

World Service Office

2025 Annual Report


THE SALVATION ARMY
UPPER KATALICANAN CORPS
CHRISTIAN CHURCH
SITIO SAMPAGUITA, KATALICANAN, ALEOSAN, COTABATO

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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.

SAWSO.ORG



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 through:

- Developing sustainable solutions to poverty, disease, and despair in global communities;
- Cultivating increased organizational capacity within Salvation Army units worldwide;
- Introducing sustainablility models that grow financial independence; and
- Demonstrating an empowering culture of grace and trust towards everyone we serve.

WHAT WE DO

For 48 years, The Salvation Army World Service Office has been helping individuals, families, and communities around the world address the physical, social, and economic challenges they face. Engaged in more than $48 million worth of active projects, SAWSO helps by employing a holistic, faith-based, and community-focused approach to meet the needs of those in poverty.

SAWSO's Project Sectors:

- Anti-Human Trafficking
- Education
- Livelihoods
- Capacity Building
- Disaster Relief & Recovery
- Health
- Business & Economic Development



SAWSO

THE SCOPE OF THE SALVATION ARMY WORLD SERVICE OFFICE IN 2024

146
ACTIVE PROJECTS TOTALING
$48M
IN FUNDING

74
COUNTRIES SUPPORTED OF THE
134
COUNTRIES PRESENT

COMMISSIONER MERLE HEATWOLE

National Commander of The Salvation Army in the United States



For more than four years, my wife and I served as the leaders of The Salvation Army in the Latin America North Territory, preaching the gospel and meeting human needs in Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, and Venezuela. In that time, we saw The Salvation Army meet the needs of thousands of people in places like Guatemala City, Bogota, and San José.

Outside San José, in the neighborhood of Concepción, The Salvation Army World Service Office helped the Centro Modelo Corps Center to renovate a soccer field, creating a new source of rental income for local services and recreational space for youth camps.

The Concepción soccer field illustrates SAWSO's focus on self-sufficiency, community involvement, local ownership, and transformative results. I've seen firsthand the enormous, real-life impact that having SAWSO as a partner in ministry can have on individuals and communities around the globe.

I hope that, as you read through these pages, you will be inspired by these examples of SAWSO's impact and feel called to join us in this global ministry. Your partnership could spark the next phase of community development and personal transformation.

Thank you for your support.

Merle Heatwole

LIEUTENANT COLONEL GEORGE BAKER

Executive Director of The Salvation Army World Service Office



"Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10).

That short verse, 14 words in all, provides as accurate a summary of The Salvation Army World Service Office's mission as any other. SAWSO exists to usher in the kingdom of God, to make earth more like heaven.

Whether in Indonesia, Costa Rica, or Zimbabwe, SAWSO partners with Salvation Army locations around the globe to foster self-sustaining leadership and missional success. Through more than $48 million worth of projects worldwide, SAWSO is implementing solutions that are locally driven and contextual rather than forced and formulaic. As a result, the needs of thousands of people for education, clean water, employment and many others are met through the work of The Salvation Army.

Across SAWSO's many dynamic initiatives, God's will is being done on earth as it is in heaven. As you read through this report, I pray you will find yourself led to support these efforts through your prayers, time, resources, skills or relationships.

May this report encourage you as you see stories of God's kingdom in our midst. May you be motivated to ask God to expand His kingdom through you and through SAWSO.

God bless you,



HIGHLIGHT

Start-up costs are repaid within five years, fueling a local fund that continually supports new Salvation Army programs and initiatives.

CUBA: DRIVING CHANGE

In Cuba, The Salvation Army stands as a resilient force for change, operating more than 40 corps that deliver vital support in the fight against poverty, domestic violence, and food insecurity. Generating local income is key to ensuring the sustainability of these life-changing programs.

In partnership with local leaders, SAWSO has launched a transportation initiative aimed at addressing public transit shortages and trade restrictions. With startup capital, four electric moto-taxis were imported to serve communities struggling with limited fuel and unreliable transport options.

By hiring local drivers, the project provides steady employment for families and generates profits that support community programs. A portion of the earnings is also reinvested to expand the initiative into new areas.

With full cost recovery projected in under two years, the program is a model of resilience and local empowerment, paving the way for greater opportunity and lasting impact across Cuba.



PERU: COFFEE CULTIVATION

Located in Peru's Amazon region, El Porvenir is part of San Martin, the country's leading coffee-producing region. Known for its exceptional Arabica beans, the area's coffee cultivation helps sustain local families and strengthen the town's economic foundation.

Recognizing the opportunity for growth, SAWSO is partnering with The Salvation Army's Porvenir Corps to enhance operations by funding advanced harvesting equipment and planting 1,000 additional coffee plants. These efforts will boost productivity on the 3-acre farm, generating approximately $40,000 annually. The Porvenir Corps will use this income to fund social programs, including local schools, the Liga de Mujeres children's dining room, and support local families.

Seasonal harvests will create additional jobs for community members, boosting local income and strengthening economic stability. To ensure long-term success, a portion of profits will fund a coffee ambassador to increase sales. Through these efforts, El Porvenir will expand its coffee production, ensuring a stronger, more sustainable future for its people.





HIGHLIGHT

"Participating in the activities on Wednesdays has been a way of recharging my strength to continue with the week's struggle."

— Romina, mother of four



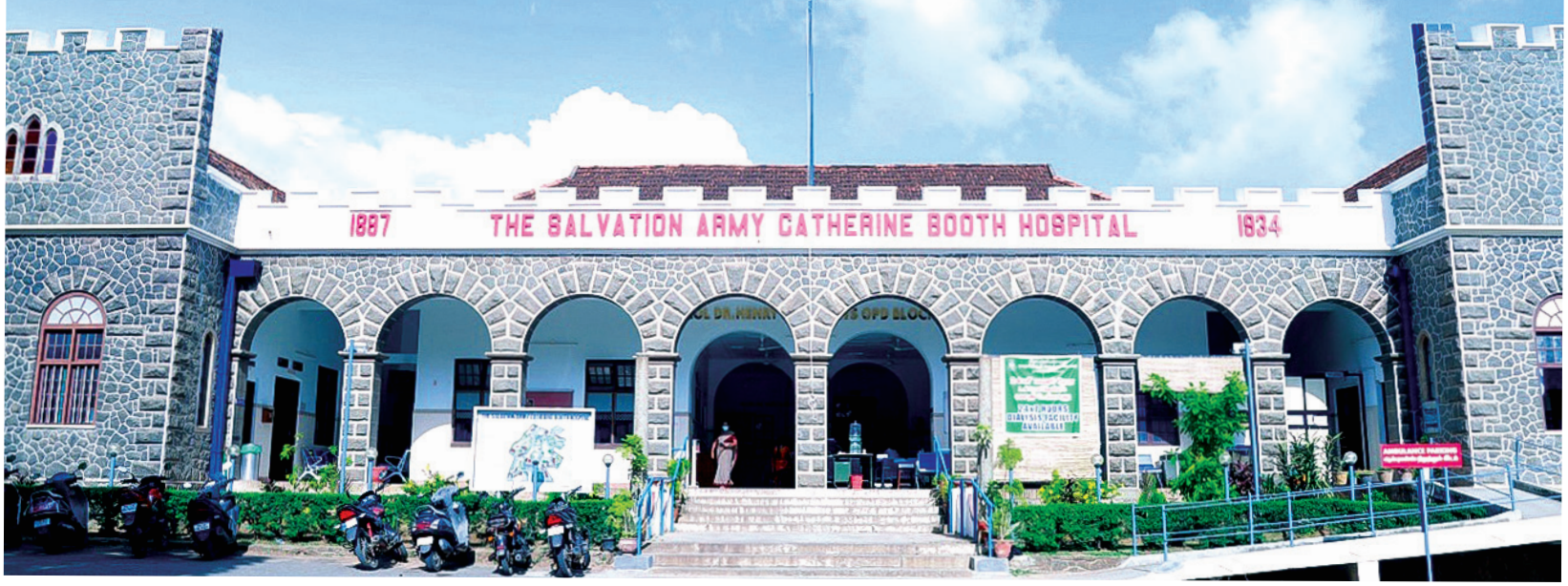
PARAGUAY: MILK & OATMEAL

In San Lorenzo's Villa Laurelty neighborhood, the Tekokatu clinic's Milk & Oatmeal program combats child malnutrition by empowering mothers with education on hygiene, child development, and well-being. The program's Canto al Bebé classes help mothers strengthen emotional bonds with their babies through singing, fostering early development, and maternal confidence.

Mirta, a young mother, sought support for severe depression and the effects of a violent past. Through therapy and group sessions, she has built a healthier bond with her daughters, breaking cycles of trauma. Gabriela, another beneficiary, found the strength to leave an abusive relationship, find stable employment, and create a safer future for her child.

In 2023 and 2024 alone, with SAWSO's support, the clinic has provided more than 7,000 medical consultations and reached 1,300 people through free community health programs. By equipping young mothers and families with vital resources, the clinic offers hope for a healthier, brighter future.





INDIA: HOSPITAL UPGRADES

The Salvation Army's Catherine Booth Hospital has long been a cornerstone of healthcare in its community. However, years of challenges led to a period of decline, threatening its ability to provide quality care.

In 2019, a comprehensive restructuring plan, supported by SAWSO, set the hospital on a path to revitalization. Renovations strengthened infrastructure, upgraded medical equipment, and improved healthcare technology, creating a more reliable and effective treatment system. Wards were consolidated to enhance patient care, and information technology advancements streamlined hospital operations.

These improvements helped the hospital secure entry-level accreditation from the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers. When the COVID-19 pandemic struck, these upgrades proved critical in handling the surge of patients. Over the past year, the hospital treated 48,263 out-patients and 2,253 in-patients, demonstrating its continued capacity to serve the community. Today, the hospital stands renewed, continuing its legacy of service.

JAMAICA: INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

The Salvation Army Arthur Wint Basic School in Lucea, Hanover, Jamaica is setting a powerful example in inclusive education, where children with special needs learn alongside their peers in a welcoming and supportive environment.

At the core of this effort is a thoughtfully designed sensory room featuring a textured sequin wall, a large block-building area, a ball pit, and indoor sensory swings. This space supports up to 20 children, promoting acceptance, equal opportunity, and a strong sense of belonging.

The impact extends beyond the sensory room. By providing every student with the tools they need to thrive, the school nurtures empathy, cooperation, and a culture of understanding across the entire community. Through this commitment to inclusion, The Salvation Army is helping all children reach their full potential together.









HIGHLIGHT

Community Learning Centers are not just classrooms—they are safe havens, where children displaced by poverty and discrimination find a path to opportunity and success.

INDONESIA: BUILDING FUTURES

In May 2024, The Salvation Army launched two Community Learning Centers (CLCs) in Sorong, West Papua to empower Kokoda children facing severe poverty and discrimination.

The Kokoda children, displaced from their ancestral lands, often struggle with illiteracy due to limited resources and language barriers. At the heart of this initiative is a mission to break the cycle of poverty by equipping Kokoda children with essential skills like literacy, math, and social-emotional learning.

These centers now serve nearly 180 children, ages 4 to 12—many of whom previously had little or no access to books or formal education.

The CLCs also provide nutritious meals, hygiene lessons, and access to basic health services while fostering a love for learning through curated reading materials, playgrounds for physical development, and culturally tailored activities.

This project's success has paved the way for future CLCs in Guatemala, Republic of Congo, Uganda, and other developing countries, spreading the transformative power of education to children worldwide.

A LIGHT IN THE DARK

The Salvation Army's Fight Against Human Trafficking

Human trafficking exploits an estimated 50 million people globally and is the fastest-growing criminal enterprise, valued at $236 billion. Fueled by conflict, economic instability, and climate displacement, this crisis demands an urgent response and prevention.

The Salvation Army has increased its anti-trafficking efforts, leveraging its presence in 134 countries. Through its National Contact Persons program, the Army develops country-specific action plans for cross-border rescues and survivor support. Anti-trafficking efforts are integrated into existing services like education, healthcare, and emergency aid. Staff are trained to identify trafficking, uphold human rights, offer trauma-informed care, and provide legal support in collaboration with local partners.

In Athens, Greece, the Green Light Project supports women escaping sexual exploitation in the red-light district. This initiative offers survivors and their children emotional healing, practical help, and reintegration support.

One of the greatest challenges survivors face is the lack of legal documentation, which limits access to work and social services. Through partnerships and advocacy, the Green Light Project helps women navigate the complex process of obtaining residence permits and opening doors to stable jobs and independence.

One woman shared, "I received my legal documents and started building a life in Greece. I am growing in knowledge and understanding of my rights—I am stronger, and I am not alone!"

Each woman who transitions to a safer, more stable life represents a step toward lasting change. The Salvation Army remains committed to supporting survivors on their journey to healing and hope.



> I am growing in knowledge and understanding of my rights—**I am stronger, and I am not alone!**

HIGHLIGHT

The Salvation Army in Latvia is prioritizing long-term integration through mental health and psychosocial support, including employment workshops and community-building activities.



LATVIA: REBUILDING LIVES

Since the Ukraine crisis escalated in February 2022, The Salvation Army in Latvia has been actively supporting Ukrainian refugees with urgent assistance such as food, hygiene items, and bedding. As the crisis continued, SAWSO partnered with The Salvation Army in Latvia and other organizations to expand the local response—launching educational sessions and social connection activities and hiring a psychologist for therapeutic support.

Over the past year, SAWSO's focus shifted toward long-term integration, offering anti-human trafficking awareness programs, job placement assistance, and workshops on employment and refugee rights. To ensure refugee voices shaped their programs, The Salvation Army in Latvia conducted a survey with over 800 Ukranian households to assess evolving needs.

As a result, the current priority has become expanding integration services, including mental health and well-being seminars, legal rights education, community-building activities, and master classes to help refugees adapt and rebuild their lives in Latvian society.







ZAMBIA & ZIMBABWE: DROUGHT RELIEF

In 2024, El Niño-driven droughts in southern Africa caused prolonged dry spells that devastated staple crops and left millions facing acute hunger. Zambia and Zimbabwe were among the hardest-hit countries with the United Nations identifying them as “hunger hotspots.”

SAWSO, alongside local Salvation Army partners, provided life-saving food assistance. In Zambia’s Siavonga and Gwembe Districts, over 4,000 households—approximately 28,000 individuals—received food parcels just before Christmas, bringing not only nourishment but also joy and gratitude in a time of great need. In Zimbabwe, where 80% of the country experienced low rainfall, SAWSO supported over 5,700 households, including 16,000 children, with critical food aid. Additionally, an ongoing initiative is equipping farmers with climate-smart agriculture techniques to promote long-term sustainability.

By combining immediate food aid with sustainable solutions, SAWSO is providing vital relief to vulnerable families facing cycles of climate-driven hardship.



Photo by Keri Shay

INDIA: BREAKING BARRIERS

In India, Dalit women face systemic discrimination and extreme poverty, making financial independence a significant challenge. Through The Salvation Army's Integrated Community Empowerment program, thousands of women are gaining the tools to break the cycle of poverty.

Over the past year, The Salvation Army has empowered more than 5,000 women across 370 Self-Help Groups, equipping them to save and build sustainable businesses. Many have secured microcredit to expand their enterprises and explore new markets. Through 75 new livelihood initiatives, women have gained skills in agriculture, small businesses, handicrafts, and community services. They've launched goat farming and tailoring businesses, while also thriving in dairy production, handmade jewelry, and food vending.

Additionally, 47 awareness programs have strengthened Dalit women's understanding of rights and improved access to government assistance programs, setting them up for long-term financial success.

HIGHLIGHT

Savings have quadrupled in Village Savings and Loan Associations, with 91% of members actively investing in their future.

RWANDA: SAVINGS & LOANS

In Rwanda's Muko neighborhood, many small-scale farmers struggle with low crop yields that lead to financial hardships and limited access to nutritious food. Seeing the community's great need, SAWSO stepped in with a transformative project that has helped 500 farmers increase their resilience through agricultural training, financial literacy, and livestock support.

Since the project's launch in 2022, maize and bean yields have significantly increased, and vegetable revenue has more than quadrupled. Savings through Village Savings and Loan Associations have grown substantially, with most members actively borrowing and reinvesting in their farms. Increased livestock ownership has also provided families with a steady source of dairy, meat, and eggs, improving household nutrition. Today, 99% of families maintain kitchen gardens, and nearly all consume a more diverse diet containing at least four food groups.

With stronger harvests, greater financial stability, and improved nutrition, farmers in Muko are building a more resilient and food-secure future for themselves and their community.





HIGHLIGHT

In rural Songo, a playgroup was launched for children left home while parents work on distant farms. The kids are fed, taught life skills and read Bible stories. Now serving nearly 100 children, the program hopes to grow into a school.

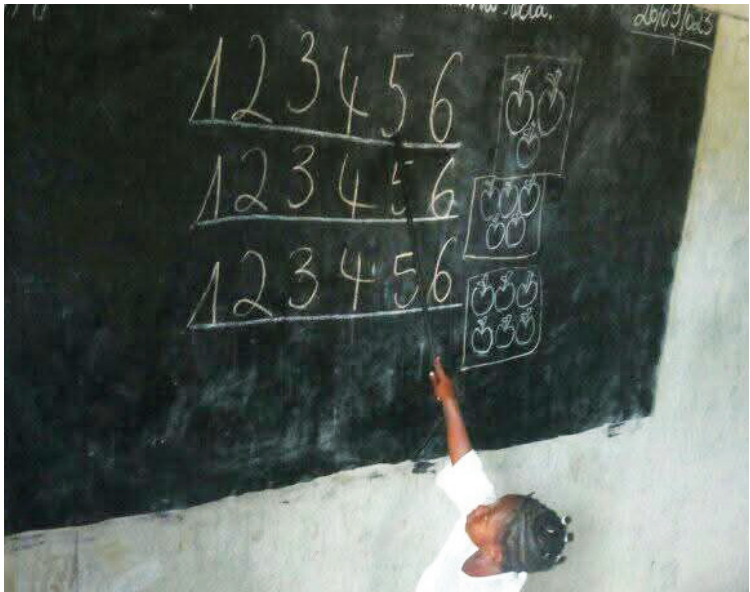
ANGOLA: FAMILY SUPPORT

SAWSO is strengthening The Salvation Army's capacity to engage and work effectively with local communities across Angola. Through targeted training, over 500 officers, staff, and soldiers participated in workshops on community development, strategic planning, and project management. Leaders created a four-year territorial strategic plan that prioritizes local strengths and needs to guide sustainable development.

At the Luau Corps, a grassroots learning initiative was launched to address educational gaps. It now serves over 300 children weekly with volunteer teachers. In Songo, a children's feeding and playgroup program has grown into a safe haven for nearly 100 children, offering early education, emotional support, and essential nourishment.

With a shared vision and renewed capacity, The Salvation Army in Angola is expanding its impact. Guided by this new strategic plan, the country is actively advocating for support at both national and international levels to sustain and grow community-led programs.





PHILIPPINES: EQUIPPING LEADERS

SAWSO is strengthening The Salvation Army Philippines' ability to serve communities through the Integrated Community Development Program. The program equips local officers and staff with the skills to identify community needs, develop solutions, and implement impactful projects.

Corps officers undergo training in faith-based facilitation, community engagement, and project management, enabling them to work alongside residents to assess challenges and develop tailored solutions.

So far, across 32 communities, 6,440 individuals have participated in training on economic resilience, violence prevention, and youth development. Through livelihood grants, financial literacy training, and job programs, 3,387 people have gained financial knowledge, while 1,344 have acquired skills for income-generating activities. Additionally, 1,010 individuals have received violence prevention training, strengthening the community's resilience and self-sufficiency.







Our Global Presence

The Salvation Army World Service Office supports 74 countries across six continents.



AFRICA

Angola
Republic of the Congo
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Ethiopia
Ghana
Kenya
Lesotho
Liberia
Malawi
Mali
Mozambique
Namibia
Nigeria
Rwanda
South Africa
Tanzania
Uganda
Zambia
Zimbabwe

ASIA & AUSTRALIA

Australia
Bangladesh
Hong Kong
India
Indonesia
Japan
Kuwait
Myanmar
Nepal
Pakistan
Papua New Guinea
Philippines
Singapore
Solomon Islands
South Korea
Sri Lanka
Taiwan
United Arab Emirates

EUROPE

Bulgaria
Czech Republic
Estonia
Georgia
Germany
Greece
Greenland
Hungary
Italy
Latvia
Lithuania
Moldova
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Turkey
Ukraine

NORTH AMERICA

Costa Rica
Cuba
Dominican Republic
Guatemala
Haiti
Honduras
Jamaica
Mexico
Panama
St. Maarten
St. Vincent and the Grenadines

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina
Bolivia
Brazil
Chile
Ecuador
Paraguay
Peru
Uruguay

WORLD SERVICE OFFICE

THE SALVATION ARMY

Expenses by Program

Mission Support
$8,946,989

Disaster Relief & Recovery
$4,336,052

Livelihoods
$1,991,829

Health
$1,577,471

Education
$1,097,478

Support Service, Fundraising/ Management, General
$1,006,787

Modern Slavery & Anti-Human Trafficking
$762,665

Business & Economic Development
$720,562

Revenue

$14,684,292
Investment Income



$14,444,969
Public Support Contributions

Twelve months ended September 30, 2024

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	$1,095,057
Other Assets	$74,647,564
Total Assets	**$75,742,621**
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	
Total Liabilities	$1,532,099
Net Assets	$74,210,522
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	**$75,742,621**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

REVENUE	
Public Support Contributions	$14,444,969
Other Income (loss)	$14,684,292
Government Grants	–
Total Revenue	**$29,129,261**
EXPENSES	
Program Services	$19,433,046
Fundraising	$326,468
Support Service - Management and General	$680,319
Total Expenses	**$20,439,833**
Increase (decrease) in Net Assets	$8,689,428
Net Assets, Beginning of Period	$65,521,094
Net Assets, End of Period	**$74,210,522**

WAYS TO GIVE

Online

Give.SAWSO.org

Phone

1-800-SAL-ARMY

Mail

The Salvation Army
World Service Office
P.O. Box 418558
Boston, MA 02241-8558

Additional Giving

- Stock or securities transfers
- Planned gifts (i.e. bequests and trusts)
- Gift annuities
- Workplace giving programs/Combined Federal Campaign
- Matching gifts

Questions

Email: SAWSO.development@usn.salvationarmy.org
Call: 1-703-299-5551

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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.

Contributions to SAWSO are deductible for federal income tax purposes to the extent permitted under section 170(b)(1)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code for individual donors and section 170(b)(2) for corporations.



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THE SALVATION ARMY
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