



EL PASO CONNECTION

June 2026

A Monthly Newsletter of The Salvation Army of El Paso

MUSIC & ARTS CONSERVATORY BEGINS WITH "MASTERPIECE" THEME

The Salvation Army's 8th Annual Music & Arts Conservatory is underway, welcoming a new group of young musicians for four weeks of learning, creativity, and fun.

This year's theme, "Masterpiece," is based on Ephesians 2:10 (NLT): "For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago."

60% of this year's students are attending Conservatory for the very first time. For many, this is their first experience learning music theory or playing a musical instrument.

Students participate in daily classes in music theory, brass band, and choir, along with electives including guitar and creative arts.

"Every child who walks through our doors has incredible potential," said Major Eloisa Estrada, Corps Officer. "Our prayer is that they leave Conservatory knowing they are God's masterpiece, loved by Him, and equipped with new skills and confidence to use their gifts for His glory."

Weekly field trips provide a fun break from their hard work, with the first adventure taking students to La Nube for a day of exploration and discovery. Throughout the summer, students will grow not only as musicians but also in confidence, character, and faith.



Music has been part of The Salvation Army's ministry for more than 140 years

Today, thousands of young people discover their musical talents through Salvation Army music programs each year.



MONTHLY IMPACT REPORT

May 1 - May 31



2,852

NIGHTS OF SHELTER



6,654

TOTAL MEALS



\$5,810

VETERAN ASSISTANCE



760

VOLUNTEER HOURS



From Client to Volunteer: Phillip Dennis Gives Back

When Phillip Dennis arrived in El Paso from Alabama, he had no place to call home and faced an uncertain future.

He found hope at The Salvation Army Family Center, where a warm meal, a safe place to stay, and caring staff helped him begin rebuilding his life. More than meeting his physical needs, The Salvation Army welcomed him with kindness that left a lasting impact.

Today, Phillip is giving back. Since November 2025, Phillip has volunteered at Family Thrift Store, contributing an average of 30-40 hours each month. He sorts donations, moves furniture, assists with daily operations, and even brings miles to children by dressing up as the Easter Bunny.

“Everything I received was given unconditionally,” Phillip says. “I see it as my duty to give my time so others can have the same chance I did.”

Phillip has also found steady employment restoring a friend's home, work that means not just rebuilding houses but also his own confidence. His journey inspired him to be someone who can help others.

Last year, more than 20,000 nights of shelter were provided at The Salvation Army Family Center in El Paso, along with hot meals, case management, and supportive services that help individuals and families move from crisis to stability.

NATIONAL DONUT DAY 2026



Celebrating National Donut Day in the Sun City

National Donut Day honors The Salvation Army's "Donut Lassies," who served donuts, coffee, and encouragement to American soldiers on the front lines during World War I. Established by The Salvation Army in 1938, the day celebrates their legacy of compassion and reminds us that even small acts of kindness can make a lasting difference.

This year, The Salvation Army of El Paso continued that tradition of gratitude by delivering donuts to local firefighters and to our friends at Tint World, one of our valued Frequent Flyer sponsors. These small gestures were a way to thank them for their service, partnership, and commitment to making our community stronger.

More than a century later, National Donut Day remains a reminder that simple acts of kindness can make a lasting difference. Whether serving soldiers, first responders, community partners, or neighbors in need, The Salvation Army continues its mission of sharing hope, compassion, and the love of Christ—one donut at a time.

**"AND DO NOT
FORGET TO DO
GOOD AND TO
SHARE WITH
OTHERS..."
HEBREWS 13:16**

