating the hearts of our supporters, inspiring partnerships new and old, and providing comfort and relief to a world in need of redemption through the work of The Salvation Army World Service Office (SAWSO).

He has blessed the work of SAWSO through the ever expanding global presence of The Salvation Army, a reach that allows our team members to work intimately with communities in the developing world to help discover solutions to the challenges of poverty, disease, disaster, trafficking, and abuse. Our conviction is in providing sustainable, community-led programs that serve the whole person physically, emotionally, socially, and spiritually.

We have been privileged to offer this holistic approach to vulnerable communities in Nepal devastated by earthquakes in April and again in May of 2015. The rural, mountainous villages outside of the city of Kathmandu remained inaccessible for weeks after the disaster due to roadblocks and debris, and the families there were in dire need of food, water, and electricity. A blessed partnership emerged that allowed our emergency service teams to reach these isolated communities by helicopter and provide them with much needed goods and services.

In the months following the disasters, more than 22,000 households were met with a variety of life-sustaining necessities thanks to the generosity of donors, and we have since shifted to funding long-term, integrated community development projects that are enabling residents to improve their livelihoods, sustain their daily needs, and move towards stronger resiliency.

Outcomes such as this are no doubt the result of God’s providential love for communities in their time of need. And all of our work is made possible by the heartfelt support of donors, who share in our passion for creating a better world, and for whom we are eternally thankful.

May each of our lives be a testament to God’s unwavering presence.

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

[EPHESIANS 3:20-21]

Letter from the SAWSO Executive Director

Thomas Bowers
Lieutenant Colonel
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

For 39 years, The Salvation Army World Service Office (SAWSO) has been blessed to share the presence and provision of God’s love with vulnerable individuals and communities around the world where The Salvation Army is serving.

A presence in 127 countries allows SAWSO to work intimately with local communities to develop programs that engage community members to identify and solve their own needs. This proven model of participatory engagement is bolstered by our conviction to walk alongside beneficiaries on their journey to achieving social, spiritual, physical, and emotional wellbeing.

We helped The Salvation Army greet asylum seekers and their families at the borders of 14 European countries with warm meals, clothing, shelter, diapers, personal hygiene items, and emotional and spiritual care. In the aftermath of immediate care, continued funding and ongoing support allowed The Salvation Army to build relationships and support assimilation among refugees through language classes, community cafes, work and volunteer programs, and parent-and-baby groups.

At other migration corridors such as in Tijuana, Mexico, shelters for migrant men, women and children, aided by SAWSO, are serving approximately 200 individuals per day with lodging and food, and long-term services such as counseling and job placement.

Where access to basic healthcare is limited, The Salvation Army employed Mobile Medical Clinics to deliver lifesaving medical testing and treatment to remote Sri Lankan villages suffering with a 20-year epidemic of chronic kidney disease.

When two earthquakes devastated the city of Kathmandu, Nepal, and its surrounding rural communities, The Salvation Army’s six-year presence in the region allowed emergency disaster services personnel to be on the ground within days of the event. SAWSO supported service to more than 22,000 households with food, shelter, water, and care for the displaced, and soon after with temporary learning centers, and electricity. Though a valuable partnership, Salvation Army personnel gained access to serve remote villages that remained inaccessible for months.

With The Salvation Army’s 121-year presence in the region, we are working alongside the Japanese to support and strengthen their communities after an earthquake and subsequent tsunami ravaged coastal communities in 2011. Along with rebuilding efforts, SAWSO and The Salvation Army are ensuring that the needs of the most vulnerable, including children, the intellectually disabled, and the elderly, are being cared during the transition to restoration.

Where women are vulnerable, underserved, and suffering discrimination in rural Kenya, our WORTH program is educating and empowering them to strengthen their families and end the cycle of poverty within their own homes. As of the end of 2015, 794 WORTH groups comprised of approximately 18,000 members have formed to launch more than 1,400 small businesses in Western Kenya alone.

In all of our projects in 2015, we were privileged to help restore and uplift individuals and communities in need, thanks to the support of generous donations from the American public, partner organizations, as well as government and private funding sources.
INTERNATIONAL MISSION STATEMENT

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.

PURPOSE STATEMENT

The purpose of the Salvation Army World Services Office (SAWSO), is to represent the interests of the four Salvation Army U.S.A. Territories as we work together with communities to improve the health, economic and spiritual conditions of the vulnerable throughout the world.

VISION STATEMENT

The Salvation Army World Service Office (SAWSO) serves as a dedicated resource committed to responding to the global interests of The Salvation Army USA by:

Developing sustainable solutions to poverty, disease, and despair in global communities.

Cultivating increased organizational capacity within Salvation Army units worldwide.

Introducing sustainability models that grow financial independence.

Demonstrating an empowering culture of grace and trust towards everyone we serve.
So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

ISAIAH 41:10.

We are truly blessed to be able to help lift up our neighbors in Nepal through our ongoing presence in the region, and will continue to do so well beyond the events of this disaster.
Every day, The Salvation Army strives to demonstrate the power and presence of God’s care and compassion in the most vulnerable communities – and to overcome the challenges of reaching those in the greatest need.

On April 25, 2015, a 7.8-magnitude earthquake erupted approximately 85 miles east of Kathmandu, in Nepal, a country that has long struggled with high unemployment, poverty, hunger, and political instability. Devastating the capital city and its surrounding communities, the disaster took nearly 9,000 lives, destroyed half a million homes, and left 2.8 million in need of assistance.

With a presence in the India Eastern Territory since 1882, and serving in Nepal since 2009, The Salvation Army, with financial support from The Salvation Army World Service Office (SAWSO), was on the ground within days of the event, serving displaced survivors with food, shelter, and water.

Large-scale disasters often exacerbate poverty, and vulnerable communities, such as those within Nepal, are often the least able to cope with the ensuing destruction. In the rural, landlocked villages outside of Kathmandu, where not a single house was left standing, mountainous terrain and blocked roads created logistical challenges to reach communities in dire need of shelter, food, water, and electricity. A valuable partnership with Mission Aviation Fellowship granted The Salvation Army frequent access to serve these villages — which remained inaccessible for months due to continuous landslides.
characteristic of the region’s monsoon season. The Salvation Army provided these remote communities with solar lamps and chargers, tarps, personal hygiene items, and food.

Other partnerships with Mountain Child, Child Heaven, Child Nepal, Powerful Hands, and Volunteers Initiative Nepal allowed Salvation Army teams to serve more than 22,000 households with food, tarps, tents, tools, hygiene items, cleaning supplies, and educational supplies. The Salvation Army also constructed septic tanks and toilets for camps; managed evacuee camps; and provided thousands of quilts and blankets.

In the months following the event, generous funding from FedEx allowed The Salvation Army to continue the delivery of shelter, food, hydration, and emotional and spiritual care to survivors.

Additional funding from SAWSO supported the development of 3,000 temporary structures for housing and learning in areas where schools were badly damaged by the earthquake. The Salvation Army also provided 850 educational packs to children returning to these classrooms.

In-kind shipping support from The PS Foundation, a valued 21-year partner of The Salvation Army, allowed SAWSO to coordinate the shipment and delivery of 1,000 tents and mosquito nets to survivors, many of whom were once sleeping outside.

In the months following the disasters, focus has shifted to long-term, integrated community development projects to enable residents to improve their livelihood, sustain their daily needs, and move towards recovery.

According to Bram Bailey, Program Director for SAWSO, “The heart of The Salvation Army is found in local communities around the world. Our outreach to individuals and families in their time of need is made possible from compassionate supporters and partners who offer their support via The Salvation Army. We are truly blessed to be able to help lift up our neighbors in Nepal through our ongoing presence in the region, and will continue to do so well beyond the events of this disaster.”
EUROPE: MEETING THE LOST AND THE LEAST

Throughout 2015, more than one million people made their way across the Mediterranean Sea to Europe to escape countries experiencing conflict, widespread violence and insecurity – the largest migration of people since WWII. The unprecedented surge of arrivals created humanitarian, logistical and political crises, yet also allowed The Salvation Army and its supporters the opportunity of carrying out a compassionate mission of helping the “lost and the least.”

The ord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.

| PSALM 9:9 |
Serving at the borders of 14 European countries, funding from The Salvation Army World Service Office (SAWSO) allowed employees and volunteers of The Salvation Army to provide asylum seekers and their families with warm meals, clothing, shelter, diapers, personal hygiene items, and emotional and spiritual care.

Committed to providing effective long-term support, relationship building was an essential component to help asylum seekers integrate into their new surroundings and adapt to new cultures. Across Europe, language classes, community cafes, work and volunteer programs, and parent-and-baby groups supported the participants’ assimilation and allowed The Salvation Army to meet the unique needs of both asylum seekers and official refugees on their paths to settlement.

Mohammed was one of them. He fled his home and family in Aleppo, Syria out of fears he would be forced to join the Syrian Armed Forces. Traveling on a small boat with 20 others, he made his way to the small Greek island of Kos, where he transferred with hundreds of other migrants to Athens and began his northward trek. By bus and foot through Greece, Macedonia, Serbia, Hungary, and Austria, he made his way to Germany, the most popular destination for migrants arriving in Europe.

Asylum seekers entering Germany are required to stay in camps throughout the region, before moving to public housing where they receive rooms with small kitchens, a temporary and unsettling move as they await and hope for official refugee status.

Mohammed lived in a house in the city of Leipzig with 50 other asylum seekers before achieving official status.
and establishing a home in a small apartment and a stipend provided by the government.

Soon after acquiring his apartment, he visited The Salvation Army with the hope of obtaining a refrigerator. Major Mark Backhaus, officer of The Salvation Army in Leipzig, facilitated the donation and upon delivery, realized Mohammed was living in an unfurnished apartment, prompting Backhaus to coordinate the delivery of furnishings for the remaining space.

“When everything was in the home, we were exhausted but happy,” he said. “It is not possible to describe what Mohammed felt or thought. He smiled big and said “thank you,” and if you could only see his grateful expression, you would know you did a good deed.”

Mohammed’s situation brought to light the need for home furnishings for refugees receiving status and establishing homes in the area. In response, The Salvation Army in Leipzig scaled up what was once a small furniture project to meet the increasing demand. With funding from SAWSO, they created a new facility specifically to store household wares, clothing, toys, electronics, and furniture for newly housed refugees and their families.

Logistical support for the building was provided by UPS, a longstanding partner of The Salvation Army. Torsten Huebner, Senior Member of Customer Solutions at UPS, served as the project manager. Huebner offered guidance in the initial concept stage, helped develop and establish the facility, and coordinated the pickup and delivery of donated furniture. In addition to providing logistical support, UPS paid for many of the needed building tools and materials.

Huebner’s biggest challenge was working in a limited timeframe with very few resources.

“When I saw how many people in need were waiting in a line and waiting for warm clothes, a pair of shoes, food or other needed items, I thought how lucky is my family, and how great it is to be able to help,” Huebner said. Approximately 60 new clients are registered monthly with the furniture program and set up with furnishing for their apartments. Volunteers are the backbone of the program, and take on a variety of tasks such as picking up donations, cleaning furniture, and translating languages.

In all of these activities, Backhaus said The Salvation Army and its supporters are showing God’s love.

“You should see the joy in their eyes and hear their happiness,” he said. “We are blessed with this extraordinary possibility to serve and to experience becoming a family with a lot of people from other cultures. What a privilege to see God in action.”
The Salvation Army is active in 127 countries, integrated with local communities – building deep relationships. These carefully nurtured ties allow The Salvation Army to see below the surface to understand the root of many issues. At The Salvation Army World Service Office (SAWSO), we leverage this more profound understanding to help identify local needs. We support the work accomplished to address those needs. And long after the work is done, we continue to encourage positive change.
In 2015, SA WSO partnered with The Salvation Army in local communities in 58 countries, believing that these communities had a capacity for growth and sustainable change. Sustainability is a result of SA WSO’s emphasis on holistic transformation – serving people spiritually, physically, socially, and emotionally.

INTERNATIONALLY THE SALVATION ARMY HAS

MORE THAN

50,000

INDIGENOUS EMPLOYEES WORKING IN

127 COUNTRIES

8,580

CORPS COMMUNITY CENTERS

319

HOSPITALS AND CLINICS

1. Angola
2. Antigua and Barbuda
3. Argentina
4. Bahamas
5. Bangladesh
6. Barbados
7. Bolivia
8. Brazil
9. Burma
10. Chile
11. China
12. Colombia
13. Congo (Brazzaville)
14. Congo (Kinshasa)
15. Costa Rica
16. Cuba
17. Czech Republic
18. Dominican Republic
19. Ecuador
20. El Salvador
21. Estonia
22. Georgia
23. Ghana
24. Guatemala
25. Haiti
26. India
27. Indonesia
28. Jamaica
29. Kenya
30. Latvia
31. Liberia
32. Lithuania
33. Malawi
34. Mexico
35. Moldova
36. Mozambique
37. Netherlands Antilles
38. Nigeria
39. Pakistan
40. Panama
41. Papua New Guinea
42. Paraguay
43. Peru
44. Philippines
45. Poland
46. Romania
47. Russia
48. Rwanda
49. South Africa
50. Sri Lanka
51. Taiwan
52. Tanzania
53. Uganda
54. Ukraine
55. United Arab Emirates
56. Uruguay
57. Zambia
58. Zimbabwe
SAWSO TASK FORCE

The Salvation Army World Service Office (SAWSO) Task Force, created in April 2013 to report to the National Advisory Board, is comprised of leaders in business, industry, and philanthropy that provide guidance for implementing SAWSO’s strategy, developing partnerships and individual and foundation/corporate donor bases, and measuring the strategic plan’s success.

CHAIRMAN
Ambassador Gaddi Vasquez
Senior VP, Government Affairs
Edison International

MEMBER
Gary D. Brown
CEO, Mount West Investments

MEMBER
Michael L. Ducker
President and CEO
FedEx Freight

MEMBER
David Frauenshuh
CEO & Founder
Frauenshuh Companies

MEMBER
Frank Vizcarra
President
The Vizcarra Consulting Group
SAWSO Task Force member, Gaddi Vasquez, former United States Ambassador to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture and Director of the Peace Corps, understands firsthand the roles of faith and opportunity in overcoming the obstacles of poverty.

Raised in California by parents who were migrant farm workers, Vasquez witnessed at an early age the impact and outreach of his local Salvation Army who assisted his family with food and clothing. His father, “a man of tremendous faith” instilled a core belief in him that through preserved faith and hard work, all things are possible.

Vasquez became the first of his family to break the cycle of poverty and graduate from college. He later received five honorary doctorate degrees from higher learning institutions. His role as the eighth United States Ambassador to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture provided him a basis for understanding what can be achieved when food and agricultural policy is enacted well, and allowed him to advocate on behalf of those without a voice.

“I know what it is to live in poverty: I don’t have to see it to learn it. But this foundation actually proved to be extremely valuable and influential in how I approach the appointed positions that I have been fortunate to hold,” Vasquez said.

As a guiding leader on SAWSO’s Task Force, Vasquez is confident the future of SAWSO will impact the world in a much broader and more significant way.

“Because of communication and technology, the world is a much smaller place now. And for SAWSO and The Salvation Army, this creates a rethinking of how we use resources to help people where restoration is necessary and to develop sustainable programs,” he said.

Traveling with him throughout his career is a framed photograph of him and his father standing in front of the trailer they once called home, reminding him of his past and more importantly, his blessings, every day.

Said Vasquez, “To whom much is given, much is required. The transformation of lives and communities is not an overnight proposition – it requires a passion and a willingness to make the personal sacrifice that comes with being an effective and meaningful advisory board member. But I don’t think there is a greater return on investment than witnessing the restoration of the soul, the rebuilding of lives, and the offering of renewal that might otherwise not be available was it not for SAWSO and The Salvation Army collaborating around the world.”
Despite economic growth of recent years, poverty alleviation remains a challenge in Kenya. Nearly half of the country’s 43 million people are living below the poverty line.

Among the most vulnerable in the rural central and western regions are women, who shoulder the responsibilities of homemaking and childcare and are hindered from effecting change – lacking access to education, social and economic assets and excluded from decision-making at home and in their communities. Vulnerability to diseases, discriminatory laws, and human trafficking only perpetuate the cycles of poverty and hopelessness. Yet when trained and given the opportunity to have a voice, Kenyan women strengthen their families, end their personal poverty cycle, and open the gates toward greater economic development.

I am happy because I do not depend on anyone.
More than 25,000 Kenyan women have proven this to be true through participation in The Salvation Army’s WORTH program, funded by The Salvation Army World Service Office (SAWSO).

Centered on literacy and numeracy education, microfinance, and empowerment, the WORTH curriculum provides opportunities for women to start their own businesses and become wage earners for their households, which in turn allows the needs and education of their children to be met. The program brings together strategically small village groups of 20–30 women who are taught how to read and write, become financially literate, learn specific trades, and become proficient in business dealings and record keeping.

Participants are required to commit a portion of their livelihood earnings to the group savings account. This account offers loans to other participants to start their own micro-enterprises, which can include anything from selling personal produce to creating clothing and purses. The interest earned is then given back to the women in the group.

As of the end of 2015, 794 WORTH groups comprised of approximately 18,000 members have formed to launch more than 1,400 small businesses in Kenya alone.

Alice Asamba, 36 years old, was destitute and living in total poverty with her five children because her husband did not have a job. Before joining the WORTH program, her children were not able to go to school, due to the high costs. Neighbors in the community were growing weary of loaning her money, food, and clothing. But with funding from her WORTH group, Alice started a small business of selling vegetables which has provided a gradually increasing income. She is now self-sufficient: her children have since gone back to school and she is now free to support her family with food and clothing without help from neighbors. The WORTH program also taught her how to make beaded handbags which she now sells.

Likewise, Judy Afandi, was a struggling mother of five when she joined a local WORTH group in an effort to better support her family. Together with her group, they decided to sell sugar and cooking oil, which generated significant additional income for each member. Consolodating earnings, each member gained 75% interest on their own shares. The extra income helped Judy purchase a cow, and she now sells milk to the community and uses both the milk and the income to support her family.

“I am happy because I do not depend on anyone,” she said.

“I wish everyone could see the joy and pride on the faces of WORTH members,” said Jason Pope, Technical Advisor for SAWSO. “They realize skills and strength they never thought they had, and through their businesses, they can ensure the care of their families, all the while receiving heartfelt support from program leaders and group members. It’s a powerful transformation of spirit from start to finish.”

Thanks to donors and supporters of SAWSO, The Salvation Army is empowering women to self-actualize and take action – to destroy the chains of circumstance and discover promise in the future.
JAPAN: SERVING THE MOST VULNERABLE ALONGSIDE KYUU-SEI-GUN

On March 11, 2011, Japan was struck by one of the most powerful earthquakes on record. Within mere minutes of the event, a tsunami swept away entire towns along its eastern coast, causing widespread flooding that swallowed homes, businesses, and livelihoods. More than 15,000 lives were lost while more than 500,000 were left homeless.

You surrounded us and protected us in our weakest time.
Thank you.
Known in Japan as Kyuu-Sei-Gun (Save World Army), The Salvation Army was on the ground in the first days after the disasters providing relief to impacted coastal communities, distributing food, blankets, mattresses and heaters. Local Salvation Army community centers throughout the region opened their doors to provide food and shelter to survivors, while hot meals and words of comfort were shared with survivors through Salvation Army mobile kitchens.

Compassionate individuals, organizations, corporations, and foundations from around the world answered the crisis with an outpouring of financial support. That funding has allowed The Salvation Army and The Salvation Army World Service Office (SAWSO) to spend the last five years working alongside the Japanese to support and strengthen their communities. Along with rebuilding efforts, SAWSO and The Salvation Army are ensuring that the needs of the most vulnerable, including children, the intellectually disabled, and the elderly, are being cared during the transition to restoration.

ONAGAWA

The commercial district of Onagawa, a fishing village in northeast Japan, was entirely swept away by the tsunami. The Salvation Army, with support from partners and SAWSO, provided boats, machinery, forklifts, and other equipment to help revive the area’s primary fishing industry and support the livelihoods of local fishermen. SAWSO has also purchased a much needed scallop drilling machine to be operational by mid-2016 for groups of fishermen in Onagawa, who were among the most vulnerable after the disaster.

In the same village, a temporary shopping center called Kibou-no-kane, meaning “Bell of Hope,” was constructed by The Salvation Army with funds from SAWSO, and has been the center of enterprise for the community. Local business owners, who had initially considered moving to another community, were able to stay and resume work.

“To those living in Onagawa, “Bell of Hope” is more than a shopping center,” said Lt. Colonel Thomas IWATE PREFECTURE, JAPAN

Photo by The Asahi Shimbun via Getty Images
Bowers, Executive Director for SA WSO. “It has become a beacon of community gathering and togetherness, and a means for returning to a normal way of life.”

Once the temporary center is no longer needed, residents intend to keep a piece of the building to display in the town center as a reminder of its importance to sustaining the city.

For the women in Onagawa, lack of income, unemployment, and a high rate of divorce are common obstacles. With SAWSO funding, the Megumi (meaning “Restoring Beauty”) project of The Salvation Army is offering education, skills building activities, and emotional health support to local women. Participants are taught sewing skills with the goal of helping them find jobs and earn income. Since the launch of this project, participants have opened a shop to sell their goods and are expanding to the online market.

“You saved us,” said a member of the Megumi project. “You surrounded us and protected us in our weakest time. Thank you.”

Since the disaster, few extracurricular activities are available for children in Onagawa. Looking ahead, The Salvation Army’s afterschool programs for children and the intellectually disabled will continue with funding from SAWSO which will help renovate classrooms, provide transportation for children, and support administrative costs.

MINAMISANRIKU

In response to the destruction of Minamisanriku’s bustling commercial center, The Salvation Army and SAWSO funded the building of 50 temporary stores in the town, allowing business owners to efficiently resume their businesses while the government developed plans for long-term recovery. One hundred and fifty jobs for construction workers, shop owners and their employees were created in the process. In addition to sustaining the local economy, the shopping center has provided a place for community recreation, socialization, and relaxation.

Funding from SAWSO is allowing The Salvation Army in Minamisanriku to provide senior citizens with learning opportunities and emotional support. Program participants are taught ways of improving communication and engagement with other community members. The goal of the program is to offer participants the means for finding hope, joy and purpose in their lives.

***

In all of the affected areas, The Salvation Army is continuing to build its capacity to respond to disasters. SAWSO-funded programs for improving preparedness and pre-positioning relief supplies are being implemented throughout the impacted communities. The Salvation Army’s goal is to equip every Salvation Army location with proper relief materials, training, and outreach programs.

“Supporters continue to enable SAWSO and The Salvation Army in Japan to extend unique services to every possible sector of the population,” said Bowers. “We are grateful for the opportunity to walk alongside these inspiring communities in building a stronger, more resilient future.”

TO THE RIGHT: Photo by XINHUA/Gamma-Rapho via Getty Images
SRI LANKA: LIFE-SAVING HEALTHCARE ACCESS FOR THE UNDERSERVED

Chronic kidney disease affects an estimated 70,000 to 400,000 people in Sri Lanka’s rural farming regions. The cause has baffled doctors, researchers, and even the World Health Organization for more than two decades. Modern farming techniques were introduced to the region in the 1960s and speculation abounds as to whether contamination of water with pesticides or fertilizer is to blame. What is certain is that the disease – which strikes farmers in the prime of life – is killing as many as 10 people every month.

I am thankful for The Salvation Army for helping me save my life.
“In rural communities such as those within Sri Lanka, access to basic health care is extremely limited and travel to a health facility is often very long and difficult,” said Dr. Lisa Firth, Technical Advisor for The Salvation Army World Service Office (SAWSO).

In response, The Salvation Army is using a Mobile Medical Clinic to bring much needed services directly to residents of the Polonnaruwa District, an underserved area with a high prevalence of kidney disease.

Sponsored and supported by SAWSO, the mobile screening clinic travels to rural communities where trained staff members work with the community and government health personnel to detect the disease early, when its progress can be reversed by treatment. Urinary protein and blood chemistry testing is offered to gauge residents’ current level of kidney damage. For those with signs of early disease, the Army makes referrals to the regional government hospital, where a kidney specialist provides treatment which can include dialysis for advanced cases.

SAWSO is also sponsoring outreach education to raise awareness of the disease and teach the community about healthy lifestyles.

Before becoming ill with physical symptoms of the disease, Ajith was a struggling farmer with his own paddy field. His income is critical to his role as primary caretaker for his two children.

In 2015, a Salvation Army Mobile Medical Clinic session was held in his neighborhood. The free testing it provided confirmed he was had the disease. Salvation Army personnel were able to refer him to the government hospital where he attends a monthly clinic for the necessary treatments.

“If not for the clinic, my family would be left with a heavy burden,” said Ajith. “The clinic helped me to take timely action to control my disease. I thank The Salvation Army for helping me to identify my sickness and assisting with the free testing.”

H.M.P Bandera was 71 years old when he was forced to forego his livelihood as a farmer due to chronic kidney disease detected through urine and blood tests administered by Salvation Army Mobile Medical Clinic personnel.

“I am thankful for the Salvation Army for helping me to save my life,” said Bandera.

With his daughter’s family living with him and his wife, seven people currently reside in his small house. Bandera is thankful for the help of his son-in-law who manages the farm in his absence during treatment.

Bandera remains optimistic and determined to continue with his medication to prevent progression of his disease.

“I should thank you very much for this great help that helped my father obtain proper medications before it was too late,” said Bandera’s son.

“Around the world The Salvation Army is seeking out marginalized and overlooked communities, and finding opportunities to share God’s love,” said SAWSO Executive Director, Lt. Col. Thomas Bowers. “Compassionate donors to SAWSO are allowing The Salvation Army to prevent death and loss of livelihoods, lifting the spirits of Sri Lankans in their time of need. We extend heartfelt thanks to our supporters for making such lifesaving work possible.”
SAWSO DONORS 2015

In order to fulfill our global mandate, The Salvation Army World Service Office (SAWSO) relies on gifts of every amount. We are grateful for each of our supporters who provide us with the means to serve vulnerable communities around the world. The following list acknowledges major contributions ($5,000 and above) to SAWSO during our 2015 fiscal year:

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- Kikkoman Foods Foundation
- McMaster-Carr Supply Company
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### EMPLOYEE GIVING CAMPAIGNS
- Global Impact (Combined Federal Campaign)
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- Troy School District

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- The Salvation Army Australia Southern Territory
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- The Salvation Army USA Central Territory
- The Salvation Army USA Eastern Territory
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- The Salvation Army USA Southern Territory
- The Salvation Army USA Western Territory
## 2015 Financial Summary

**Twelve Months ended September 30, 2015**

### Statement of Financial Position

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and Cash Equivalents</td>
<td>$2,750,334</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Assets</td>
<td>$55,854,763</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$58,605,097</strong></td>
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</table>

### Statement of Financial Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Support Contributions</td>
<td>$16,954,525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income (loss)</td>
<td>$580,859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$17,535,384</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
<td>$19,466,016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>$492,052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Service – Management and General</td>
<td>$599,492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$20,557,560</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase (decrease) in Net Assets</td>
<td>$(3,022,176)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets, Beginning of Period</td>
<td>$60,940,909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets, End of Period</strong></td>
<td><strong>$57,918,733</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**EXPENSES**

- **Empowerment and Livelihoods** $825,686
- **Health Service** $953,043
- **Relief and Reconstruction** $5,411,100
- **Support Service - Fundraising/Management and General** $1,091,544
- **Community Development** $12,246,187

**REVENUE**

- **Government Grants** $342,239
- **Investment Income** $238,620
- **Public Support Contributions** $16,954,525
MEXICO: A REFUGE OF COMFORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT

The Mexico–United States border is the globe’s top migration corridor and known worldwide for its revolving door of migration, deportation, and conflict. Approximately 300 people deported from the U.S. come back into Mexico through Tijuana each day, mainly due to lack of documents. For many deportees, the conditions upon arrival in Mexico are worse than those that compelled them to leave in the first place and many return to communities that are even less safe than when they left.

The first thing I could hear when I arrived at the shelter was a woman saying, ‘here you are safe with us.’
What is not as widely known is that deported women and children, most of which have been in the U.S. for many years, comprise 10 percent of the daily arrivals into Tijuana. They lack resources, connections, and the support of family, and are at a far greater risk for human trafficking and abductions.

Recognizing this need, The Salvation Army in Tijuana opened the Casa Puerta de Esperanza, a shelter for women and children with funding support from The Salvation Army World Service Office (SAWSO).

Casa Puerta de Esperanza, which means “Door of Hope,” accommodates up to 30 women and children at a time. The Salvation Army has also been serving the migrant community in Tijuana since 1957 through their Hostel for Migrant Men, which welcomes approximately 150 men each day.

“The women and children who enter the shelter are suffering a multitude of anxieties – from being separated from family members to past detainment in U.S. prisons and detention centers to kidnapping and abuse along the migratory journey,” said Lt. Colonel Jacalyn Bowers, National Secretary for International Anti-human Trafficking for SAWSO.

Acting first and foremost as a safe haven, Door of Hope provides residents with lodging, food, counseling, referrals to medical services, social work, conferences, and workshops with the end goals of reconnecting them with their home country and helping them resume productive lives. Residents are allowed to stay up to three months, during which social workers help them find employment and residency.

Maria was 29 years old when she left Mexico and entered the United States without documentation. For 13 years she lived in Miami with her husband, Juan, and her three children. A call from her sister about her mother’s ailing health prompted Maria to pack a bag and travel to Mexico City. Her mother passed away only days later.

Still grieving the loss of her mother, Maria was caught by migration authorities on her way back across the border. She was put in prison for seven months, “alone, tired, and confused,” she said. “The worst part of prison was not knowing what would happen to me. I had lost my mother, and I was far away from my children and Juan.”

Possessing only the prison clothes on her back and an official deportee status, Maria was taken to the Door of Hope by a prison officer.

“The first thing I could hear when I arrived at the shelter was a woman saying, ‘Here you are safe with us. Come, we will give you clean clothing’,” said Maria.

Door of Hope personnel immediately provided Maria with a bed, clothing, and food before connecting her with her family by phone.

“I slept better than ever that night. I was in a real bed that had sheets that smelled like home, unlike the ones in prison. I was finally able to sleep well, after so much time.”

Money provided by her family allowed her to eventually travel to Mexico City to live peacefully with sister, where she hopes her children will be able to visit in the future.

“I left the shelter feeling incredibly thankful for the women who attended to me,” said Maria.

“Residents find true comfort and safety during their time at the Door of Hope,” Bowers said. “With thanks to our donors, SAWSO is proud to be able to support its services.”
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Jacalyn Bowers, Lt. Colonel
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Questions about giving may be directed to sawso.development@usn.salvationarmy.org or by calling 703-684-5500

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The Salvation Army World Service Office (SAWSO) was incorporated August 26, 1977 in the District of Columbia. It is a tax-exempt 501 (c)(3) organization.

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