The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.

God often expects the “impossible” from His servants. Whether it be the call to help a struggling community or the demands to break the cycle of poverty, there is so much good that often seems beyond our reach.

Yet, this is where The Salvation Army thrives. We endeavor to push past the barriers of disbelief and embrace faith. That’s why The Salvation Army brings together individuals who take courage in knowing the Lord will make possible that which He has asked us to do.

As we look back at the previous year, we not only recognize these soldiers of service – our neighbors, our donors, ourselves – but we commend the minds and hands that continue to pave the way in recognizing and addressing human needs in every way possible. Whether in the providing of a meal or the leading someone out of addiction, The Salvation Army understands that all things are possible through God.

Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

- Matthew 19:26
Dear Salvation Army Friends,

I would like to share with you a quote from our founder, General William Booth. “God loves with a great love the man whose heart is bursting with a passion for the impossible.”

Since arriving in Houston, almost one year ago, we have been faced with many impossible situations. I gain strength from Jesus’s words in Matthew 19:26, “With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.”

Because of God’s power and guidance, The Salvation Army of Greater Houston is accomplishing what many think impossible. Through our dedicated Corps officers and staff, we are loving those thought unlovable. Through the passionate service of our volunteers, we are serving man, women and children, and offering them hope in hopeless situations.

I am honored to serve in a community that joins alongside us to accomplish the impossible! To honor our promise of Doing the Most Good. Every day, The Salvation Army is motivated by the love of God. We are living the gospel of Jesus Christ and we are meeting human needs, in His name, without discrimination.

Whatever challenges we face, I am confident that through God’s love, The Salvation Army of Greater Houston will continue to turn the impossible into the possible! We will continue to love others like Jesus loved us. We will be a light in a dark world. We will be a safe place for all who walk through our doors. We will give hope, help and respect to everyone... always.

You are helping us help others. You are making a difference. You have a “heart that is bursting with a passion for the impossible.” Together, we can impact our community in ways thought impossible! With overwhelming gratitude, I thank you!

To God be the glory!

Major Kent Davis
Area Commander

Dear Salvation Army Friends,

What a privilege it has been to serve as the Chair of the Advisory Board for the Greater Houston Area Command these past two years! Working alongside The Salvation Army officers, the Directors of our facilities and Boys & Girls Clubs, and the dedicated staff has enhanced my life in so many ways.

Last June, we welcomed Majors Kent and Melody Davis as our new Area Commanders, and their leadership and devotion to the Lord has inspired the entire command to continue Doing the Most Good at every opportunity.

This past year the Army has continued to serve our local community with Christmas assistance for over 22,000 children and seniors, our youth through the Boys & Girls Clubs, our homeless families through the Family Residence, and our veterans and many others who battle addiction through the Harbor Light Center, Adult Rehabilitation Center and Sally’s House.

Our Advisory Board was so proud of our Annual Luncheon Chairs, Vicki West and Kenneth Holbrook, and our Honorees, President and Mrs. George Herbert Walker Bush, as they raised funds for our programs. A special thank you to my fellow Advisory Board members on their continuing support and to our incredible staff.

A special salute to The Salvation Army Women’s Auxiliary on their recent success with the 2017 Reflections on Style Luncheon, Fashion Show and Chic Boutique. Chaired by Maureen Higdon, honoring Ann Bookout, and presided over by Nancy Wileston, the event set a new record and will provide funds necessary to improve our Corps facilities and better serve those who participate in our programs.

The Command is so thrilled to be dedicating The Wayne Bergstrom Center of Hope in Conroe and are grateful to the Bergstrom family for their dedication to providing a respite for the underserved in Montgomery County. Special thanks to Jim Wise, Conroe Capital Campaign Chairman, and our generous donors for making this dream a reality.

In closing, I would like to thank my husband, Thurmon, for partnering with me to make The Salvation Army a priority in our lives.

Blessings to all of you who support The Salvation Army.

Lilly Andress
Advisory Board Chair
Tristan has accomplished what his mom once thought impossible – he made a friend.

When he first came to The Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club, 9-year-old Tristan was unable to make eye contact or carry on a conversation.

Tristan has autism, and his mom knew that he would benefit from being socially active and engaged every day. “The Salvation Army has lifted his confidence. At the beginning of third grade he was non-verbal, but now he is talking about having friends and doesn’t want to leave the club.”

The Boys & Girls Club after-school program has given Tristan somewhere to belong, and has given his mom strength to carry on.

“I’m a single mom and both of my kids have autism. Without this program, I don’t know if I could handle all of this. The Salvation Army has been such a blessing. I’m so blessed.”

When we consider that one in four children in greater Houston live in poverty, effective change can seem impossible. What’s more alarming is that those children living in poverty for half their lives are 32 times more likely to remain in poverty. It is a destructive cycle that demands to be broken.

Thousands of children participate in The Salvation Army’s after-school programs, summer camps and college-readiness initiatives in six of greater Houston’s most at-risk communities.

Our programs aim to disrupt the cycle of poverty and enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. We help children develop a sense of confidence and self-reliance, and provide them with the skills they need to succeed in life.

Every day, these steps bring us closer to effectively breaking the cycle of intergenerational poverty. In every way, a brighter future seems possible.

“We’re going to see lives transformed for good. And to the glory of God.”

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Terrance has already achieved what many adults find impossible – pursuing his passion. While he is now a budding entrepreneur, four years ago he was homeless.

Terrance grew up in the Third Ward surrounded by addiction and abuse. Like many children in similar circumstances, Terrance became homeless at age 18.

But Terrance is resilient and was determined to attend college and maintain employment despite his homelessness. He came to YARC, where we helped him get an apartment, provided him with bus passes and offered him the support and guidance he needed to stay on track.

“Without The Salvation Army, my life wouldn’t be as fulfilling as it is today.”

Terrance has been able to merge his passions – helping people, pursuing his artistic ambitions and being an advocate for homeless young adults. He firmly believes that everything happens for a reason and the experiences he’s had have made him a better person. “I am able to understand people without judging them.”

“We are trying to accomplish the impossible – stopping chronic homelessness before it begins.

Through the Young Adult Resource Center, we are helping young adults experiencing homelessness break the cycle of crisis and vulnerability and transition down a path toward increased stability and, ultimately, self-sufficiency.

Our caring case managers help these young adults, most who have been in foster care, overcome barriers like unemployment, unstable housing and lack of education.

With time, with love and with determination, the path toward chronic homelessness will be reversed. What once seemed impossible for hundreds of young people will become a joyful reality.
Tenika was in a situation she felt was impossible to overcome. “I knew it was time to leave my husband when I saw my son hiding under a kitchen counter with a knife.” With nowhere to go, Tenika and her children lived out of their car until Child Protective Services took them away.

Tenika, desperate to get her children back, moved into a homeless shelter. With each passing day she felt her dream of a normal life slip further and further away. It was only when she was connected to a Salvation Army caseworker, that she felt hope for reuniting her family. However, having grown accustomed to shelter rules and structure, she was afraid of being off on her own.

“When I was told I finally had an apartment, I was scared. But when I turned the key and stepped into my new home, I knew I could do this.”

Today, Tenika is able to be the mom she longed to be. She tells her children every day that she loves them, she is here for them and she will protect them. “Their job now is to be children and have bright and wonderful futures.”

Thousands of individuals and families in our area are trapped in a cycle of crisis. As poverty is passed down from one generation to the next, a better way of life seems impossible.

Our programs are helping people overcome barriers like unemployment, unstable housing and lack of education. We work with them to create plans specific to their needs and goals. These plans set out a course of action to help them get training, further their education, obtain employment, budget their money and secure stable housing.

Once the plan is set into motion, we track progress every step of the way, always focused on hope, and making sure each client is moving toward the goal of self-sufficiency. As our clients build their ability to earn an income, pay bills, and save for the future, hope comes alive.

“We invite them to look beyond their past and embrace the hope that lies beyond.”
Jennifer Bayles thought her home would be okay. But then the creek behind her home in Bear Creek Village began to rise, and her home flooded around midnight. With three feet of water in the house, Jennifer and her husband escaped out a window and swam across their lawn to a boat in their garage. 14 hours later, they were rescued by the fire department.

While their lives were saved, their home was destroyed. They quickly set to work trying to salvage as much as they could. At times, it seemed impossible.

One day, about to fall over from exhaustion, Jennifer heard a loud horn honk. To her surprise, she saw The Salvation Army canteen. Volunteers, with smiles on their faces, were passing out sack lunches and water.

“The streets were still flooded when you came here. You were the first real assistance we saw. You braved the flood waters and gave us relief when we were exhausted. That felt like a miracle to me.”

Emergency Disaster Services

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“Disasters of incredible magnitude call for incredible generosity.”

atural disasters are difficult to plan for and impossible to prevent. When a natural disaster or sudden catastrophe causes personal chaos, The Salvation Army moves into action. We arrive swiftly, often minutes after the tragedy has occurred, to supply food, shelter and grief counseling to those affected by tragedy.

In 2016, The Salvation Army deployed three local canteens, plus canteens and food trucks from other parts of the state, to several neighborhoods affected by the Tax Day and Memorial Day Floods. The canteens are an important food source for victims and relief workers at the height of an emergency, and can serve about 2,000 people a day from a single unit.

By providing beverages, meals, and emotional and spiritual care to first responders and survivors, The Salvation Army strives to bring hope and healing to people who find themselves in the midst of extremely difficult situations.
The Rodriguez family is facing a diagnosis impossible to fathom. Antonio and Maria have attended The Salvation Army’s Prime Time Seniors program for the past 15 years and need the support and care more than ever due to Maria’s recent Alzheimer’s diagnosis.

Despite the difficult diagnosis, they plan to relish their time together by participating in daily activities and enjoying the fellowship of fellow attendees.

Their Prime Time Seniors family helps keep an eye on Maria and reassures her when she forgets where she is. While tougher times are ahead, Antonio and her family know that we are here to help them in any way we can.

“With no family nearby, it can be impossible for older adults to fend off loneliness and depression. However, we know that consistent human interaction can reduce dementia, depression and improve quality of life. At our Prime Time Seniors Programs, older adults can gather together to share interests, develop new skills and enjoy the company of their peers. They choose from a selection of educational and fitness classes, field trips and special events.

We also operate a Meals on Wheels program for homebound seniors and two residential facilities where we not only provide living quarters but also an atmosphere of love, acceptance and encouragement.

“She’ll get mad at me for not taking her to see her parents and I reply that I can’t because they live in heaven now.”

“It’s a blessing to see them grow from feeling helpless to feeling self-confident.”
The Salvation Army has successfully served the greater Houston area since 1889 by maintaining conservative financial policies, enabling us to meet human needs without discrimination. Doing the Most Good by reaching out to those in need in our community is our highest goal. Our pledge is to maintain the highest standards of financial accountability in order to continue to deserve your trust.
LEADERSHIP

OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE STAFF

AREA COMMAND
Major Kent Davis, Area Commander
Major Melody Davis, Associate Area Commander
Lisa Garza, CFRE, Development Director
Molly Murphy, Campmroller
David Snearce, Facilities Director

CORPS & COMMUNITY CENTERS
Major David Akins, Pasadena
Majors David & Louise Freese, northwest
Captains Regalio & Rebecca Galabue, Temple
Lts. Pheo & Shinyung Kang, International
Lts. Casen & Jennifer Phillips, Alldine Westfield
Majors Del & Helene Wildish, Conroe

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Gerald Eckart, MD, Director of Social Services
Gay McCurdy, Director, Sally’s House
Margot Durbin, Director, Harbor Light Center
Rafael Rodriguez, Manager, Housing and Homeless Services

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Larry Barnes, Branch Manager
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Mario Garcia, Branch Manager
Pasadena Boys & Girls Club
Tina Johnson, Director, Upright Bound
Deborah Mitchell, Branch Manager
Irving Boys & Girls Club
Michael St. Julian, Branch Manager
Northwest Boys & Girls Club

ADULT REHABILITATION CENTER
Majors Larry & Paulene DelBeery, Administrators

SENIOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING
Mary McElhannon, Director
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LOCATIONS

Area Command (Administrative Office) – 1500 Austin St., Houston, TX 77002 – (713) 752-0677
Young Adult Resource Center – 2403 Caroline St., Houston, TX 77002 – (713) 658-8205
Sally’s House – 1717 Congress, Houston, TX 77002 – (713) 223-8889
Harbor Light Center & Red Shield Lodge – 2407 North Main, Houston, TX 77009 – (713) 224-2875
Family Residence – 1603 McGowen, Houston, TX 77004 – (713) 650-6530
Adult Rehabilitation Center – 2118 Washington Ave., Houston, TX 77007 – (713) 869-3551
Temple Corps Community Center – 4516 Irvington Blvd., Houston, TX 77009 – (713) 692-0522
William Booth Garden Apartments – 808 Frawley, Houston, TX 77009 – (713) 692-4186
Aldine Westfield Corps Community Center – 2600 Aldine Westfield Rd., Houston, TX 77073 – (713) 695-3388
Garden City Boys & Girls Club – 9717 W. Montgomery, Houston, TX 77089 – (832) 201-8076
Upward Bound Program at Sharpstown High School – 7504 Bissonnet, Houston, TX 77074 – (281) 904-4878
Upward Bound Program at Wisdom High School – 6529 Beverly Hill St., Houston, TX 77057 – (281) 904-4878
International Corps Community Center – 7920 Cook Rd., Houston, TX 77072 – (713) 988-5201
Northwest Corps Community Center – 12507 Windfern Rd., Houston, TX 77064 – (832) 200-4620
Conroe Corps Community Center – 304 Avenue E, Conroe, TX 77301 – (936) 760-2440
Pasadena Corps Community Center – 2732 Cherrybrook Ln., Pasadena, TX 77502 – (713) 378-0020
Evangeline Booth Garden Apartments – 2627 Cherrybrook Ln., Pasadena, TX 77502 – (713) 920-8444
Social Services Fort Bend – 12300 Parc Crest Drive, Stafford, TX 77477 – (281) 207-2500