

range of programs with essential services for struggling individuals and families. These programs include: The Salvation Army Shelter & Services at R.J. Montgomery homeless shelter and hot meal program; senior nutrition and fellowship services for low-income seniors; character-building youth programs and Red Shield After School Program; seasonal assistance to families, and emergency food, clothing and utilities assistance. Of note, is The Salvation Army's efficiency in delivering these services with less than \$\circ\$.08 of every dollar going to administrative costs.

As we reflect on the past year and The Salvation Army's mission and vision to help meet the physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs of disadvantaged individuals in our community, a deep sense of gratitude emerges to our good and gracious God, our faithful and faith-filled donors, volunteers and the numerous organizations and individuals who partner with us.

Last year was a full year as The Salvation Army celebrated its 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and entered its 126<sup>th</sup> year of service in El Paso County! Although detailed more in the following pages, we want to highlight a few significant happenings and give an overview of our direction for 2016.

The Salvation Army in El Paso County put a significant emphasis on evaluating and refining our program effectiveness and success criteria. As a result, we have initiated innovative changes to our programs designed to better serve disadvantaged youth and to combat homelessness, poverty and hunger in both the Colorado Springs and Fountain Valley areas.

Our programs continue to be effective and are reaching more individuals than ever before. Newly launched last year included monthly themed luncheons and activities in our Senior Center to enhance our services for seniors; the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Clay Shoot Tournament benefiting The Salvation Army in Fountain Valley, and the opening of a two-year low barrier Cold Weather Shelter to save lives during the coldest winter months.

In the coming year, The Salvation Army will continue to evaluate, revitalize and streamline our programs; implement a renewed strategic plan, and build mutually beneficial partnerships to sustain and grow our mission. We will remain at the forefront of meeting the needs of underserved individuals— transforming and reshaping our programs to reflect the realities affecting our community. A primary focus for our community and The Salvation Army in 2015/2016, is to address the increasing need for shelter beds, particularly those serving homeless families.

In the pages of our annual report, you will see how The Salvation is "Doing the Most Good," and is a vital part of your community. We pray for God's continued blessings on all who contribute to the mission of The Salvation Army in El Paso County.

With gratitude,

Majors Richard & Tammy Larson Lieutenants Jeffrey and Regeina Williams

#### Our Mission Statement

The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Our message is based on the Bible. Our ministry is motivated by the love of God. Our mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.



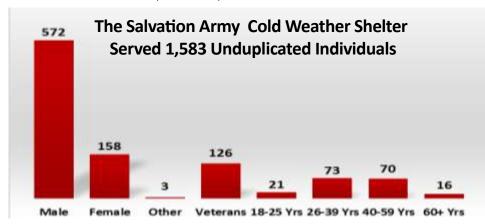
### **Homeless Services**

**The Salvation Army Shelter & Services at R.J. Montgomery** is the city's largest, and only year-round, 24-hour emergency homeless shelter. The shelter houses and feeds up to 200 individuals each night, adding up to over 70,000 meals and 72,283 bed nights in 2015. We provide dinner and offer informal breakfast items for those who desire. The shelter averages 198 people each night at a cost of \$13.83 per person. The majority of the individuals sheltered have no financial resources when they come to our shelter. Our caseworkers help clients establish life skills, employment and helped transition 1,056 families to owning or renting their own homes last year. The Salvation Army shelter is currently the county's

only emergency family shelter, and houses a Children's Discovery Center to provide a location for children to play and a place for families to cook, eat and be together while the family is in crisis. The Center impacted 320 children last year.



The Salvation Army is committed to serving veterans in our community. Of the more than 4,100 unique (unduplicated) individuals sheltered by The Salvation Army last year, 9% were veterans we *FED*, *SHELTERED*, *RESTORED* and connected with veteran resources.



Families Served at The Salvation Army Shelter & Services at R.J. Montgomery

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One Person Families	1903
Two Person Families	135
Three Person Families	86
Four Person Families	48
Five Person Families	31
Six Person Families	11
Seven Person Families	5

**The Salvation Army Cold Weather Shelter** was developed as a two-year temporary, low-barrier shelter to help the community meet an urgent need for the homeless during the coldest winter months. During the six months of operation, The Salvation Army Cold Weather Shelter served 1,583 unduplicated individuals and providing more than 20,000 bed nights of shelter, plus the boarding of 365 companion pets. The shelter served 572 men and 158 women, including 158 Veterans. The Cold Weather Shelter served as a place for firefighters and police officers to bring the homeless which decreased emergency room visits and costs for the city and reduced homeless deaths and frostbite due to the cold weather.





**The Salvation Army's Transitional Housing** is designed to help those who are homeless or on the verge of homelessness reestablish self-sufficiency. We provide 37 housing units and three transitional housing programs for families, single men and single women. *Fresh Start*, a transitional housing and self-sufficiency program for families with children; *New Beginnings*, serving single men and women, and *New Hope House*, a sanctuary for men upon completion of drug and alcohol rehabilitation. Families and individuals commit to the program for up to two years during which time they build solid

relationships and develop skills necessary to become successful in the community.

Each resident is provided an apartment, attends life skills classes, and is encouraged to utilize supplementary programs to enhance their probability for success. Individuals work closely with a caseworker to develop goals that will lead to

sustained accomplishments and independence upon completion of the program.



- 37 women, 33 men and 36 children were provided housing
- More than 19,872 bed nights were provided in FY2014-2015
- 90% of clients complete at least one goal in the first 60 days of program
- The program saw a 10% increase in those receiving permanent housing





## **Family and Social Services**

The Salvation Army Family and Social Services provides a "safety net" for essential services giving over \$570,000 in emergency aid last year. Nearly 10,000 individuals and families received assistance with food from our food pantry, clothing, and utilities assistance. On a case-by-case basis, this program also provides toiletries, undergarments, and baby items. A caseworker manages the large number of inquiries and applications for assistance to ensure effectiveness of program delivery.

Hardships with utilities is a high demand. Through the COPE program, The Salvation Army offers utilities assistance at an average of \$300 per family and helps over 300 households per year.

Next year, our Family and Social Services department will begin offering monthly food boxes for low income seniors through the USDA Commodity Supplemental Food Program.





Back-to-School Shopping Spree equipped 110 children from working poor families with new school clothing. For many of these children, this was the first time they ever had new shoes, a shirt they picked out for themselves – and the first time they were excited to start school because they were "like the other kids."

The event is an incredible display of the power of partnership. Chapel Hills Mall, Sears, Colorado Springs Utilities volunteers, District 11, and donors come together—giving *Hope* to the children of low income families in our community.

"For the first time ever,

I didn't hate starting
school. I finally fit in with
the other kids. I had new
shoes, jeans and a lot of
stuff I've never had."

Jason 15yrs

**Holiday Assistance Programs** 

**Holiday Assistance** is coordinated through The Salvation Army's Family and Social Services departments in El Paso County. Through our Fill-A-Stocking, Angel Tree and Adopt-A-Family programs, Christmas was made merrier for thousands of individuals in our area last year.

The Colorado Springs corps provided 420 families (equaling more than 1,300 children) with over 9,000 stockings, toys, gifts, gift cards, and 450 holiday food bags. Additionally, 3,882 individuals

in El Paso County received hot Thanksgiving and Christmas meals from The Salvation Army. Our holiday giving added up to over \$120,000 in assistance.

**Red Kettle Bell Ringing** is our largest and most important campaign of the year. Funds raised through bell ringing are used locally to help families, children, men, women and seniors at Christmas and throughout the year. Just two volunteer hours can provide 11 nights of shelter, 70 warm meals or one week of after school care for an at –risk child. In FY 2014-2015 the Red Kettle Campaign earned \$350,000 with 2,000 volunteers raising over a third of the money.









"Thank you for the help through the holidays—it is truly appreciated. I pray that I will one day be able to help other families the way you have us."

## **Colorado Kitchen Feeding Programs**

**The Salvation Army's Colorado Kitchen** serves over 120,000 meals each year. Every weekday, more than 400 meals are prepared at The Salvation Army to serve to seniors and others in need in the community through our Senior Center; The Salvation Army Shelter and Services at R.J. Montgomery, and through the mobile Soup Run.

Thanks to in-kind donations and strategic meal planning, The Salvation Army is able to prepare and serve meals for an average of only \$1.83 per meal.

The Colorado Kitchen has increased activities and attendance in the Senior Center this past year, offering free bingo three times a week and monthly themed luncheons.

### Over 120,000 Meals Served

Seniors & Community; 8,580; 7%

Other Meals; 39,679; 33% Soup Run; 26,241; 22%

Shelter Meals; 45,500; 38%



The Salvation Army Soup Run provides a warm dinner to those in need Monday through Friday in "America the Beautiful Park." Each night, The Salvation Army's mobile kitchen is loaded with food and volunteers to provide a meal to hundreds of struggling men, women and children. The program served over 26,000 meals and often provides warm clothing and toiletries as well.

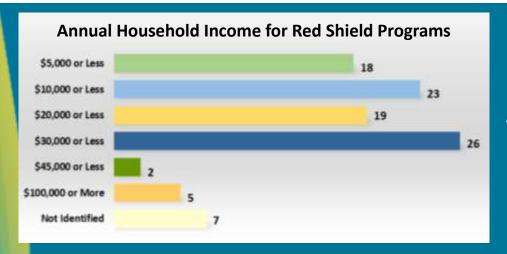


## Red Shield After School Program and Summer Day Camp

**The Red Shield After School Program** is a supervised, safe, affordable and licensed tutoring and character building program for up to 44 school-age children. Transportation is provided from many D11 schools to The Salvation Army. Children receive a snack, then with the assistance and supervision of our qualified staff and trained volunteers, students complete homework and engage in meaningful recreational activities reinforcing social, developmental and life skills. Once a week, children may stay late for character and spiritual building programs. The after school program is designed to reduce behavioral problems and bring atrisk youth to grade level standards. Last year, more than 40% of the 156 graded areas for

these students were below grade level when entering the program. By the end of the year, more than 75% of the youth were meeting grade level requirements.

**The Red Shield Summer Day Camp** features field trips, educational activities, nature trips, swimming and Vacation Bible School. Additionally, The Salvation Army provides week-long camps at The Salvation Army's High Peak Camp in Estes Park. There are no income requirements for our youth programs; Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP) is accepted, and financial aid is available for qualifying families for the After School Program and Summer camps.

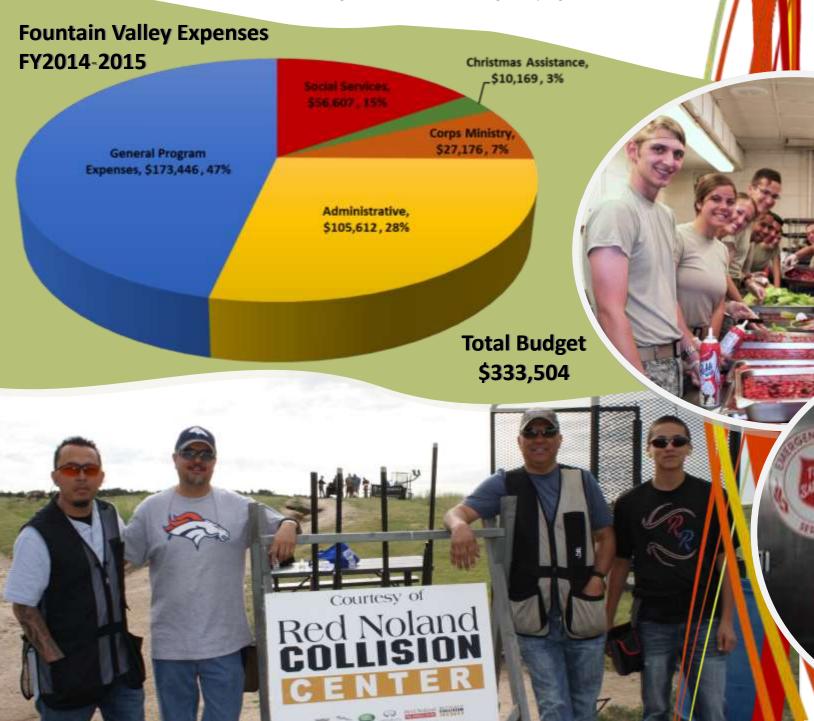


After School and Summer Day
Camp Programs Provided:
4,420 Days of Care
5,368 Snacks
4,542 Hours of Tutoring
29,848 Hours of Care at a cost of
\$5.34 per Hour in 2015

## The Salvation Army Fountain Valley

**The Salvation Army Fountain Valley** is one of the largest social service and youth outreach providers in the Fountain Valley area. The corps is a full service Salvation Army providing area families with emergency food, clothing and utility assistance. Additionally, Community Care Ministries are offered for seniors, men, women and youth. The Salvation Army in Fountain Valley holds Sunday church service and Sunday School each week, as well as providing evening youth troops and programs to help build character and allow Christian fellowship among young people. The corps hopes to provide Summer Day Camp in the coming year.

The Salvation Army in Fountain Valley serves over 1,500 individuals each year, specifically meeting the needs of the Fountain Valley Fort Carson community. The Salvation Army is one of the few charities that provides services to active duty military in need. The corps provided Christmas assistance to 500 individuals (108 families) and distributed over 1,000 toys and gifts. The Fountain Valley corps made significant strides in 2015 to become financially self-sufficient, initiating local fundraisers including its first annual Clay Shoot Tournament and golf tournament benefiting local programs.



# **Community Outreach and Ministry**

The Salvation Army Corps (churches), located in Colorado Springs and Fountain Valley, provide community outreach, ministry and offer a variety of Christian programs to meet spiritual and emotional needs. The Salvation Army offers Sunday church services and Sunday School as well as a variety of ministries for seniors, men, women and children. Last year, over 1,400 attended Salvation Army men's and women's ministries; 2,281 attended Sunday School and nearly 4,000 attended worship services. The Salvation Army, along with 1,642 volunteers, ministered to institutionalized and shut-in individuals providing 1,600 gifts. Our Salvation Army Youth (SAY) youth and teen character development programs, give youth the opportunity to earn badges encouraging spiritual, mental, physical and social growth, similar to other troop programs. Last year, more than 2,000 youth participated in our programs.



## Volunteers & Corporate Partners

**Volunteers and Corporate Partners** are an integral part of The Salvation Army and are part of the Army's community outreach mission. Volunteers support the implementation and execution of many Salvation Army programs. In 2015, The Salvation Army in El Paso County had more than 8,000 volunteers who provided assistance to those in need through nearly 40,000 volunteer service hours.

If The Salvation Army were to put an hourly wage to the volunteer hours generously provided from the community, it would add up to nearly a million dollars each year.

We rely on individuals, corporations, local businesses, foundations and nonprofit groups to provide the financial support needed for our programs. Support takes many forms from commitments providing ongoing support for specific Salvation Army programs to partners engaging as in-kind sponsors of Salvation Army events and projects. Many businesses even match gifts to The Salvation Army made by their employees.

OUR MONEY IS RAISED LOCALLY AND STAYS LOCALLY!

# EDS (Emergency Disaster Services)

**Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Service** teams provide assistance and support to those affected by disaster. In 2015, our EDS volunteers supported first responders for the Pueblo scrapyard fire, and several military and Office of Emergency Management emergency training exercises like the Palmer Park Wildfire Evacuation. In am emergency, our first goal is to meet the basic needs of first responders and those affected by the disaster. The second goal is to assist with the recovery and provide emotional and spiritual support which can last for years.

## **The Salvation Army El Paso County**

### **2015 Board Members**

#### **El Paso County Executive Board**

Jim Strang, Chair; Robert Robinson, Past Chair; Larry Gilliam, Treasurer; Kelly Means Property; Rick Couch, Programs

#### **El Paso County Advisory Board**

Randy Gardiner, Terrance McWilliams, Steve Blazer, Kelly Means, Ray Nunn, Craig Whitney, Shawn Clift, Matt Vineyard, John Cantu, Greg Mitchell, Dawn Watson, Ken Montera, Ted Wright, Kevin Olsen, Nicholas Gledich, Karen Hunt, Patricia Collins, Scott Turner (Fountain Valley Chair)

### **Fountain Valley Advisory Board**

Scott Turner, Chair; Chuck Larson; Commissioner Dennis Hisey; Sharon Thompson



### **The Salvation Army Colorado Springs Corps**

908 Yuma Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80909 (719) 632-3891

### **The Salvation Army Fountain Valley Corps**

901 N. Santa Fe Avenue, Fountain, CO 80817 (719) 382-1182

## Your Community... Your Salvation Army

