



2023 Volunteer Holiday Newsletter



12 days of
Christmas?
How about 365?
Your gift of time
helps support your
neighbors all year
round.

The Salvation Army
of Duluth, Minnesota
215 South 27th Avenue West
Duluth, MN 55806
218-722-7934
duluthsa.org

October 12, 2023

Dear Friends,

Thank you for taking a moment to read our Volunteer Holiday Newsletter.

We are all experiencing the rising cost of gasoline, groceries, insurance, and utilities, but many in our community must decide which one they are going to use their money for and what daily needs they will skip out on. And here at The Salvation Army since the beginning of the year we've experienced an increase in the number of requests from those struggling just provide for their basic needs. As we approach the Christmas season, we expect people's needs to increase more.

Christmas is the time when The Salvation Army and you have the greatest opportunity to do the "Most Good". Thanks to our generous volunteers and donors, last year not only during the Christmas season but throughout the year we were able to serve many families and individuals in need here in Duluth and the surrounding areas. Please see page 15 for the exact numbers.

I hope you have a wonderful holiday season and I look forward to hearing from you soon!

With gratitude,

June Stanley

June Stanley

Administrative Assistant/Volunteer and Co-Red Kettle Coordinator

218-722-7934/june.stanley@usc.salvationarmy.org

A Kettle With A History of Help & Hope



In 1891, Salvation Army Captain Joseph McFee was distraught because so many poor individuals in San Francisco were going hungry. During the holiday season, he resolved to provide a free Christmas dinner for the destitute and poverty-stricken. He only had one major hurdle to overcome – funding the project.

Where would the money come from? He lay awake nights, worrying, thinking, and praying about how he could find the funds to fulfill his commitment of feeding 1,000 of the city's poorest individuals on Christmas Day. As he pondered the issue, his thoughts drifted back to his sailor days in Liverpool, England. He remembered how at Stage Landing, where the boats came in, there was a large, iron kettle called "Simpson's Pot" into which passers-by tossed a coin or two to help the

poor.

The next day, Captain McFee placed a similar pot at the Oakland Ferry Landing at the foot of Market Street. Beside the pot, he placed a sign that read, "Keep the Pot Boiling." He soon had enough money to see that the needy people were properly fed at Christmas.

Six years later, the kettle idea spread from the west coast to the Boston area. That year, a nationwide effort resulted in 150,000 Christmas dinners for the needy. In 1901, kettle contributions in New York City provided funds for the first mammoth sit-down dinner in Madison Square Garden, a custom that continued for many years. Today in the U.S., The Salvation Army assists more than four-and-a-half million people during the Thanksgiving and Christmas time periods.

Captain McFee's kettle idea launched a tradition that has spread not only throughout the United States, but all across the world. Kettles are now used in such distant lands as Korea, Japan, Chile and many European countries. Public contributions to Salvation Army kettles enable the organization to continue its year-round efforts at helping those who would otherwise be forgotten.

Bell Ringers Needed

Over 4000 hours are available for volunteers to ring bells between our 16 locations November 11 - December 23. Volunteers need to be dependable, friendly, able to follow local state, and business location's COVID-19 requirements, and be consistent in attending to their kettle.

We require a two hour minimum volunteering at the red kettle. Groups, businesses, civic organizations, and churches are encouraged to participate in our Red Kettle Campaign by taking a whole day. You can divide the 10 hour day that best fits your group. Bell Ringing is also a great way for students to fulfill their required community service hours.

If the Duluth Transit Authority is running, we are ringing.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS: Bell ringing with a warm smile can be done standing or sitting, inside or outside. A bell or maraca is provided. Just a reminder...ringing outside is cold.....warm clothes are definitely a must!!!

To schedule a shift, visit registertoring.com or call June at 218- 722-7934.

Kettle Locations

Miller Hill Mall (3 locations)
Cub Foods
Hobby Lobby *
Kenwood Super One
Lakeside Super One
Mall Super One
Mills Fleet Farm
Mount Royal Fine Foods*
Plaza Super One

Sam's Club*!

Super One West Duluth

Walmart (both entrances)*!

**indicates outdoor location, location will move indoors during inclement weather, up to managers discretion.*

! starts Nov. 18

Volunteers are also needed to deliver and pick up kettles. Paid positions are also available. If this is something you would be interested in please contact June at 218-722-7934 or june.stanley@usc.salvationarmy.org for more details.

Community Kettle

Back this year is our Community Kettle. Each day during the Red Kettle Season we will have one location where the ringer is the whole community. For example, you are shopping at the Plaza Super One and notice the Community Kettle sign you have a extra 10 minutes to give, so you can just pick up the bell and start to ring. When your 10 minutes are up, put the bell back and head to the next place you need to be. Each day on our social media stories we will share the location. In 2022 the Community Kettle raised \$1,773.84



Safety & Health Protocols for the 2023 Christmas Volunteer Season

Whether it's Covid, the flu, the common cold or not feeling well for any reason we ask that cancel your shift for the health and safety of yourself and others.

If you are experiencing any of the following symptoms, do NOT volunteer. Please call 218-722-793 or email june.stanley@usc.salvationarmy.org

- ◇ Fever or chills
- ◇ Cough
- ◇ Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- ◇ Fatigue
- ◇ Muscle or body aches
- ◇ Headache
- ◇ New loss of taste or smell
- ◇ Sore throat
- ◇ Congestion or runny nose
- ◇ Nausea or vomiting
- ◇ Diarrhea



Frequent Bell Ringing Questions

Is there an age requirement for bell ringers? Families say bell ringing is a great way to instill a sense of community spirit in young children. While anyone is invited to join us as a bell ringer, kids under 16 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

How does bell ringing work? Visit duluthsa.org or give us a call at 218-722-7934 to simply sign up for a date, time and location that's convenient for you. A kettle and bell or maraca will be at your location when you arrive. If there is already a ringer there, just let them know you are the next scheduled volunteer and take over for them. Then, start ringing with a smile. Wish shoppers a "Merry Christmas" and be sure to thank people for their donation.

How long do I have to ring? Volunteers can sign up for a minimum shift of two hours. We encourage volunteers to take four hours or more to help The Salvation Army manage sites and volunteers more effectively. To make it even more fun, we encourage you to find someone to ring with you.

How many people can be at the kettle? 2 ringers are ideal to ring at each kettle sight but up to four are able to ring at a location at one time with the exception of Mills Fleet Farm where 2 ringers are the limit.

What if I have to reschedule? If you are unable to make your scheduled ringing time, please call 218- 722-7934 as soon as possible. If it is more then 48 hours before your scheduled shift, you may also reschedule at registertoring.com

What do I do with the kettle when I am finished? Please place the bell in the holder or on the kettle base, and you may leave. Volunteers are not responsible for "standing guard" over the kettle once their shift is finished. The kettle is securely locked onto the stand, and only Salvation Army staff may remove it.

Can I give out Christmas treats/gifts to shoppers? We ask that while you are volunteering you do not give out items to shoppers. As part of our agreement with the stores, we are not allowed to give out items or promotional materials at the kettle.

Why are there no kettles out on Sundays? The Salvation Army is a Christian church and we want everyone to have the opportunity to attend a worship service on Sundays and have a day of rest.

BUSINESS BELLS

Whether you have five or 500 employees, “Business Bells” is an excellent opportunity for businesses to show community support and goodwill this holiday season.

1. Sign up for specific bell ringing hours and locations throughout the season in which you will provide your employees to ring the bells. Employees are encouraged to wear apparel advertising their business and have signage at the kettle.
2. Online Kettle - Get a early start on bell ringing by having a company kettle by signing up at <https://bit.ly/myvitrualkettleduluth>
3. “Match-A-Kettle ” - Double the impact that your kettle has upon the lives of the less fortunate by matching all or a portion of the money raised in your kettle this Christmas. If you are not able to ring, you can pick the day, location and time that you want to match a kettle. All matched donations are tax deductible.

“Business Bells” also provides three levels of partnership to the businesses who wish to participate. The top level businesses who raise \$2,000 or more become “Shield” partners. Businesses who raise \$1,000-\$1,999 become “Kettle” partners, and those \$500-\$999 become “Bell” partners. All partners will be listed in our Annual Report, Holiday Handbook and on our local website.

- “Shield” partners will receive Facebook, Twitter and Instagram endorsement
- “Kettle” partners will receive Facebook and Twitter endorsement
- “Bell” partners will receive Facebook endorsement.

For more information, contact June at 218-722-7934 or visit us online at duluthsa.org

2022 Business Bells

Thank you to our 2022 Business Bells Partners
who raised a total of \$3277.03

Shield Partnership - businesses who raise \$2,000 or more

Kettle Partnership - businesses who raise \$1,000-\$1,999.99

Harbor Point Credit Union - \$1,858.83

Halvor Lines Speedway - \$1,418.20

Bell Partnerships - Businesses who raise \$500 - \$999.99

ADOPT - A - FAMILY

Help make a family's Christmas merrier by "adopting" a family.

As an Adopt-A-Family (AAF) sponsor you will enjoy purchasing gifts and/or a Christmas dinner for your "adopted" family.

You can choose the number of families and the size of families you wish to adopt. As an AAF sponsor you may also choose whether to deliver items to the family's home, or you can remain anonymous by delivering the items to The Salvation Army. For more information, you may email nancy.leslie@usc.salvationarmy.org or call Nancy at 722-7934 ext. 102.



WRAPPING GIFTS

Do you have the “talent” to wrap gifts? Do you like people? If you can answer “YES!!” to these questions, we have a great volunteer spot for you in our Gift Wrap Booth at the Miller Hill Mall!!!

This year our planned Gift Wrap Booth Hours are...

December 1-2: 11am - 7pm

December 4-9: 11am - 7pm

December 11-16: 11am - 7pm

December 17: 12pm - 6pm

December 18-23: 11am - 7pm



Miller Hill Mall shoppers can bring their purchases to us for gift wrapping services. Volunteers need to be friendly, polite, dependable, trustworthy, and capable of giving back correct change to customers. Dexterity and a talent for wrapping are a must! Groups, families, businesses, and civic organizations are encouraged to schedule a time to staff this booth. All donations for wrapping services go toward helping people from our community at Christmas and throughout the year.

If the DTA is running and the mall is open, we're wrapping.

Physical Requirements: wrapping with a smile, standing, some bending, reaching and lifting required. Please, no children under the age of 16 without parental or guardian supervision.

For more information or to volunteer contact June at 218-722-7934 or june.stanley@usc.salvationarmy.org



GIFTS FOR KIDS AND TEENS

Help make a child's holiday wish come true
by collecting toys for the
Toyland Express this Christmas Season.

You can help by:

Purchasing unwrapped gifts for children from birth to 17 years. For gift ideas please visit our website at duluthsa.org or email june.stanley@usc.salvationarmy.org

Receiving a "Toy Box" and have your business or organization be a toy drop off site so your customers, members and employees can contribute!

Driver's for Toyland Express

Volunteer drivers are needed to pick up toys from various locations in the Duluth area and bring them to The Salvation Army to be distributed through our toy shop to children of the Greater Duluth Area Dec 19 & 20. Some of our drivers can start as early as mid-Nov picking up toys through Dec 18. Volunteers must have their own vehicle, driver's license and insurance. We are able to reimburse mileage. If interested, please call Misty at 218-722-7934 x.3730

Last year 1,646 children received toys, games, books and winterwear "compliments of the generosity of this community."

VIRTUAL KETTLE

The easiest way to fundraise or donate
from the comfort of your own home.

Fundraising can seem daunting at first glance, but the good news is you don't need to be a fundraising expert to raise a lot of money. You have a chance to make a big impact, even if you can't personally make a big donation. By mobilizing your friends and family, you can help The Salvation Army reach more people, raise more money, and make a bigger impact. There are so many ways to raise funds for neighbors in need. Request donations instead of gifts on a special day, take on a challenge, host an event or do your own thing by getting creative.

It's easy to fundraise for good.

1. Create a fundraiser - Choose what type of fundraiser you would like to host.
2. Tell your story.- Customize your fundraising page and tell us why you're fundraising for The Salvation Army.
3. Share your campaign - Tell your friends and family about your fundraiser on social media, via email or in person.
4. Encourage your peers - Ask friends and family to join in and create their own fundraiser.
5. Meet your goal - Help people in your community by funding life-changing programs.

Get started today by visiting <https://bit.ly/myvirtualkettleduluth>

Hats, Mittens and Scarves, Oh My!



How you can help keep kids warm this winter.

- Volunteers to knit or crochet are needed year round. You provide the talent and we will provide the yarn. Contact June at 218-722-7934 x101 for more information.
- Donate yarn. Full or partial skeins of any color are fine. It just needs to be suitable for warm hats and mittens.
- You can also help by purchasing new hats, mittens and scarves for children of all ages.
- Have a outerwear drive at your business

You can drop off yarn and new or hand stitched outerwear anytime throughout the year at The Salvation Army - 215 S 27th Ave W. Contact June at 218-722-7934 x101 for more information.



Walmart's Registry For Good

Make a child's Christmas wish come true from the comfort of your own home by visiting our Walmart Registry at <https://bit.ly/angeltreeduluth> All purchased items get shipped directly to us and will be given to a child in need this Christmas.

CHRISTMAS DISTRIBUTION

Tuesday, December 18 and Wednesday, December 20

Two shifts available for each volunteer position: 9am-12pm and 12pm- 4pm

Christmas Distribution is a great volunteer activity to put you in the Christmas Spirit. Individuals and groups are encouraged to volunteer. Must be 16 years and older. Exceptions can be made for some areas as long as parent/guardian is volunteering along side minor.

- **Toy Escorts** - escort parents through the gift shop to pick out age appropriate toys for their children. (20 volunteers needed per a shift)
- **Toy Shop** - As the parents pick out gifts for children and as the tables start to empty we need volunteers to replenish the tables with more gifts. (4 volunteers per shift needed)
- **Volunteer Carriers** - dress for the outdoors and help individuals carry their toys and food basket out to their vehicle. Dollies provided. (6 volunteers per shift needed)
- **Christmas Food Basket Assembler** - Put together food baskets according to family size. (9 volunteers per shift needed)
- **Mitten and Sock Give Away** - Help parents pick out winter outerwear and socks for their children and replenish table as needed. (2 volunteers per shift needed)

Lunch, snacks and beverages are provided!

All of the above volunteer opportunities are physical; walking, bending, lifting, carrying, etc.

Volunteers are also needed weekdays November 1 – 22 from 1-4pm to do intakes for Christmas Assistance Applications

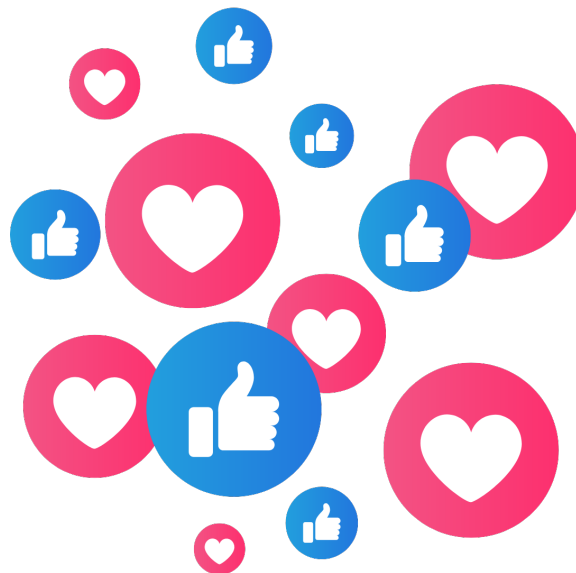


BASEBALL AND KETTLES

For the nine year in a row, our friends at the Duluth Huskies have sweetened the deal considerably for individual ringers. Any individual who volunteers at our red kettles 6 hours or more will receive a pair of general admission tickets to any 2024 regular season Duluth Huskies baseball game. We will notify you by email (post if you do not have email) at the end of May or the beginning of June to let you know when your tickets are available for pick-up In 2022, 94 volunteers participated in the Huskies Challenge and raised a total of \$91,958.42

Social Media

Keep up to date on everything happening this holiday season by following @duluthsa on Facebook and Instagram Volunteering this Christmas Season? Please share on social media and make sure to tag us and use the hashtag #lovebeyondchristmas



Mission Statement of The Salvation Army: 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.

STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS

Thanks to community members being generous with their time and resources, we are able to serve many of our neighbors in the Greater Duluth Area.

October 1, 2022—September 30, 2023

PERSONNEL

Employees 36 (seasonal not included)

Volunteers 1,351 PERSONS / 88,512.50 HOURS

SERVICES PROVIDED

Emergency Assistance 742

Family Transitional Housing 59 PEOPLE

Hot Lunch Meals 45,436

Emergency Food Shelf Meals 27,930

Medical Food Shelf Meals 4,455

Housing Services 105 HOUSEHOLDS / 239 PEOPLE

- Family Transitional Housing 20 HOUSEHOLDS / 54 PEOPLE
- Family Homeless Prevention Assistance Program 171 HOUSEHOLDS / 272 PEOPLE
- Rapid Rehousing Program 12 HOUSEHOLDS / 36 PEOPLE

Pathway of Hope 100 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN IMPACTED BY OUR POH PROGRAM

2022 Christmas Assistance (Food & toys) 2,620 PEOPLE

Children Receiving Christmas Gifts 1,646

Christmas Food Boxes 2,111

Rookie Basketball Participants 677



Red Kettle Carnival

Help us kick off our Red Kettle Campaign!

Where: Bentleyville USA

Bayfront Park

When: Wednesday, November 8th

Time: 5-8pm

Hot Cocoa, Cookies, Mascot Visits, Roasting Marshmallows, Games, Music and more....

☆For This Night Only!☆

Bring a new toy, a non-perishable food item or \$5 donation to see inside the 128 foot Christmas Tree. This is the only opportunity to see inside the tree in 2023.

Free Event For All Ages and Free Parking!



Thank you to our 2023 Sponsors and Supporters!

Bentleyville USA

Cub Foods

Fond-du-Luth Casino

Fox 21

Hobby Lobby

Kiwanis of Friendly Duluth

Lakehead Constructors Inc

Miller Hill Mall

Mills Fleet Farm

Miner's Inc./Super One Foods

Mount Royal Fine Foods

Northern News Now

Rotary Club of Duluth #25

Sam's Club

Texas Road House

Toys for Tots

Walmart

WDIO

AND YOU!!!!

The Salvation Army
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