



DOING THE
MOST GOOD

What
We Do

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Ways
To Give

Love
Beyond

2023 Annual
Report

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OUR MISSION

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.

What do we do?



We meet human needs **without** discrimination.



We assist approximately **23 million** Americans annually



We have over **1.8 million** members consisting of officers, soldiers, and adherents



We serve in **134 countries** around the globe

THE HISTORY OF THE SALVATION ARMY

Soon after beginning his ministerial career in England in 1852, William Booth abandoned the concept of the traditional church pulpit in favor of taking the gospel of Jesus Christ directly to the people. Walking the streets of London, he preached to the poor, the homeless, the hungry, and the destitute.

When fellow clergymen disagreed with Booth's unconventional approach, he and his wife Catherine withdrew from the church to train evangelists throughout England. The couple returned to the East End of London in 1865, where many followers joined their fight for the souls of lost men and women. Within 10 years, their organization, operating under the name The Christian Mission, had over 1,000 volunteers and evangelists.

Thieves, prostitutes, gamblers, and drunkards were among their first converts to Christianity. And soon, those converts were also preaching and singing in the streets as living testimonies to the power of God.

When Booth read a printer's proof of the 1878 Christian Mission annual report, he noticed the statement, "The Christian Mission is a volunteer army." Crossing out the words "volunteer army," he penned in "Salvation Army." From those words came the basis of the foundation deed of The Salvation Army.

From that point onward, converts became soldiers of Christ and were known then, as now, as Salvationists. They launched an offensive throughout the British Isles that, in spite of violence and persecution, converted 250,000 Christians between 1881 and 1885. Their message spread rapidly, gaining a foothold in America and soon after Canada, Australia, France, Switzerland, India, South Africa, Iceland, and Germany.

Today, The Salvation Army is active in virtually every corner of the world and serves in 134 countries, offering the message of God's healing and hope to all those in need.

OUR FOUNDERS



William Booth



William Booth began The Salvation Army in 1865 as a means to help the suffering souls throughout London who were not willing to attend – or even welcomed into – a traditional church.

Thieves, prostitutes, gamblers, and drunkards were among his first converts to Christianity, and as his ministry grew, the gospel of Jesus Christ was spread far and wide to the poor, the vulnerable, and the destitute.

Though General Booth died in 1912, he laid a firm foundation for the lifesaving work that The Salvation Army continues to perform today in over 100 countries.



Catherine Booth



Evangeline Booth



*Joseph Garabed,
aka Joe the Turk*



Eliza Shirley



*George Scott
Railton*



After serving as the Booths' family secretary in London, George went on to establish The Salvation Army's presence in New York.

His talent for languages and love of travel also helped him pave the way for Salvationist work in France, Switzerland, Sweden, Germany, China, and Japan.

In addition to creating Army song books in Zulu and Dutch and beginning the Army and Navy League for Salvationist servicemen away from home, Railton founded the Prison Gate work for recently released prisoners.



*Samuel Logan
Brengle*



About the Red Kettle

Sharing is Caring is a long-standing motto that succinctly describes the partnership between The Salvation Army and the community, myriad of other services all year long.

[Learn More about the Red Kettle](#)



**General Lyndon Buckingham and
Commissioner Bronwyn Buckingham**

The General and Commissioner Buckingham for The Salvation Army International Headquarters.

[Read more](#)



**National Commander and National
Secretary for Program**

Commissioners Kenneth G. and Jolene K. Hodder are the National Commander and National Secretary for Program for The Salvation Army in the U.S.

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Salvation Army Officers

Operations of The Salvation Army are supervised by trained, commissioned officers. They proclaim the gospel and serve as administrators, teachers, social workers, counselors, youth leaders, and musicians.

[Read more](#)



Salvation Army Soldiers

The soldiers of The Salvation Army (wearing blue epaulets), the committed laity, are local citizens in communities throughout the U.S. who give allegiance to the doctrines and disciplines of the Army. There are approximately 450,000 soldiers in the United States.

[Read more](#)



National Advisory Board

Distinguished members of The Salvation Army's National Advisory Board are notable community leaders who voluntarily use their professional skills and knowledge to plan, advise, and generally assist The Salvation Army on issues of national significance.

[Read more](#)



Volunteers

From its inception, The Salvation Army has relied heavily on volunteers who support its programs. Often referred to as "the army behind The Army," volunteers play a crucial role The Salvation Army's ability to provide quality social services for the entire community.

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The Salvation Army Mission Statement

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