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## **Emergency Disaster Services Bulletin** **Thursday, March 4, 2010**

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### **SALVATION ARMY ASSISTS LATEST SURVIVOR**

**Alexandria, VA**– The Salvation Army in Chile began providing emergency services immediately following the devastating 8.8 magnitude earthquake on February 27, 2010. The crisis continues to unfold as many remain missing and the death toll rises. Salvation Army officers, church members, and volunteers are providing support and comfort to those affected.

The Salvation Army (TSA) is networking with other Christian evangelical groups to help ensure the needs of the people are met. Coordinated meetings with other faith-based groups have led to The Salvation Army emerging as the leader in how to respond to such a massive need. The Christian evangelical groups have agreed to provide resources and cooperate with The Salvation Army to meet needs of those affected by the earthquake and Tsunami. Items that are being provided by these partners include donations of clothing, non-perishable foods, bed linens, cots, and tents.

The Salvation Army is involved in the following:

**Santiago Metropolitan region:**

- In the Brazil neighborhood, approximately 1,500 – 2,000 persons are being served daily. In the immediate aftermath of the earthquake, service began with basics such as bread, sandwiches and coffee. Hot meals and more substantial breakfasts are now being offered. Water, first aid supplies, blankets, candles and other emergency supplies have been provided as well.

### **Southern Chile:**

- As reported previously, the hardest hit areas are Concepcion (750,000 pop. and located slightly inland), Valdivia, Haulpen, and Tajquiana, a port city. The emergency disaster headquarters are being established at the Hualpencillo Corps which is located between the coast and Concepcion. Many of the tents erected at the Corps are displaced Corps Officers and Corps members whose homes have been washed away.
- The Hualpencillo Corps has a kitchen where meals can be prepared. An emergency disaster team arrived on Monday from Valdivia with goods and resources that could be handed out to the most affected areas.
- Beginning on Monday, March 1, vans and other TSA emergency vehicles began delivering meals to those hardest hit by the Tsunami which caused a considerable amount of loss of property and lives.
- On Tuesday, a second emergency disaster services team is expected from the Corps located in Osorno. They are bringing a generator purchased by local funds to help provide electricity so additional services can be provided. Additionally, they are bringing in additional food to be packaged and/or cooked and sent out to survivors.
- One of the main ingredients that will be distributed is flour. Bread is a main Chilean staple for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, so the flour will be greatly appreciated.
- There is concern about food distribution due to the unrest and looting that has been occurring. TSA is hopeful they will be provided some protection from local police.

In the next two days, a team of emergency disaster personnel from the Central Chile division will be caravanning to Southern Chile to take supplies and help in the relief efforts. The Chilean government announced on Monday that there were some routes available to the southern part of Chile. Supplies are being purchased by funding already received from International Headquarters as well as local donations. Some of the supplies that will be delivered include:

- Milk donated by the Swiss government
- Non-perishable foods
- Clothing donated by Canada, USA Central, and USA Eastern territories
- Linens including blankets and bedding
- Tents
- Purified water
- Tools to assist with clearing efforts

Lt. Colonel F. Bradford Bailey, Chief Secretary of The Salvation Army South America West, states "Communication is almost non-existent with many parts to the south including the hardest hit areas near Concepcion so it is difficult to ascertain all of the needs. Also, it is important to note the sacrifice of many of the Salvation Army officers, corps members, and other volunteers. Aftershocks continue to create havoc as well as many do not even have a place to call home; however, they continue to ignore their own needs and help others." An example is the Disaster Coordinator who is not able to live in his quarters. He has been directing the relief efforts from the territorial headquarters where he is living out of the kitchen.

Further information will be reported as soon as it becomes available.

The Salvation Army set up a Haiti relief fund and is accepting monetary donations. Donors may contribute \$10 via their phone bill by text messaging the word "CHILE" to 52000, and confirming the donation with the word, "Yes." Donors can also give via [www.salvationarmyusa.org](http://www.salvationarmyusa.org), 1-800-SAL-ARMY and through the mail at: The Salvation Army World Service Office, International Disaster Relief Fund, PO Box 630728, Baltimore, MD 21263-0728 with designation "Chile Earthquake."

Please pray for the people of Chile.

#### **About The Salvation Army**

The Salvation Army, an evangelical part of the universal Christian church established in 1865, has been supporting those in need in His name without discrimination for 130 years in the United States. 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. 82 cents of every dollar spent is used to carry out those services in 5,000 communities nationwide. For more information, go to [www.salvationarmyusa.org](http://www.salvationarmyusa.org).

To donate, please call 1-800-SAL-ARMY, text the word "chile" to 52000 to make a one-time \$10 donation billed to your cell phone account, or go to [www.salvationarmyusa.org](http://www.salvationarmyusa.org)

*Report submitted by Major Laurie Robertson, International Editor in Chief & Literacy Secretary.*



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