



2012 IN REVIEW: REFUGE

“You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in their distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat.”

– Isaiah 25:4

In troubled times, we seek refuge – an escape from the world that’s crashing down around us, a sanctuary from our sufferings, a haven of strength and healing. And for millions of men, women, and children throughout the country, that refuge is The Salvation Army.

Altogether, The Salvation Army served more than 30 million Americans in 2012, all thanks to the generosity of our donors.

Across the country, The Salvation Army was a Refuge of Comfort for homeless families, a Refuge of Encouragement for students in after-school programs, a Refuge of Renewal for those in the grip of addiction, and a Refuge of Love for inner-city youth experiencing the joys of summer camp for the first time.

The needs this year were just as numerous and diverse as the people served. But The Salvation Army is unique in that it meets people right where they are, helping them overcome their specific hardships.

A REFUGE OF HOPE

One glance at the news tells a sobering story. Millions are living in poverty. Unemployment is preventing families from putting food on their tables. And a disregard for the sanctity of life is resulting in senseless violence.

But in the midst of it all, The Salvation Army provides hope – hope that comes from a deep faith in God and an unquenchable desire to do His will by serving others.

That hope was in high demand over the past year as numerous disasters shook communities throughout the country. But because The Salvation Army was already embedded in those communities, help was there the moment disaster struck.



In the aftermath of the deadly tornado in Moore, Oklahoma, The Salvation Army was there with canteens and volunteers. We were there for the survivors and rescue workers when a massive fertilizer plant explosion devastated West, Texas. And we're still serving the communities hit by Hurricane Sandy – proving that we're not only there from the beginning but for the long term, rebuilding lives one day at a time.

A REFUGE OF STRENGTH

While the work throughout the United States is extensive, The Salvation Army has also been helping those in need far beyond our borders. The Salvation Army World Services Office (SAWSO) is active across the globe, not just meeting needs, but strengthening communities – teaching vital skills, organizing leaders, and implementing programs that help communities around the world help themselves.



Through SAWSO, we are leading efforts to eradicate polio in Angola, increasing literacy and financial education in Kenya, and helping the people of Haiti strategically conserve and use their natural resources for the good of future generations.

Our promise of Doing the Most Good is one without boundaries – whether it comes from serving in our own neighborhoods or in a village half a world away.

A REFUGE OF FORESIGHT

In everything we do, we're building toward the future – whether we're pouring into children's education, creating new community development programs, or launching new apps to make the donating process easier. Our mission is to be firm in our foundations while adapting to and taking advantage of the changing world around us. All in an effort to help others.

We are seeing progress every day, through the efforts of dedicated volunteers and employees, and through the heartfelt giving of our supporters. Thanks to you, we have been blessed to provide a refuge for those who need it so desperately.

Most of all, we are thankful that our efforts have been blessed by God, who has always been, and will always be, our Refuge.

Through His grace, we are changing hearts. Through His love, we are healing lives. And through His mercy, we will continue Doing the Most Good.