



Serving the Coastal  
Bend since 1908

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY OF THE SALVATION ARMY OF THE COASTAL BEND DONATED 5 COMPUTERS FOR THE CENTER OF HOPE SHELTER

# FEBRUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER

THE SALVATION ARMY OF THE COASTAL BEND

Dick & Sara Rathgeber Center of Hope: 1804 Buford Street, Corpus Christi, TX 78404

Family Store: 5042 South Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78411

(361) 884-9497 • [www.SalvationArmyCorpusChristi.org](http://www.SalvationArmyCorpusChristi.org)

ABOVE ALL, LOVE 1 Peter 4:8



## LOVE BEYOND HUNGER

The Love Beyond campaign was first introduced on Valentine's Day 2022 as an appeal to the community to join The Salvation Army in serving those in need and demonstrating love beyond all else. More than a seasonal message, this campaign serves as a year-round call to action. The Salvation Army has long been committed to helping the lost, hungry, and hurting. Through Love Beyond, we encourage others to extend love—not just to family and friends, but also to the overlooked, the unloved, and those facing hardship. Love Beyond is a love that reaches beyond life's challenges—beyond homelessness, hunger, and loss.

Along with providing year-round shelter, emergency assistance, meals, and clothing, The Salvation Army is also one of the first responders to natural disasters. Today, many people face overwhelming financial struggles and uphill battles to escape poverty. Our faith-driven mission holds that all individuals deserve dignity and should not be defined by their circumstances. With public support, The Salvation Army continues providing services every day in Corpus Christi. Like many nonprofits, we face growing challenges in raising critical funds as requests for assistance rise. Your generosity ensures we can continue offering hope and help to those in need—365 days a year.

COMING SOON!



## BEHIND THE RED SHIELD

The Salvation Army of the Coastal Bend will host the first Behind the Red Shield Tour of 2025 at the Center of Hope of The Salvation Army at 1804 Buford St., Corpus Christi.

Members of the Advisory Board, Women's Auxiliary and faithful donors will met together for lunch and a presentation that will include testimonials of residents in the shelter followed by a tour of the shelter. Guests will have an opportunity to see for themselves the accommodations and ask questions. If you would like to participate in a our next tour, call Monica Barrera at (361) 910-2494.

# THE SALVATION ARMY OF THE COASTAL BEND

IN JANUARY,  
WE PROVIDED:

2,569



Nights of Lodging

38



Average of children sheltered

3,553



2,613 Shelter Meals

240 Street Outreach

700 Cold Weather Event

269



Food boxes distributed

139



Individuals received  
Rent/Utility Assistance

## Spring Cleaning



HOUSEHOLD GOODS



CLOTHING



FURNITURE



APPLIANCES



AUTOMOBILES

*Spring is almost here! Seize the opportunity to declutter your home and make a difference through spring cleaning. Consider donating your gently used items to THE SALVATION ARMY FAMILY STORE. From shirts and pants to shoes and jackets, your donations can be repurposed for a good cause!*

*The Salvation Army also accepts various household items, including electronics, kitchen appliances, and dishes. If you are looking to refresh your living spaces, consider donating furniture and bed sets, including mattresses. The Salvation Army accepts larger donations, such as vehicles, boats, and even golf carts. Schedule a free pickup or stop by our store at 5042 South Padre Island Drive to donate items. All proceeds from our Family Store directly support our programs and services.*

*For over 116 years, The Salvation Army has been serving the Coastal Bend area, giving hope to men, women, children, and veterans to overcome homelessness. Your spring cleaning donations can truly make a difference for those in need.*



(361)

851-0723

## DONATE GOODS

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, THAT WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH BUT HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE.

JOHN 3:16 NKJV



## SUCCESS STORIES



Joseph, a Vietnam War Army Veteran, became homeless after facing hard times. With support from The Salvation Army's programs, he has regained stability and feels healthier than he has in the past year. Grateful for the assistance, he trusts in the Lord's plan and looks forward to securing his own home with confidence in his future. He knows brighter days are ahead.



After her landlord sold the property, Janet couldn't afford a new place and unexpectedly became homeless. She soon faced the harsh realities of life on the streets. Terrified, she found hope through The Salvation Army's food and shelter program. Now with a safe place to sleep, daily meals and support, she is working to rebuild her life. She is truly grateful for the help received.



Cawana and her family lived in an old, unsafe home with harsh conditions. After unsuccessful attempts to fix the issues, they came to The Salvation Army's Center of Hope shelter. The family now have access to showers, daily meals, and a comfortable place to rest. The family feels hopeful for a fresh start. Together, they are setting goals for a brighter future. They are grateful for the support.



Before coming to The Salvation Army, Amalia faced hardship—sleeping outside uncertain of how she would survive the cold nights or find her next meal. Caring for her grandson made daily life even more challenging. She found assistance through The Salvation Army's food and shelter program and is now making progress. With program support, she is hopeful for better days.

## VOLUNTEERS



Are you ready to volunteer? Volunteering with The Salvation Army offers a meaningful way to make a difference in the community. Your willingness to share your time is vital to the success of our organization and the individuals we serve. Volunteers play an essential role in supporting day-to-day operations, ensuring resources are distributed efficiently, and helping our programs run smoothly.

Whether individually or as a group, you can assist in various ways, such as packing food boxes at our food pantry or sorting and organizing donated items at our Family Store. Another impactful way to volunteer is by serving hot meals in our kitchen to shelter residents. Every hour of your time helps provide critical services to those in need. Your continued support and dedication are crucial to our mission of helping those in need. By volunteering, you can help us provide vital services to individuals and families who need it most. Together, we can create a lasting impact on the lives of those we serve. To learn more about volunteer opportunities and requirements, please contact Monica Barrera, Development Manager, at (361) 910-2494.

# Lives Touched

IN OUR COMMUNITY

2024 Fiscal Year  
10/01/2023 - 09/30/2024



**38,464** MEALS SERVED



**29,167** NIGHTS OF SHELTER



**31** CHILDREN SHELTERED DAILY



**688** CLOTHING VOUCHERS



**2,841** FOOD BOXES DISTRIBUTED



**531** RENT & UTILITY ASSISTANCE FOR FAMILIES



**1,064** CHILDREN RECEIVED CHRISTMAS GIFTS <sup>2023</sup>

## GIVING

The Salvation Army of the Coastal Bend has served Corpus Christi and surrounding communities since 1908— almost 117 years of dedicated service! Our work is only possible through community support. Every dollar raised directly supports the Center of Hope shelter and programs at 1804 Buford Street.

Thousands of lives have been impacted through our services, as shown in the 2024 statistics above. From providing meals and shelter to offering financial assistance and Christmas support, every program is designed to uplift those in crisis. With a one-time or monthly donation, you help ensure we continue providing hope and

assistance to those in need in 2025. Your generosity makes a difference - thank you for helping us to serve the most vulnerable in our community!

*Your donations provide:*

MEALS

NIGHTS OF SHELTER

CLOTHING VOUCHERS

FOOD BOXES

RENT & UTILITY ASSISTANCE

CHILDREN CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Scan  
Here  
to Donate



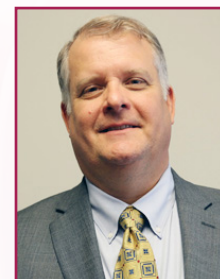
## LEGACY OF LOVE



A Planned Gift “now”, will advance the programs and services The Salvation Army will be able to provide in the Coastal Bend, “later”. Whether through one’s will, or beneficiary designation, including The Salvation Army in your plans will not cost a penny now, may be changed if necessary, bypasses probate, and is free to set-up.

Remembering The Salvation Army is one of the most important gifts you will ever give, enabling you to establish a lasting legacy that will transform lives. With gift planning, you can provide long-lasting support for The Salvation Army of the Coastal Bend while enjoying financial benefits for yourself.

For more information please contact The Salvation Army – Texas Divisional Planned Giving representative, Steve Anderson at [Steve.Anderson@uss.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Steve.Anderson@uss.salvationarmy.org). We are grateful for your support, and for being a Friend of the Army.



**Steve Anderson**

Associate Planned  
Giving Director  
(512) 663-5596