



Serving the Coastal
Bend since 1908

AMAZON DONATES 100 FANS FOR FRIENDS IN NEED IN OUR COMMUNITY

JUNE 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

THANK YOU!



MAJORS NATHANAEL & LUCILA DORIA
Corps Commanding Officers

We can hardly believe we are already approaching the midpoint of 2026. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, volunteers, and community partners, The Salvation Army of the Coastal Bend has continued providing hope, assistance, and essential services to those in need throughout our community.

These summer months bring challenges to our community that requires action and help from The Salvation Army. Once again, we sincerely thank our donors who give generously allowing us to continue to serve others during this time. God bless you!

SUMMER RELIEF



2025 FANS FOR FRIENDS DISTRIBUTION

As South Texas temperatures continue to rise, The Salvation Army of the Coastal Bend is asking for the community's support to help complete our annual Fans for Friends Fan Drive and provide relief to local families facing the summer heat. This year, our goal is to distribute 500 fans to individuals and families in need throughout the Coastal Bend. Thanks to the generosity of our community, we have already collected 380 fans, leaving us just 120 fans away from reaching our goal. Every fan donated helps provide comfort and relief to someone struggling to stay cool during the hottest months of the year.

In addition to fans, we are working to ensure that every household receiving a fan also receives a case of bottled water. To make this possible, we are currently seeking donations of 10 pallets of bottled water or \$2,000 in financial support to purchase the water needed for distribution. By donating a fan, bottled water, or making a financial contribution, you can help protect vulnerable members of our community from the dangers of extreme heat. Together, we can ensure that hundreds of local families have the resources they need to stay cool, hydrated, and safe this summer. These items provide immediate relief during these summer months. If interested to donate or learn more, call 361-910-2494 or email jonathan.gonzalez@uss.salvationarmy.org.

HOPE CENTER REPORT

Services provided during May, 2026

2,081



Nights of Lodging

21



Average of children sheltered

2,613



2,373 Shelter Meals
240 Street Outreach

122



Food boxes distributed

158



Individuals received
Rent/Utility Assistance

REHOUSING SUCCESS

2

families
and

3

singles
received rental
assistant through our
programs to secure
housing.

5

families and singles
have overcome
homelessness because
of your support!

With
your support
40 families/singles
have beat homelessness
in 2026

2026 REHOUSING SUMMARY	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Total
Families received rental assistance	2	1	3	8	2	16
Singles received rental assistance	0	2	2	4	3	11
Families saved funds to rent	0	0	1	1	0	2
Singles saved funds to rent	4	0	3	0	0	7
Families reunited with family	1	1	1	0	0	3
Singles reunited with family	0	0	0	1	0	1
	7	4	10	14	5	40

PREPARE!



JUNE 1 - NOV 30
**HURRICANE
SEASON**

Hurricane season is officially underway, and The Salvation Army is reminding our community that disaster preparedness is a year-round commitment. Along the Gulf Coast, severe weather can develop quickly, and we are called to step up together to ensure we are ready to respond when disaster strikes.

At The Salvation Army, volunteers are essential to our mission—often referred to as “the army behind The Army.” When emergencies occur, volunteers help meet immediate needs for survivors and first responders through food, hydration, and emotional support. We invite community members to get involved by becoming registered, trained Emergency Disaster Services volunteers, with free classes being offered. Opportunities include serving as local day volunteers or becoming credentialed disaster workers who may respond locally and across the country. As we enter hurricane season, now is the time to prepare, get trained, so we can be ready when our community needs us most. To learn more or get involved, please contact Jonathan Gonzalez at 361-910-2494 or Jonathan.Gonzalez@uss.salvationarmy.org.

SUCCESS STORIES



Linda lost her apartment after losing her primary job and falling behind on rent. Seeking help, she turned to The Salvation Army for support and shelter. Within three weeks, she secured employment as a housekeeper and has remained employed. Now, with income and rental assistance available, Linda is preparing to move into her own apartment and regain her independence.



Rosalio, a Navy veteran, came to The Salvation Army after losing family support and housing. Through the Veterans Program, he saved money, accessed housing resources, and worked toward independence. With support from HUD-VASH and The Salvation Army's case management team, he is now preparing to move into a home of his own. He is thankful for the support received.



Elizabeth came to The Salvation Army after losing her husband and finding herself without a safe place to stay. Through support from the shelter program, she secured housing in less than two months. When a recent job loss threatened that opportunity, rental assistance helped her remain housed. Elizabeth is now preparing to start a new job and move forward with confidence.



Richard came to The Salvation Army after the loss of his fiancé and a job loss left him homeless and living in his car. Through the shelter program, he received meals, support, and hope as he worked to rebuild his life. Richard is now employed part-time and actively pursuing full-time work and permanent housing. He continues to make progress toward a brighter future.



Joyce first came to The Salvation Army after losing her job and housing. Through the shelter and Rapid Rehousing Program, she found employment and stable housing. When financial hardship struck again, The Salvation Army's Homeless Prevention Program provided rental assistance, helping her remain in her home while seeking new employment.



Ron, a disabled Navy veteran, became homeless after a relationship breakdown left him without housing and financial struggles. At The Salvation Army, he received shelter, meals, and support. With help from case management and the Texas Veterans Commission Rapid Rehousing Program, Ron is now working toward permanent housing.



2026 NATIONAL DONUT DAY

The Salvation Army of the Coastal Bend celebrated National Donut Day on June 5th by delivering hundreds of donuts to local first responders, community partners, and organizations throughout the Coastal Bend. Staff and volunteers visited police departments, fire stations, emergency responders, and other community supporters to express appreciation for their dedication and service. We would like say thank you to H-E-B for donating the donuts for this event.

National Donut Day honors the legacy of The Salvation Army's Donut Lassies, who provided comfort and encouragement to soldiers during World War I. The day also served as an opportunity to thank the many businesses and organizations whose support helps The Salvation Army provide shelter, meals, emergency assistance, and other essential services to individuals and families in need. The Salvation Army extends its heartfelt gratitude to all who continue to strengthen and support our community throughout the year.