



MEDIA ADVISORY

The Salvation Army Metropolitan Division • 5040 N. Pulaski Road • Chicago, IL 60630

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE SALVATION ARMY TO HOLD DEDICATION AND RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY FOR EXPANDED JOLIET AND WILL COUNTY CORPS COMMUNITY CENTER

*Local Families, Elected Officials and Will County Civic Leaders
Will Celebrate and Tour the New Facility*

WHAT: The Salvation Army will hold a **Dedication and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony** for the newly expanded **Joliet and Will County Corps Community Center** on the East Side of Joliet. In response to the growing population of Will County, one of the fastest growing counties in the country, The Salvation Army, with the support of a local volunteer capital campaign committee, has quadrupled the size of its community center; expanded to 28,000-square-feet; and added a high-school-regulation-size **gymnasium, computer lab, teen center** and a permanent space for an **Emergency Disaster Services mobile canteen**.

Local families will join **Salvation Army leadership, elected officials, donors** and **major Will County civic leaders** to take part in the formal dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony, tour the new building and speak about the impact the new community center will make on their lives. The Community Center will have something for every member of the family, including social services, ESL courses, computer classes, senior programs and more. The Center promises to be a **safe haven** for youth attending several nearby schools by providing recreational, creative and educational opportunities after school.

WHEN: **Saturday, September 10, 2011**
10 a.m. Program
11 a.m. – noon - Reception and Building Tours

WHERE: **300 East Third Ave., Joliet, Illinois**

WHO: Lts. Daniel and Claudia Simmons, Corps Officers, Joliet and Will County Corps Community Center
Ralph Bias, Chair, Joliet Corps Advisory Board
Terry Morris, Councilman, District 5, Joliet
Mike Turk, At-Large City Councilman, Joliet
Lt. Cols. Ralph and Susan Bukiewicz, Metropolitan Divisional Leaders, The Salvation Army
Commissioners Paul R. and Carol Seiler, Central Territorial Leaders, The Salvation Army
Local families and neighbors

BACKGROUND: 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.

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