



The Salvation Army of Lee & Hendry Counties **PARTNERS *in* CARING**

Winter 2009



Dear Partner in Caring,

Your gifts, generosity, prayers, advocacy, and matchless dedication to the mission of The Salvation Army allowed us to once again touch thousands of lives right here in Lee and Hendry Counties.



Comprehensive programs and services allow us to assist the men, women, and families that come to us at their point of need. Every day, services like these allow individuals and families to reach towards their goals and a brighter tomorrow.

- nutritious meals • child care services • job training & employment placement
- shelter • life skills classes • housing placement assistance
- counseling • GED classes

Equally important to these services, we are able to give mothers, fathers, and children encouragement, and hope in addition to the tools and resources needed to make a change in their lives.

Although we have served many, there are still thousands more who need our services. In 2008, we saw a:

- 10% increase** in the number of meals served to the hungry
- 25% increase** in food assistance requests

On behalf of The Army and our neighbors in need, we thank you for your benevolence and ask you to prayerfully consider how you can continue to help us help others in this challenging and opportunity filled New Year.

May God bless you and yours,

Majors Art and Ann Penhale, Corps Officers

Repairing, Replacing and Recovering

Hundreds lost their homes after Tropical Storm Fay flooding and were clothed and placed into new homes thanks to your donations.

You dropped off clothes, towels, bedding and household items to The Army's disaster trailer. You gave of your time to sort and distribute basic necessities to hundreds of men, women and children who called the Estero Community Center home for months after the sheet flooding caused by Tropical Storm Fay in the fall of 2008.

Case managers from The Army, along side other Bonita agencies worked tirelessly to place each family who had lost their home into a new home, apartment, with friends or relatives or helped them relocate to another area. Your strong sense of community and generosity has impacted the lives of hundreds of people. For that, and so much more, we say *Thank You*.

Tropical Storm Fay donations to those in need

- 19,000 clothing items distributed onsite
- 1,500 service provisions to adults and children
- 48 volunteers assisting The Army's efforts
- 395 volunteer hours

New Faces+Working Hands=Great Place to Call Home

The "Edison House" on The Army's Social Services campus will get a major renovation in early spring from the Ace Hardware grant, New Faces for Helpful Places.



Rick, David and Patrick, current Crossroads clients, are among those who may soon call the Edison House home. Nearly forty men graduate from the program every year, turning away from their addiction to reintegrate into our community.

Graduates from Crossroads, The Army's six month residential, faith based drug and alcohol rehabilitation program, will have a new place to call home this spring thanks to Ace Hardware.

The Salvation Army, whose submission is featured to the right, was one of the ten recipients chosen from 2,600 entries nationwide. Plans are being solidified for a team of Ace volunteers along side of Army staff and clients to transform the house, formerly used as office space, into much needed transitional living housing for men who have turned their lives away from addiction.

Our Helpful Place

By Kristie N. Smith

Within my walls families are sheltered, fed, and given hope of a better tomorrow.

A place where people without a home, employment, or optimism find nutrients for the body and the soul.

Within my walls, mothers and fathers somberly walk through my doors toting young children and their possessions in plastic bags.

A place where those who are down-trodden are embraced, uplifted, and nurtured to break the cycles of poverty and addiction.

I am The Salvation Army, and just as I have rehabilitated many, the rooms that bring families together and my roof that provides them shelter needs renovations to continue restoring hope in those that need me the most.

Back on Track and Giving Back: Your gifts at work

"When I get back on my feet, I am going to be on the other end of this. I'm going to be the one giving back. I loved volunteering at the Christmas Cheer warehouse, I want to do more things like that."

Serena, Family Services Resident



I would like to be precise and tell you how The Salvation Army changed my life.

It made me aware of who I could be. It made me search for the hidden person that lives inside of me.

It gave me a chance to resolve my past. And confidence to know that my future can be a success if I only have faith in me.

*By Taffy,
Family Services Resident*

"This check is a small payment for all the help you gave to my mom when I was a little girl.

I was able to have new shoes for Holy Communion and Promotion Day in addition to helping us during other special occasions.

Thank you and God Bless all the poor people, like me, you help every day."

A thank you letter from Patrina



Visit us online at www.SalvationArmyLeeCounty.org to learn more about local programs and services in addition to our rewarding volunteer & giving opportunities.

Proud to be a



Another Great Christmas...Thanks to your support



We saw a 21% increase this year in the number of families asking for help. Nearly 20,000 men, women, & children were touched through your generosity.

2008 Christmas Report

Total kettle funds raised.....\$550,000
 Families Served.....4,543
60% had never asked for help before
 Total Individuals.....19,352
 Children Served.....9,941
 Gifts (toys, stockings, bikes).....38,381
 Food Bags to Families & Seniors.....6,461
 Gifts to Nursing Home Patients.....4,370
 Total Volunteer Hours.....10,156
 Total Volunteers.....2,508



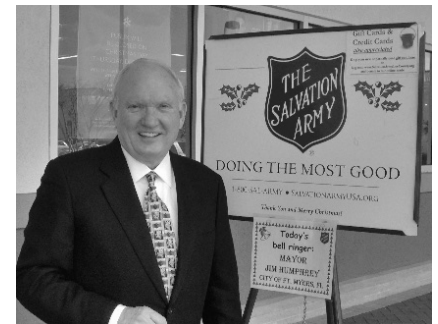
The First Christian Church children's choir helped ring in Christmas at the Kettle Kick Off in LaBelle.



Friends of The Salvation Army members "shop" for toys at the Christmas Cheer Toy Shop for hundreds of Bonita children.



Ida Baker High School Jr. ROTC collected hundreds of toys for kids in need.



Mayor Humphrey helped ring bells at the West First Publix downtown.



Santa & Mrs. Claus bring Christmas joy to children at our shelter.

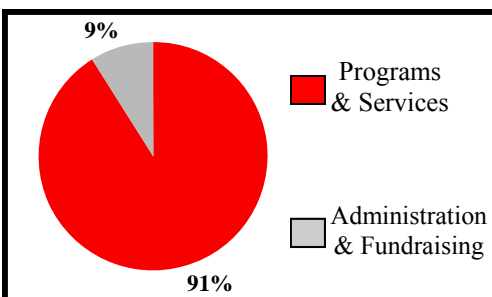
A special thank you to our following Christmas partners:

Sam Galloway Ford	The News-Press	Alltel
US Postal Service and Workers	Ft. Myers Toyota	The Edison Mall
VIP Bell Ringers	The Media	Turkey donors
Bay Pointe Community	Day of Caring	Angel Tree angels
Chris-Tel Construction	Indian Creek Park	Enterprise Rental
Friends of The Salvation Army	Bayside Estates	ABC 7
SWFL Community Foundation	Kettle Site Merchants	The United Way
US Marine Corps Reserve League	Toys for Tots Drive	

Christmas Kick Off Sponsor: Chico's Charities

Christmas Kettle Sponsors

Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Adams	Associates in Cosmetic Surgery
Mr. Charles J. Basinait	Charles and Kitty Green
College Parkway Health Center	Coral Lanes
Dr. & Mrs. James H. Taylor	Fort Myers Prescription Shop
Fort Myers RV Park Church	Gravina, Smith & Matte
Mr. & Mrs. Sam Galloway, Jr.	Johnson Engineering
Montclair Communications	Oswald Trippe & Company
Seminole Gulf Railway	Key Lime Bistro/ Sunshine Seafood
Tarpon Point Associates, LLC	



Locally, 91 cents of every dollar goes directly to programs & services



The Salvation Army
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“Seeing Double” at your mailbox?

If you receive duplicate mailings from The Salvation Army, please give us a call. We apologize if you are experiencing this problem, and we want to be good stewards of Army resources. Please call (239) 278-1551 x 210 to help us stop unwanted mail.



Service in action: Easy ways to get involved

DONATE YOUR CAR, TRUCK OR TRAILER. We accept cars of all types, from classics to clunkers...**drive it in or we'll tow it in.** Spring and fall vehicle auctions—Get a great vehicle without dealership hassles. Put someone on the road to recovery, call **337-0956**.

SPRING CLEANING? We can help...Drop off clothing, furniture, appliances, tools & household items to our Family Stores or **call 337-0955 for a bulk pick up.**

VOLUNTEER...CHANGE A LIFE. Help feed the hungry during *Meals with Compassion*. Tutor or read to the children in the shelter.

Learn more at **volunteer orientations**: Tuesdays at 9am & Thursdays at 3:30pm.
 Contact Kris at 278-1551 or Kristen_Volpone@uss.salvationarmy.org.

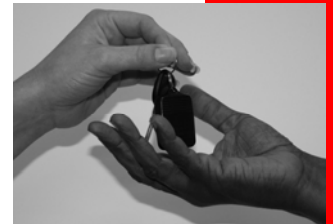
HELP FEED THE HUNGRY...DONATE TO THE FOOD PANTRY.

In 2008, **33,400 food bags** were given to hungry people in our community.
 This is a 25% increase over the previous year.

Anything you put in your pantry, we put in ours. Help us restock with:

- ◆ canned vegetables ◆ peanut butter ◆ rice & beans ◆ diapers & wipes
- ◆ canned meats ◆ pastas ◆ pasta sauces ◆ hygiene items

Drop items off at our Social Services Campus—2400 Edison Avenue.



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