

Together

Making a Difference



Giving
Hope
Today

Christmas 2018

A Message from Our Captain:

Warm greetings to you all! I sit today in early October, with the sun shining; the grass green and I cannot believe that the stores are filling up with Christmas displays already.



We have much to celebrate in Canada. We are a great nation, with many resources and opportunities, along with a wonderful and rich diversity. However, we still know families who face tough times and great need, despite it all. The challenge I wrestle with, is how do we live lives of thanksgiving and still look outside our own lives to those who are marginalized and struggling?

Over the year, I have had opportunity to connect with individuals and families who are struggling at The Salvation Army Centre

of Hope and they are so grateful for the support they have received from our dedicated staff, volunteers and resources. These lives have been changed through provisions of food, clothing, a shower or a roof over their head; as well as, a listening ear, an encouraging voice, and a helpful advocate. Each life we interact with at The Salvation Army is unique and important, and we desire each one to be changed from desperation to hope, so that we can celebrate people's victories and positively impact generations to come.

I have also had opportunity to meet with some of our supporters who humbly and generously give to the work of The Salvation Army here in Abbotsford. It is through the support of our donors that we are able to continue to give hope and see lives changed. I have been privileged to hear personal stories from donors who experienced tough times in the past and The Salvation Army was there for them, and now they are able to give back to others who find themselves in need today. It reminds me of how my father-in-law said love is spelled: OTHERS.

During this Christmas Season, may we all reflect and be thankful for what we have and be willing to share what we can with OTHERS. Like the woman in the gospel of Mark: *"a poor widow who gave two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.... and Jesus said, Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on."* (Mark 12:41-44) May each of us consider our individual wealth, give generously and change a life forever!

Thank you in advance for your giving hearts. Merry Christmas to you and yours, and we pray 2019 will be one of great blessing, as we continue to reach out and give hope to OTHERS!

Captain Mark Dunstan | Corps Officer/Pastor
The Salvation Army Cascade Community Church and Ministries.

2018 STATS

Nutritious Meals Served: 125,000
People assisted through drop in: 12,000
Shelter bed nights provided: 9,965
Emergency food hampers: 484
People found housing: 37
Referrals to detox, treatment, recovery & transition programs: 146
Kids attend Camp Sunrise: 48
School supported through the Pantry34 Program: 21
Supported Independent Residents (SIL): 23
of Volunteers: 146
of Volunteer Hours: 19,424 x \$12.65/hour (minimum wage) = \$245,714.



The Salvation Army exists to share the
love of Jesus Christ.

meet human needs and be a transforming influence in the communities of our world.

YOUR
DONATIONS
WILL BLESS MANY
THIS SEASON
please give
generously



THE SALVATION ARMY CENTRE OF HOPE

34081 Gladys Avenue, Abbotsford, BC V2S 2E8 • 604 852 9305



Like us at The
Salvation Army Centre
of Hope - Abbotsford



Follow us
@abbysallyann



Follow us
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Community Partners:

Clearbrook
Kiwanis
Club



The members of the *Clearbrook Kiwanis Club* are dedicated to building community and improving lives by providing opportunities for service, fellowship, leadership,

and philanthropy. Like The Salvation Army, Kiwanis members work to be a transforming influence in our community and the world.

For a number of years, the *Clearbrook Kiwanis Club* has made it a goal to encourage and foster teamwork and partnerships with others in the community. We appreciate the opportunity to assist The Salvation Army by volunteering to serve lunch at The Centre of Hope one day each month and by supporting the Pantry34 program through the delivery of food to schools each week. We look forward to participating at the Christmas banquet and taking time to support the Christmas Kettle Campaign and the Angel Tree each year. For a number of years, our club has also been pleased to provide financial support for children to attend The Salvation

Army's Camp Sunrise.

A main goal of the *Clearbrook Kiwanis Club* is to support and encourage literacy in schools and in the community by sponsoring literacy programs at a variety of schools in our district. Annually in September, we host a literacy event at Mill Lake Park. This year, we were pleased to have the assistance of Salvation Army volunteers to prepare and serve lunch to children and other family members. We are proud of the strong partnership that exists with The Salvation Army and we look forward to continuing to developing it as we reach out to students in schools and others in the community.





Giving
Hope
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Santa Shuffle

Fun Run & Elf Walk



5K Fun Run & 1K Elf Walk!

Lace up your running shoes and join us for a day of family fun to raise money for local Salvation Army initiatives.

DEPART ARRIVEE
START FINISH

Saturday, December 1, 2018 @ 10 am

Abbotsford, BC
Jane & Gerry Swan Track /Rotary Stadium
32470 Haida Drive – Abbotsford Exhibition Park
Start Time: 10 A.M for 5K & 1K
For information, call: 604-308-1135
www.facebook.com/abbotsfordsantashuffle/
Register online at
SantaShuffle.ca

Stay up to date

@SantaShuffle





RunningRoom.com



SalvationArmy.ca

2018 Christmas Kettle Kick Off Event



Join us on Friday, November 30th at 7:00 pm at the MSA Arena for the Official Abbotsford Kick-off to Christmas event

featuring a performance by the Cascade Community Brass Band, the Canadian Linen Food Drive and a great hockey game between the Abbotsford Pilots & the Langley Trappers.



“I want everyone to know the miracle that happened to me”

Hello, my name is Darshan. I am 57 years old and I have been drinking for about 40 years. Everyone in my family is an alcoholic. In short, after 40 years I had hit my rock bottom. I had lost everything - jobs, wife, family, house, apartment, cars, trucks and most importantly my faith.

In the past, I used to say the Lord's prayer and now I was saying "God why are you not helping me, obviously there is no God."



I was full of self-pity and depression. I had no reason to live and attempted suicide twice. The first time I tried to hang myself and the second time I drank 2 litres of bleach. I found it weird that neither worked. I did not realize that God was with me all along. Like in the poem 'Footprints' He was actually carrying me.

All of a sudden, things changed for me. With nowhere to go - I went to the Kamloops shelter. Then I decided to go

to Kinghaven Treatment Centre in Abbotsford because it had the shortest waiting list. After finishing my program I was accepted into The Salvation Army's Supportive Independent Living program in Abbotsford. Many people told me not to go to The Salvation Army because there was too many drugs and alcohol. I didn't listen to them because I wanted to try to help even one person.

While I was in Kamloops, even though I was still drinking, I used to volunteer at The Salvation Army for their Kettle Campaign and attend Sunday services once or twice. I have always liked The Salvation Army because they do so much for the community - and look where I was.

When I walked through the doors of The Salvation Army - Centre of Hope in Abbotsford I finally realized that God was with me all of the time. God had saved me. I now attend church, prayer and group meetings, recreational activities and I volunteer in the kitchen at the Centre of Hope.

Becoming a believer, seriously was the only thing that gave me a new life. God had removed my obsession when all other methods had failed. Why hadn't I died? I was taken out of darkness and into the light.

I am here to shed the light to others. It is a miracle - thanks be to God and The Salvation Army. If you reach out to God, He will help you as He did for me, a hopeless suicidal drunk.

May God Bless You All.

Darshan

The first Salvation Army kettle in Newfoundland

One of the enduring symbols of Christmas is the Salvation Army kettle. Salvationists and friends stand at strategic shopping locations inviting the public to drop a few coins in their "kettles" with the monies realized going to the poor.

The kettle first appeared on the streets of San Francisco, California, USA in 1891 brainchild of Captain Joseph McFee, the kettles were used in a campaign to raise funds for a shelter in the waterfront district.

He remembered, during his earlier days in Liverpool, England, seeing a large kettle where passengers of boats that docked nearby were able to toss coins to help the poor.

Captain McFee suspended a large cooking pot from a tripod and placed a sign above it that read: ***"Keep the pot boiling"***. Shortly thereafter, Christmas kettles began appearing in communities across the United States and are now an indispensable part of the holiday season.

In Newfoundland the Salvation Army has been firmly established since the first meeting of the Army on September 3, 1885 at the Methodist Church in Portugal Cove.

In late January of 1886 a group of four female officers arrived in St. John's, soon followed by a District Officer, Arthur Young. This initial group of Salvationists established the first corps in Newfoundland on Springdale Street in St. John's. They held outdoor meetings at the Parade Ground, and marched with their followers through the streets making as much noise as possible. Within two months, the Salvation Army in St. John's had 200 soldiers.

It was the Christmas of 1906 that the first kettle was introduced into Newfoundland. The kettle was suspended on a tripod in front of No. 1 Citadel on New Gower Street, St. John's.



Photo Credit: The Rooms Provincial Archives: A 51-65. Salvation Army Christmas 1906 in front of No. 1 Citadel on New Gower Street, St. John's, the first occasion of Salvation Army using collecting kettles at St. John's.

An Ontario family connects with Family Services at The Centre of Hope

Elizabeth contacted The Salvation Army – Centre of Hope in August from Ottawa, Ontario. She was seeking assistance for her family of 10 who would soon be moving to Abbotsford.

She connected with Randy at Family Services upon arrival and he was able to assist in securing housing for them within a few days. He also arranged for furniture, household items and a large food hamper.

They were also in need of advocacy to connect them with Income Assistance. Deb, the Income Assistance worker, was able to expedite their application and secure beds for them through the WRAGS program.

We were able to deliver the household items the day they moved in. A few days later, we were also able to bless them with some dressers and other items that they had not been expecting. When we delivered them they were overjoyed. They had just been praying that somehow they would be provided with other much needed items for their home - and minutes later Randy and Derrick knocked on the door with the delivery.

It is wonderful how the Lord provided for their needs all so quickly.

We are so honoured to be able to assist families throughout the year.

If you know of a family that needs assistance please connect them to us through Family Services: 604.852.9305 Ext. 199.



YOU CAN INSPIRE HOPE AND TRANSFORM LIVES THROUGH THE POWER OF VOLUNTEERING.

As a volunteer, you have the opportunity to make a lasting impact. For more than 100 years we've counted on volunteers to support the work of The Salvation Army in communities all over the world. Whether it's by serving a meal, standing beside a Christmas kettle or stocking shelves at a food bank, you can be part of the meaningful work that continues to help change lives.

146 volunteers support the work at The Salvation Army – Centre of Hope in Abbotsford throughout the year. They work in the meal centre, thrift store, emergency food bank, adult day program and shelter.

Ready to get involved this Holiday Season?

There are many opportunities to volunteer in Abbotsford and Mission during the Christmas Kettle Campaign. Contact Colleen – Kettle Coordinator at 604.309.0660 or kettles@sacascade.ca.

"I like interacting with the staff, volunteers and street people, hearing the different stories. I like the times of one on one. Seeing the smiles knowing you've helped someone to have a better day, life. Being able to talk about the Lord – is the greatest pleasure of all and knowing there is hope in what appears to be a hopeless situation." Geri – volunteer in the Café at The Centre of Hope



Volunteers Needed

Our Christmas Kettle Campaign is coming soon

Are you looking for a rewarding experience this Holiday Season?

Become a Christmas Kettle volunteer—it's a great way to give back to your community.

- Flexible shifts with no long-term commitment
- You pick your hours and your days
- Do it with a friend, family members or co-workers
- Easy, fun and rewarding

For more information call: Colleen-604.309.0660

www.centreofhope.net
Others...our Calling, our Motivation, our Commitment