



DOING THE MOST GOOD[®]

The Salvation Army
in Central Ohio

614.437.2133
SalvationArmyCentralOhio.org



Where compassion
meets action
Behind the Red Shield.



A message from
Majors Philip & Jodi Lloyd
 Area Commanders

We feel honored to begin our ministry in Central Ohio, serving alongside you Behind the Red Shield. Every day, we see neighbors extending kindness and compassion to those facing life's hardest challenges, which inspires us deeply.

When a family arrives in crisis, you help provide safety, stability, and a path forward. When a child longs for encouragement and opportunity, you make sure they are surrounded with support and hope. Your generosity turns compassion into action, transforming struggles into new beginnings.

As we begin this new chapter of service together, please know how grateful we are for your prayers, your partnership, and your unwavering commitment. Together, we will continue to shine a light of love and hope for our community.



Your generosity answers prayers for those who need it most.

Back-to-School Drive

Hope in Every Backpack

Preparing for a new school year can be overwhelming for families already struggling to make ends meet. This summer, The Salvation Army stepped in to ease that burden by providing more than 130 students with brand-new backpacks filled with essential supplies, along with warm coats for the months ahead.

The inaugural Back-to-School Backpack Drive, held July 22 at The Salvation Army Chapel at Worthington Woods and hosted in partnership with the Central Ohio Echelon chapter, was more than a supply giveaway. Families enjoyed a festive afternoon with hot dogs, games, inflatables, and frozen custard courtesy of Whit's

"We know preparing students for the upcoming school year can be stressful for some families so we wanted to make it a fun event that everyone could enjoy," said Jacob Burke, the Central Ohio Echelon Chapter President. "Partnering ensured that the event would be a success."

For many children, the gift of a new backpack and supplies represents more than preparedness—it builds confidence, sets the tone for the year ahead, and reminds them they are supported by their community.

"Ensuring all students have the necessary tools helps level the playing field and create a more equitable learning environment," Burke said. "We hope these students feel more prepared and confident, which could positively impact their academic performance and self-esteem."

Behind the Red Shield, moments like these are made possible by volunteers and donors who show up with compassion and generosity. Echelon members exemplify this spirit by serving, fundraising, and building connections that strengthen Salvation Army services in Central Ohio.

Because of your support, students across our community started the school year prepared to learn, thrive, and dream big.

Giving Hope This Christmas

Toys, Meals, and Love Made Possible by You

Behind the Red Shield, volunteers are the hands and hearts that carry hope forward. And for more than two decades, the Overstreet Family has shown what it means to serve with dedication, joy, and love.

Each Christmas season, generous companies, churches, and community groups across Central Ohio hold toy drives for The Salvation Army's Angel Tree program. But before those toys can reach families, they must be collected, transported, and delivered to a central site for distribution. That's where the Overstreets step in.

What began years ago with toys piled into the family car has grown into a full operation. As donations increased, the Overstreets upgraded to a van, and today they load up a 20-foot U-Haul truck, often making multiple trips. In just one Christmas season, they drove more than 700 miles gathering toys for children in need.

Along the way, the Overstreets have built lasting relationships with donors and community partners. "People are happy to see us and will comment on how much the girls have grown since last year," shared Claudia Overstreet. "When my oldest daughter started helping she was 11-years-old and now she's a college graduate."



The Salvation Army is proud to honor the Overstreet Family with the 2025 Angel Tree Award, recognizing their extraordinary commitment to helping children experience the joy of Christmas morning.

Because of volunteers like the Overstreets, thousands of children wake up to gifts that remind them they are seen, valued, and loved. Their story shows us that Behind the Red Shield, service has the power to transform lives, lift spirits, and spread hope in every season.

To be part of this movement of compassion, visit SalvationArmyCentralOhio.org or call 614.437.2133.



Jeff & Lisa Edwards Presents

NEED KNOWS NO
Season
LUNCHEON



Wednesday,
October 15, 2025

The Exchange at Bridge Park
6520 Riverside Dr. Dublin, OH



Keynote Speaker

Archie Griffin

OSU Running Back, 1972-1975
Two-time Heisman Trophy Winner

TO MAKE A DONATION NOW

Online: SalvationArmyNeedKnowsNoSeason.org

Check: The Salvation Army in Central Ohio
966 E. Main St., Columbus OH 43205

Write "Need Knows No Season" in memo

Scan: QR code with smart phone



Scan QR Code
to Make
a Donation

Ring in Hope This Season

Every winter, the sound of ringing bells reminds us that small gifts can make a big difference. Every gift at the kettle or online adds up to meals, shelter, and hope for families who need it most.

Just two hours of bell ringing can raise enough to feed a family for a day. Volunteering at the kettle not only funds vital programs, it spreads joy and reminds neighbors that they are not alone.

Sign up today at RegisterToRing.com and be part of this powerful tradition.

Behind the Red Shield, every ring of the bell is a call to hope.



WAYS TO HELP FAMILIES IN NEED THIS CHRISTMAS



JOIN THE RED KETTLE CAMPAIGN

Help us raise vital funds through The Salvation Army's largest annual fundraiser, the Red Kettle Campaign. We are seeking volunteers—individuals, families, groups, and businesses—to fill over 14,000 hours of bell ringing. Your efforts support our year-round programs.

Sign up today at RegisterToRing.com.



CHRISTMAS CHEER REGISTRATION

Help families register for our Christmas Cheer program, which provides Christmas toys and food. Volunteers are needed for various shifts at our Franklin County Service Centers in October and November. To get involved, contact

Traig Traylor at 614.358-2627 or Traig.Traylor@use.salvationarmy.org.



SUPPORT FOOD FOR FAMILIES

Brighten the holiday season for families in need by purchasing a Red Box. Each box includes the ingredients for a holiday meal, breakfast, and a family game. How many families can you help? Every Red Box donation will be matched up to \$75,000. To learn more and donate today, visit SalvationArmyCentralOhio.org/RedBox.



VOLUNTEER AT CHRISTMAS CHEER

Each year, we serve over 4,700 families through our Christmas Cheer program. We need volunteers from December 15 to 22 at the Lausche Building on the Ohio State Fairgrounds to help with various tasks. Join us in spreading joy this holiday season. To volunteer, contact Traig Traylor at 614.358-2627 or Traig.Traylor@use.salvationarmy.org.



HOST AN ANGEL TREE

Ensure that children in Central Ohio experience the joy of Christmas by participating in our Angel Tree Toy Drive. Host a drive, sponsor a child, or make a monetary donation to support The Salvation Army Angel Tree program. Thanks to generous donors, over 10,000 children received a new toy last year. To learn more, contact Amanda Finrock at 614.437.2155 or Amanda.Finrock@use.salvationarmy.org, or visit SalvationArmyCentralOhio.org/AngelTree



DOING THE
MOST GOOD®

If you know someone in need...

The Salvation Army is committed to meeting human needs everywhere. If someone you know in our community needs help, please have them call **614.221.6561**.

Your gift to The Salvation Army in Central Ohio will be used now and throughout the year to support services in our community.

To learn more about us, visit our website: SalvationArmyCentralOhio.org

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Some names and photos may be changed for privacy.

Connect with us:

