

The Salvation Army Assisting Tornado Survivors Following Rash of Storms across Midwest and Central U.S.

Chicago Area Residents Who Wish to Assist Tornado Victims Can Make a Donation at www.salarmychicago.org

May 24, 2011 (Chicago) – Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services (EDS) Teams from throughout the Central United States deployed last weekend and have been conducting relief efforts to victims in the disaster-ridden areas in response to a rash of destructive and deadly tornados.

Beginning with the devastating tornado last Saturday night in Reading, Kansas, severe tornados have touched down in LaCrosse, Wis; Minneapolis, Minn.; and Joplin, Mo. Salvation Army relief workers are providing financial aid to tornado victims to help with immediate needs such as shelter, food, clothing, medicine and baby care products. They are also operating mass feeding operations, providing meals and cold drinks to tornado survivors, as well as emergency workers and volunteers.

“The biggest need in these disaster stricken areas is for financial donations,” said Lt. Col. Ralph Bukiewicz, Divisional Commander of the Metropolitan Division of The Salvation Army. “Some relief efforts have been overwhelmed with unsolicited material donations that may not meet the needs of disaster survivors. Many Chicagoans have friends and relatives in these hard-hit areas, from LaCrosse to Minneapolis to Joplin. Your support will support the efforts of Salvation Army teams from throughout the Midwest who have been deployed to assist survivors with basic necessities and help them on the road to recovery.”

Chicago area residents who wish to help, can go to www.salarmychicago.org, click Donate and designate their gift to tornado disaster relief efforts. One hundred percent of your gift will go directly to those affected by these disasters. For more information about Salvation Army Disaster Relief Efforts, call 1-800-SAL-ARMY (1-800-825-2769).

About The Salvation Army:

The Salvation Army, an evangelical part of the universal Christian church, has been supporting those in need in His name without discrimination since 1865. Nearly 30 million Americans receive assistance from The Salvation Army each year through the broadest array of social services that range from providing food for the hungry, relief for disaster victims, assistance for the disabled, outreach to the elderly and ill, clothing and shelter to the homeless and opportunities for underprivileged children. About 83 cents of every dollar raised is used to support those services in nearly 5,000 communities nationwide.

###