



12/20/25: VOLUNTEERS PREPARE 120 MEALS FOR STREET OUTREACH PROGRAM

DECEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

THE SALVATION ARMY OF THE COASTAL BEND

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Serving the Coastal Bend since 1908

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: OFFICER MILLER



Officer Shea Miller has been a dedicated and dependable supporter of The Salvation Army for many years, generously giving her time, expertise, and compassion to serve our community. Her commitment goes far beyond what is required, and her presence has made a meaningful difference at countless events. Officer Miller has volunteered during the past two Thanksgiving events, helping ensure families were able to receive meals in a safe and welcoming environment. Officer Miller comes to help and serve always with a bright smile on her face.

For the last three years, she has also supported our Cold Weather Nights program, providing both safety and reassurance to those seeking warmth and shelter during the coldest nights. She also provided assistance during our annual fan distributions. In addition, Officer Miller contributed her professional knowledge by providing de-escalation training equipping staff and volunteers with valuable skills to better serve the public. What truly sets Officer Miller apart is her willingness to step in even on her days off. Whether maintaining safety, assisting with event logistics, or directly helping those in need, she is always ready to serve wherever she is needed most. The Salvation Army of the Coastal Bend thanks her for all she has done.

END-OF-YEAR GIFT



As the holiday season comes to a close, we reflect on a challenging year for many families in the Coastal Bend. At The Salvation Army, we continue to help those facing homelessness, food insecurity, housing struggles, and the need for hope and guidance.

As needs grow, our resources are stretched. We ask our friends and supporters to consider one more gift to help us start 2026 strong. Any amount makes a meaningful difference and may be eligible for 2025 tax benefits if received by December 31. Thank you for your support, and God bless you, we look forward to a New Year.



2025 ANGEL TREE PROGRAM

The Salvation Army of the Coastal Bend has successfully completed its annual Angel Tree distribution, bringing the joy of Christmas morning to hundreds of local families. Parents who registered and qualified earlier this fall received gifts carefully chosen to reflect each child's needs, wishes, and hopes for the holiday season.

This year, 409 families with 1,097 children ages 15 or younger received Christmas presents. Thanks to the tireless efforts of volunteers and staff, every registered family was assisted. The generous support of H-E-B also played a key role, providing \$25,000 in gift cards that empowered parents to buy at no cost to them groceries to prepare a Christmas dinner. Within these 409 families 1,658 household members benefited. "This program is more than gifts—it's hope, dignity, and a reminder that no family is forgotten during the holidays," said Jonathan Gonzalez of The Salvation Army. We are deeply grateful to everyone who helped make this season brighter for so many children and families.



2025 RED KETTLE CAMPAIGN

The Salvation Army of the Coastal Bend is in the final days of its annual Red Kettle Campaign and is thankful for the overwhelming support shown by the community this holiday season.

As of December 20th, the campaign has reached 90% of its \$150,000 goal, made possible by generous donors and the dedication of volunteers across the Coastal Bend. Red Kettle donations support year-round programs providing meals, shelter, emergency assistance, and life-changing services to families and individuals in need. "Every donation and every volunteer shift has mattered," said Major Nathanael Doria of The Salvation Army. "As we enter the final days of the campaign, we are incredibly grateful to everyone who has already given and remain hopeful that we will reach our goal." The Salvation Army extends heartfelt thanks to all who have donated and to the many volunteers who rang bells throughout the season.

THE SALVATION ARMY OF THE COASTAL BEND

IN NOVEMBER,
WE PROVIDED:

1,913



Nights of Lodging

24



Average of children sheltered

2,586



2,346 Shelter Meals

240 Street Outreach

158



Food boxes distributed

121



Individuals received
Rent/Utility Assistance

THANK YOU!



The Salvation Army of the Coastal Bend extends heartfelt thanks to the Coastal Bend Community Foundation for their incredible support during the 2025 Day of Giving. Through this remarkable event, our community helped us raise \$58,462.00. Combined with the generous \$10,000 donation from the John G. and Marie Stella Kennedy Foundation, a total of \$68,462.00 was raised to support our programs and services. These funds will directly help families and individuals in need across the Coastal Bend, providing meals, shelter, emergency assistance, and support for children and families facing challenging circumstances.

We are deeply grateful to every donor who contributed. Your generosity shows the power of community and the profound difference neighbors can make when they come together. Each gift, no matter the size, has helped The Salvation Army continue serving those who rely on us the most.

We also thank the John G. and Marie Stella Kennedy Foundation for their \$10,000 contribution, which amplified the impact of the Day of Giving and ensured more families received the help and hope they need. This support allows us to plan ahead with confidence, knowing we can continue providing critical services throughout the year. Every donation received strengthens our ability to make a lasting impact in the Coastal Bend community.

The success of the 2025 Day of Giving is a true testament to the compassion of the Coastal Bend community. On behalf of all those we serve, The Salvation Army thanks you for helping us make a lasting difference.