Boys & Girls Club
Finding A Safe And Affordable Childcare Environment

Lexington’s low income families are burdened by the same problems of finding affordable child care as the rest of the United States. Many barriers exist in finding a safe, high quality child program and this situation is exaggerated for low income parents and guardians. For over 20 years, Lexington’s Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club has been the solution for many families facing this crisis.

Kristin Martin is one of the many single-parent families who must continue working while also finding a safe and affordable childcare environment for her 6 year old daughter Zipporah. “I needed a safe place to bring Zipporah, it’s been beneficial for both of us, a positive experience for her [Zipporah] and has certainly helped me out financially”, says Kristin. The Salvation Army Boys and Girls program is very structured and offers a well-rounded, age appropriate experience for children ages 6 to 17 years old. This program allows children the opportunity to grow in many areas by offering activities such as recreational activities, arts and crafts, healthy eating, dance, personal development, and study aid for the school year. Kristin says, “Zipporah is getting to do so much this summer, she’d never be able to do these things if it wasn’t for The Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club”.

Program Director Raquell Jackson says, “Zipporah came to The Boys and Girls Club quiet and shy. She now expresses herself and understands that her voice counts”. Raquell went on to say, “We are blessed to be a part of the village that is raising this wonderful child”. Scott Vanfossen, The Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club Executive Director, says “Kristin is a very involved parent and has enjoyed having Zipporah in the program since May 2016”. Zipporah’s mom adds, “This has been a great experience for Zipporah and I. It’s given us both a purpose. We get up in the morning and she goes to the Boys and Girls Club and I go to work. She is always excited about leaving in the morning to go out and start our days”.

In 2015 over 300 children were served in The Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club. Please help us continue this very important and affordable childcare program. We thank you for your support for the many children who are in need of a structured, nurturing, and thriving environment.

The Community gets involved in our tenth annual LemonAiD Days Campaign Kickoff

Girl Scout Troop 1812 making a difference in our community.
The Lexington Legends supporting our kickoff of LemonAiD.
Bill Meck explains the LemonAiD fundraiser to a young girl at our Lexington Legends Kickoff.
A Message from Majors Thomas and Susan Hinzman

The basement is flooded. Those four simple words can bring on a flurry of activity as we rush to gather towels, fans, shop vacs - anything we can find to clean up that mess as fast as possible. If you have ever experienced such flooding, you know just how quickly the damage can be done. Important documents are ruined, precious memories float away, not to mention the moldy smell that will never leave the carpet! All of the hard work you put into cleaning up will mean very little, however, if you don’t address the source of the flooding. You can carry out bucket after bucket of water, but it will just keep pouring in and creating another mess.

Such a story is not unlike the everyday challenges faced by those we serve. They come with an immediate problem that cannot be overlooked - hunger, sickness, and homelessness cannot wait. Still, we must address the source of the problem or the flood waters will just continue to rise. Because of your support we are able to do both. Shelter residents are given meals and safe lodging while they work to build a stronger foundation through job training, counseling, and medical care. Children receive warm meals and adult supervision while doors are opened through education at our Boys & Girls Club and Early Learning Center.

As you read the stories in this newsletter may you know that you are making a difference, both today and for so many tomorrows.

Many Blessings,

Majors Thomas & Susan Hinzman
Central Kentucky Area Coordinators

Snapshots of Summer

Kids all across Central Kentucky helped raise awareness and funds to support homeless kids through LemonAid.

The Salvation Army Early Learning Center 2016 graduates are well prepared for kindergarten!

Boys and Girls Club Summer Camp game room fun.

Salvation Army Sunbeam Girl Guard Banquet

Two of our summer campers enjoying some pool time!

The University of Kentucky Fusion Group volunteering to Do The Most Good during their Summer Break.
The Salvation Army Early Learning Center Helps Children Overcome Difficulties

Meet Elysia Ford! She’s one of our students at the Early Learning Center and she is one sweet and happy four year old. She’s shy at first, but once Elysia gets to know you she loves to talk and tell you what she’s learned. It’s easy to observe that Elysia enjoys talking and making new friends. However, this wasn’t always the case for Elysia. When she first came to the Early Learning Center in December 2015 she was quiet, cried a lot, and would hardly talk to others. Her mother, Alexis Ford, says that when Elysia was younger and first started attending The Early Learning Center she hardly spoke and when she did, she stuttered and had other complications verbally communicating. Elysia’s mother worried about future learning problems.

If you speak to Elysia today you would never guess that she had these struggles in the beginning. Alexis says that since coming to The Early Learning Center, Elysia’s speech is much better now. She speaks clearly with no stutter and she has a strong desire to learn new things. Elysia’s mom is elated that her daughter can now communicate clearly and now has a passion for learning. Instead of buying new toys at the store, Alexis says that Elysia asks for a new book instead. Elysia and her mother love the teachers at The Early Learning Center and Alexis credits the teachers at The Salvation Army for helping her little girl overcome her earlier difficulties.

Alexis says that everyone at The Salvation Army treats them like family and adds that Elysia’s behavior has also improved, “She’s really good at listening to authority, respecting others, and using good manners.” When Elysia was asked about her favorite activity at The Early Learning Center she said it was reading. She loves looking at books and being read to by some of our local Lexington volunteers.

The Early Learning Center is only made possible by our generous donors. We thank you for your support and ask that you would continue to give so that The Early Learning Center can help many other children, like Elysia, overcome their obstacles and begin a lifetime love of learning.

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Emergency Homeless Shelter

Helping Families Find New Beginnings

Imagine trying to explain to your kids that you don’t know where they will sleep tonight. Imagine not knowing from where your next meal will come. Imagine trying to work three jobs just to make ends meet, feeling trapped in an endless cycle of exhaustion, fear, and poverty.

Those imaginations are the reality for the families who come to our Emergency Shelter. Fortunately, because of the generosity of our community, it doesn’t have to stay that way.

Our shelter is a safe haven for more than 1,500 homeless women, children, and single parents each year. Our doors are open 24 hours per day, every day of the year. We’re ready to help whenever homelessness strikes. We start by meeting immediate needs with safe shelter and healthy meals, but we don’t stop there. The issues that cause families to become homeless are complicated and, if left unaddressed, will trap them in an ongoing struggle with financial insecurity. Last year we provided access to health care, life and job skills training, educational childcare, mental health counseling, and more to address the underlying causes of homelessness.

In the past year, only 2.1% of those served by our shelter have returned after exiting. With the knowledge and support they gain through our program, families are able to build a solid foundation for a future free of homelessness. Your support is truly changing lives!
Wish List:

Boys & Girls Club
- Family Friendly DVD’s
- Board Games
- Kick Balls/4 Square Balls

Shelter
- Twin Size Sheets
- Blankets
- Washcloths & Towels
- Shower Shoes
- Large Print Bibles

Early Learning Center
- Hard Cover Books (Infants & Toddlers)
- Crib sized Sheets
- Tricycles

Our Food Pantries

Georgetown
- Peanut Butter
- Canned Meat
- Pasta & Sauce

Jessamine County
- Peanut Butter
- Instant Potatoes
- Cereal

Lexington
- Peanut Butter
- Pasta & Spaghetti Sauce
- Canned Meats & Vegetables
- Cereal

The Salvation Army

Central Kentucky Area Services
Lexington Worship & Service Center
736 West Main Street
Lexington, KY 40508
(859) 252-7706

Jessamine County Service Unit
205 S. First Street
Nicholasville, KY 40356
(859) 881-4241

Scott County Worship & Service Center
100 Washington Square
Georgetown, KY 40324
(502) 863-1551

Visit us online at
www.salvationarmylc.org

Upcoming Events

November 7 – Annual Christmas Breakfast & Kettle Kickoff Event:
The Breakfast will take place (7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.) at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, 402 W. High Street, Lexington, KY. Tickets are $50.00/Person or $500.00/Table of ten. Contact Precious Watson at 859-252-7706 ext. 113 or precious.watson@use.salvationarmy.org to purchase tickets.

November 18 – December 24 Traditional Red Kettle Campaign:
Volunteer bell-ringers (individuals, businesses, church groups, and service clubs) are needed Monday – Saturday. For more information contact Andrea Kaler at 859-252-7706 ext. 113 or andrea.kaler@use.salvationarmy.org

November 18 – December 11 Angel Tree Program:
Select a child’s angel card from any Whitaker Bank (Lexington and Georgetown) or Fayette Mall and purchase new Christmas Gifts.

November 24 – Thanksgiving Day Community Meal at 12 noon:
Meal served at The Salvation Army, 736 W. Main Street, Lexington, KY.

November 18 – December 24 – Angel ‘Food’ Tree Opens at Kroger Stores: Provide a Christmas meal for an Angel Tree family by purchasing a gift card.

November 26 – December 19 Christmas Distribution Center Operation: Adult individuals and volunteer groups are needed to prepare toy packages. To register to help, contact Lt. Shannon Jones at 859-252-7706 ext. 119 or shannon.jones@use.salvationarmy.org.

December 3 – December 5 Castle Post Tours: Once per year, all are invited to tour inside this Lexington landmark with all proceeds benefiting our Emergency Shelter. Tickets will be available at any Whitaker Bank.

December 25 – Christmas Day Community Meal at 12 noon:
Meal served at The Salvation Army, 736 W. Main Street, Lexington, KY.

The Salvation Army needs you to ‘Ring Our Bell’
The Salvation Army’s 2016 Kettle Campaign will begin on November 18th. This campaign supports our Emergency and Homeless Services as well as vital programs for financially disadvantaged youth. Your help can make a huge difference. We are looking for compassionate individuals and groups willing to ring the bell Monday through Saturday. Please email Andrea Kaler with the subject line “Red Kettle Volunteer” at andrea.kaler@use.salvationarmy.org.

Too busy to ring the bell? That’s okay! You can have your own online red kettle! Email Bruce Manor at bruce.manor@use.salvationarmy.org to find how to join our Central KY Kettle or call 1-859-252-7706 ext. 117.