

INSIDE ISSUE

S A L V A T I O N A R M Y

when **Disasters** strike

First on the scene

Disasters do not discriminate. They don't care about who you are, where you live or what's in your bank account. They spread their devastation even-handedly, attacking all within their paths. But there are two factors common to all disasters — people are suffering and in need, and The Salvation Army is on the scene to ease the pain and rebuild lives and communities.

It doesn't matter where. The Salvation Army usually is the first to respond because we are already there, meeting the needs of those in the stricken communities on a daily basis for years. They are our neighbors and our friends. When the horrendous earthquake struck Haiti, we were first to bring comfort and help because we have been there since 1950 helping people on that devastated island. When the tsunami swept across southeast Asia we were on the scene as we have been for more than 100 years.



Last to leave

No matter when, no matter where, The Salvation Army is there aiding first responders and victims. And we stay long after the initial disaster to provide much needed recovery and rebuilding assistance. The major disasters are well-known: Katrina, 9-11, Haiti and Chile. But disasters also strike virtually yearly here in our own backyard — flooding and tornados throughout the Midwest, in Plainfield, IL, flooding along the Mississippi and DesPlaines Rivers, and even in Chicago's Albany Park community.

The Army is well-known for being the first to arrive and last to leave, and for bringing compassionate care, comfort, kindness, hope and love to those in need of a helping hand.



DOING
THE MOST
GOOD™

Action and Compassion



DOING THE MOST GOOD™

The Asian Tsunami

We have served the affected countries for more than a century. Though many of our facilities were damaged and our people victims themselves, we began immediate care and ministry to the tens of thousands in so much pain and need. In fact, we continue to be a major force in recovery and rebuilding efforts.

Chicago-area Flooding

In 2008, as flood waters surged throughout the area, The Salvation Army provided almost 35,000 meals and distributed more than 5,000 clean-up kits to victims and emergency responders. Volunteer clean-up crews were mobilized to help the elderly.

Hurricane Katrina

The Army launched one of the largest disaster relief efforts in its history. More than 600 Salvation Army personnel were deployed to the Gulf Coast and helped provide assistance to more than 1.7 million individuals, and over 14 million meals and snacks were provided. In Chicago, the Army provided direct assistance to almost 4,000 Gulf Coast evacuees — and we're still on the scene bringing help.

Haiti

From the very moment the ground shook, The Salvation Army rushed into action. First mounting a rescue effort and then into meeting immediate needs such as food, water and medical attention. Then the Army began its long-term recovery services — providing shelter and opportunity to help Haitians return to a level of self-sufficiency. As it has since 1950, the Army will remain there to help those in need through its schools, clinics, hospital, children's homes and feeding programs at its 60 Corps Community Centers on the island.



When disasters become personal

Smaller-scale disasters — such as house, office and apartment building fires — are no less devastating to those affected. The Army's relief services provide shelter, sustenance, counseling and solace to individuals and families throughout Chicagoland who are victims of these very personal disasters. In addition, through our fast-response Rehabilitation Units, we serve and support the first responders who help them. We are on call 365 days a year to respond to Chicagoarea fire departments' requests for assistance.

To learn more about The Salvation Army's programs and services and how you can help to support our efforts, please visit our website at www.salarmychicago.org.

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