



CORPUS CHRISTI CORPS MEMBERS DELIVER HOT MEALS TO THE HOMELESS



Serving the Coastal Bend since 1908

FEBRUARY 2026 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

LOVE IN ACTION



February is often associated with love, but at The Salvation Army of the Coastal Bend, love is something we practice every day through service, compassion, and community support. From providing warm meals and safe shelter to families and individuals in need to offering educational opportunities and resources for long-term stability. Our programs are built on love in action. Every volunteer hour, every donated item, and every dollar given helps transform lives and restore hope. Our Family Store plays a vital role in this mission, with proceeds directly supporting shelter operations and essential services. Volunteers work behind the scenes sorting donations, assisting shoppers, and creating welcoming spaces that make a real difference in our community.

None of this would be possible without the dedication of our supporters, partners, and volunteers who step up when help is needed most. Their generosity allows us to serve neighbors facing hardship and guide them toward brighter futures. Not only this month but every month, we invite everyone to join us in showing love through action—by volunteering, donating, shopping at our Family Store, or simply sharing our mission with others. Together, we are making the Coastal Bend stronger, with one act of kindness at a time.

COLD-WEATHER



During January's cold weather nights, The Salvation Army of the Coastal Bend partnered with the City of Corpus Christi to support vulnerable neighbors. Over five nights, we delivered coffee three times daily to the Del Mar College and Ben Garza Gym inclement weather shelters, distributing 71 five-gallon containers — 5,680 cups of coffee.

We also coordinated a plan to house up to 30 individuals in our fellowship hall with meals, snacks, and drinks. Though shelter space wasn't required, we were ready to respond. Together, we stood united to serve.

THE SALVATION ARMY OF THE COASTAL BEND

IN JANUARY,
WE PROVIDED:

1,949



Nights of Lodging

22



Average of children sheltered

2,636



2,276 Shelter Meals
360 Street Outreach

145



Food boxes distributed

100



Individuals received
Rent/Utility Assistance

GOING HOME



Home is a point of origin, our foundation, our roots of our identity, it is the anchor of our memories. Home is also a destination, a place that we long to return to - the place of safety, rest and comfort after a journey. Unfortunately, not everyone can return home after a long day.

At The Salvation Army our shelter provides temporary housing for families and individuals experiencing homelessness. Our primary purpose is to provide opportunities for those in our shelter to create a clear path toward permanent housing by actively participating in our housing programs.

Through consistent shelter, personalized case management, employment support, and housing navigation during 2025, many achieve life-changing results:

Clients moved from shelter to their own homes

40 families

totaling 199 people of which 75 are children

33 individuals

These numbers represent more than statistics; they represent renewed hope, restored dignity, and fresh beginnings. Every successful rehousing reflects the power of structured support, community partnerships, and compassionate guidance. Sense of stability is not just a short-term solution—it is the foundation for independence, self-sufficiency, and long-term success for the individuals and families we are honored to serve.

SUCCESS STORIES



Clint came to The Salvation Army after experiencing homelessness since 2021. He now works 30–35 hours a week at Taco Bell and is seeking additional employment, including an upcoming interview with Stripes. With shelter, case management, and encouragement, he is saving money and moving closer to securing his own apartment and moving to his next chapter in life.



Diana came to The Salvation Army after living in an uninsulated garage exposed to extreme temperatures. Today, she has a safe place to stay and access to supportive services. She now attends adult day care regularly and is saving her Social Security income while her basic needs are met—thanks to the care and shelter provided by The Salvation Army.



Josiah lost his grandmother and the home they shared, leaving him with nowhere to turn. When he found himself on the streets, he came to The Salvation Army, where he received warm meals, a safe bed, and compassionate support. Today, Josiah is working toward his shelter goals with renewed hope, he is grateful to donors helping him rebuild his life and get on track.



Raul and his four children came to The Salvation Army after an eviction. Raul cleared a traffic warrant, secured employment, obtained vital documents for his children, and overcame multiple obstacles. Through our Rapid Re-Housing Program, today, they are settled in their own apartment, grateful for a fresh start and equipped to move forward toward a brighter future.



Wendy faced homelessness after losing her mother while battling depression and unemployment. After beginning Social Security Disability Income, she moved into her own apartment. Recently, unexpected medical expenses threatened her water service—but with help from The Salvation Army's Homeless Prevention Program, Wendy was able to remain safely in her home.



Rene came to The Salvation Army seeking shelter after experiencing housing instability. Since entering the program, he has actively participated in case management and worked toward his goals each week. With upcoming employment through Goodwill Industries and continued support, Rene is taking meaningful steps toward stable housing and independence.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY RAISING FUNDS FOR PROGRAMS



THE SALVATION ARMY
OF THE COASTAL BEND
WOMEN'S AUXILIARY
PRESENTS:

WOMEN TO KNOW

March 26,
5:30 PM

Corpus Christi
Country Club
RSVP by 3/15

BUY TICKETS HERE



DONATE HERE



For more information, please contact Polly Harris at Polly@PollyHarrisIns.com.



The Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary of Corpus Christi is a group of women who support Salvation Army programs. The purpose of the Auxiliary is to raise public awareness of The Salvation Army in the Coastal Bend, to facilitate services to the needy, and to strengthen the financial base of the local Salvation Army.

This March 26 the Women's Auxiliary is presenting their "Women to Know" event—an evening dedicated to recognizing local women who make a meaningful impact across our region. This year, we are honored to spotlight two outstanding community leaders: Kylie Cooper, Chief Editor of Bend Magazine, and Barbi Leo, Co-Ancor of 3 News First Edition. Both women use their platforms to inform, inspire, and uplift our community, and we are proud to celebrate their contributions. Come to this great event and support those in need in our community.

CAIN SCHOLARSHIP FUND



The Salvation Army of the Coastal Bend is proud to offer the Cain Scholarship provided by J. Kelly & Nell Cain Trust. This opportunity is designed to support students from Nueces County with up to \$2,000 per year, as they pursue higher education and work toward a brighter future.

Last year, the Cain Scholarship Fund awarded scholarships to 10 deserving students from Nueces County—helping ease the financial burden of college, university, and vocational programs. This year, The Salvation Army has been receiving applications from January 26 to February

20, expanding access to educational support for even more local students. Education has the power to change lives, and it's an honor for The Salvation Army of the Coastal Bend to help build up our community by supporting the next generation of workers through the generous gift of the J. Kelly & Nell Cain Trust. If we can help students take one step closer to their goals through college assistance, then we're investing in a stronger future for everyone.

The Salvation Army and our community of donors can open doors to people in need in our community with programs and services to give them hope.