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International
Development
AUSTRALIA

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2024



For six months I trained, and I faced plenty of pain in my body, but God is with me ... Thank you to all of Australia for all your love for us and everything you provide for us.”

— Michael

Participant of the Youth Mentoring Program you empowered through the 2023 Christmas Day Offering Appeal.

CHRISTMAS DAY OFFERING | See Page 3.

*Thank
you!*



PARTNERING FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Thank you for your generous contribution to humanitarian and community development worldwide. Your prayers and gifts are transforming the lives of individuals, families and groups, but also, through the 'ripple effect,' they're impacting entire communities.

I am privileged to serve as the new head of Salvation Army International Development (SAID). I want to sincerely thank Major Judith Soeters for her valuable contribution and service during her time in the role.

As a Salvos officer for 30 years, having served in various social and community services, I am excited to partner with you through SAID, to provide social and economic infrastructure for low-income communities, as well as spiritual support through connection to local Salvation Army corps.

I hope you enjoy reading this snapshot of the work of SAID. Your support truly empowers people in vulnerable situations to thrive socially, economically and spiritually. May God bless you.

Major Jenny Begent
Head of Salvation Army International Development

Thank you Major Judith Soeters for your service!



Jesrael, pictured in orange, with other SiKaP beneficiaries.

“And walk continually in love [that is, value one another – practice empathy and compassion, unselfishly seeking the best for others], just as Christ also loved you and gave himself up for us, an offering and sacrifice to God [slain for you, so that it became] a sweet fragrance.”

Ephesians 5:2, Amplified Bible

Empowering families, transforming futures Sponsorship Isang Kaagapay Program

Through your generous support, the Sponsorship Isang Kaagapay Program (SiKaP) in the Philippines is transforming lives. The program's strength lies in its holistic approach, providing quality education and training to children while economically empowering their families.

Children benefit from education, tutoring and counselling, while their families receive training in income-generating initiatives, money management and small business skills. This multi-care model is changing the destiny of children, their families and their communities.

JESRAEL'S PATH TO FUTURE SUCCESS

Jesrael, a dedicated 16-year-old student, excels at school and dreams of a career in teaching, law or social work. Through SiKaP, his family received training to boost their income, enabling them to open a small shop selling medicines and other goods. This venture supports Jesrael's educational expenses. His father

also benefited from The Salvation Army support during his childhood, continuing a legacy of care.

ABEL'S RESILIENCE IN OVERCOMING ADVERSITY

Eighteen-year-old Abel was raised by his grandmother, and later his aunt, due to his parents' separation. His aunt struggled with emotional distress from marital issues and managing their small store. SiKaP provided additional counselling for Abel's aunt, helping her cope and better manage their livelihood project, ensuring Abel receives financial support for his education.

The word Kaagapay in Filipino/Tagalog means to stand alongside someone in times of distress or challenging times. Your support is crucial in sustaining this transformative work. Together, we can stand and work together to empower more families and secure brighter futures for children in the Philippines.



Left: Preparing to run.
Above: Proudly wearing their medals.
Below: Visiting the Gold Coast Temple..



Christmas Day Offering

Transforming the lives of future PNG leaders

Thanks to your generous support, over \$200,000 was raised through the 2023 Christmas Day Offering Appeal, enabling a group of emerging young leaders from Papua New Guinea (PNG) to develop leadership skills through a unique international experience.

The Hope and a Future project is a road marathon training program that emphasises four pillars: faith, fitness, education and leadership. The group participants are supported by mentors within the Australian Salvation Army and the training culminates in the group travelling to Australia to run the 42.2 kilometre Gold Coast Marathon with their mentors.

The Salvation Army Australia Territorial Commander, Commissioner Miriam Gluyas, who helped initiate the program, says it “means the world

to the young people.” It provides them not only the satisfaction of running a marathon but also access to education, leadership development and spiritual growth.

“The Gold Coast Marathon is one of the most inspiring weekends of my year,” she says. **“Thank you to everyone who contributed, allowing the Hope and a Future project to continue.** Hearing the stories of these young people, their hardships, faith and joy, moves me to tears every time.

“Every participant completed the marathon, all will receive an education, our IT department provided each of them with a reconditioned laptop, they will all be developed as leaders and their spirituality is just beautiful. I couldn’t be prouder! Well done The Salvation Army Australia. Well done PNG.”

“For six months I trained, and I faced plenty of pain in my body, but God is with me. That is why I am here. With God, it’s not hard. It’s not impossible. Thank you, God, for helping me run the 42.2km. I did not feel any pain. I just ran smooth, and I ran fast. Thank you to all of Australia here for all your love for us and everything you provide for us. God bless you.”

— Michael, participant of the youth mentoring program you empowered through the 2023 Christmas Day Offering Appeal.



Safe, potable water is transforming health in communities.

Fresh water brings health, hope and harmony in Malawi

Many villagers in Malawi face numerous challenges, such as fear of attack, conflicts, and school absences, as they are forced to travel long distances to obtain clean water. These hardships disproportionately affect women and girls, who typically bear the responsibility for water collection.

In one village in Malawi, more than 300 villagers had faced severe challenges accessing safe drinking water.

Due to the long walk to find limited fresh water and conflicts around long queues, some households had resorted to drawing water from the nearby river, which was infected with waterborne diseases including dysentery and cholera. These diseases meant continual illness, resulting in lost farming time, leading to even greater food insecurity.

Thanks to your support, the installation of a borehole through the Karonga Integrated Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (KiWASH) Program has transformed lives.

The village is one of a number in Northern Malawi to have benefited from the program.

With access to clean water, improved sanitation, increased food security, and increased education around sustainable farming through KiWASH, many individuals, families, and communities are now thriving.

Fourteen-year-old Victoria no longer misses school due to water-related health issues or having to walk long distances to collect water. "I used to be punished for being late before the borehole was installed by The Salvation Army. Now, I am a star at school," Victoria says with a smile.

Victoria's mother, Beatrice, recalls that she and others felt unsafe walking to find water.

She says, "I used to walk [a long distance] ... in search of water. This was terrible as it affected my marriage [because I was away from home] and my health, and on top of that, I was exposed to exploitation and abuse from other men as I used to go outside my compound before sunset in search of water."

She adds, "I no longer walk long distances, and we are safe from water-related diseases. **Thank you, Salvation Army, for providing safe drinking water to our village.**"

Thank you, Salvation Army, for providing safe drinking water to our village."

— Victoria

Can now attend school instead of collecting water.

You have helped me care for others

Editor's story

Sixteen-year-old Editor, from Uganda, hopes one day to become a journalist. She recently wrote to thank organisers of a Salvation Army children's rights club for the training and information she received.

Because of the things she learned, Editor recently found courage to help a young girl who was stranded as night was falling. The girl was all alone, standing at a bus stop in an area that is known to be very dangerous at night. The girl could not remember the address of her grandmother's house.

My sincere thanks to The Salvation Army for bringing us this wonderful project that has bridged the gap between parents and their children, family love, care and support and also the children have learnt their rights and roles.

Editor wrote: "I took her to the area chairperson where she spent a night. The following day the chairperson put [an] announcement on local radio, her grandmother was located and she was united with her ... My sincere thanks to The Salvation Army for bringing us this wonderful project that has bridged the gap between parents and their children, [increased] family love, care and support and also the children have learnt their rights and roles."



Editor (left) and her friends.

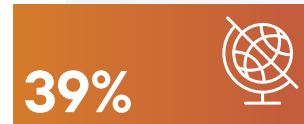
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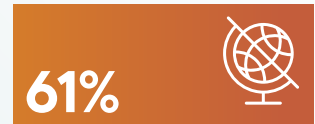
people reached
58% female, 42% male



people with disabilities reached
54% female, 46% male



people reached live in South Pacific and East Asia Zone
(Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines and Myanmar).



people reached live in Africa Zone
(Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda).

KENYA



women, 4,122 men, 1,949 boys and 2,064 girls trained
on prevention, reduction and response to violence, abuse and exploitation of children



survivors of modern slavery and human trafficking given freedom



investment groups established



people trained on innovative agricultural practices

PAPUA NEW GUINEA



TSA health workers trained
in infection control and maternal and newborn care



women and girls participated in Annual Mother and Daughter Camp



community leaders participated in Social Accountability session

Your generosity will transform lives!

Do you want to make a real and lasting difference in some of the most vulnerable and marginalised communities in the world?

The Salvation Army International Development (SAID) fosters the growth of healthier and safer communities. Your support benefits children, individuals and families by working alongside entire communities to achieve sustainable livelihoods and agricultural practices, food security, clean water and hygiene facilities, quality education and compassionate pastoral care.

ONLINE

[Click here to donate](https://www.salvationarmy.org.au/SAID) or visit [salvationarmy.org.au/SAID](https://www.salvationarmy.org.au/SAID)

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NB: Please email overseasaid@salvationarmy.org.au to let us know of your donation so that it can be attributed to you.

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The Salvation Army
Locked Bag 3010,
Nunawading VIC 3131

“Carry one another’s burdens and in this way you will fulfill the requirements of the law of Christ [that is, the law of Christian love].”

Galatians 6:2, AMP



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