

# STORIES OF IMPACT

*The difference you're making*



International  
Development  
AUSTRALIA

September 2023  
Newsletter

*Thank You!*

Together we are working towards an equitable, secure, sustainable and hope-filled future for people living in vulnerable communities overseas.

## School's in!

150 students in PNG can now learn to read and write.



Helping Ukraine. See page 3

"Thanks to volunteers and The Salvation Army, we received support in the form of products, blankets, bedding, hygiene, clothes and things that you don't value in ordinary life, but at this time you understand how difficult it is without them."

- Iryna, Ukraine



## Heartfelt thanks

Thank you for your resilience and commitment to achieving long-term change for people in need around the world. Day by day, person by person, community by community — together we are improving the lives of vulnerable people and giving them hope for the future.

Because of your support, we are seeing communities becoming healthy and safe. Individuals are discovering sustainable livelihoods and children are becoming less vulnerable to exploitation. People have improved access to food, clean water and hygiene facilities, and received education

around safety and rights. Importantly, our mission support projects are also nurturing communities spiritually through local corps and officers.

I am grateful to all of our partners for your ongoing commitment to working with SAID. Enjoy this snapshot of what we have achieved together!

Major Judith Soeters  
Head of Salvation Army International Development

## Toilets for transformation

The 2021 Christmas Day Offering focused on building toilets in Malawi, Africa. Eighteen months later the toilets have been built!

**Thank you to all who selflessly contributed towards this project. Your generosity has had an immeasurable impact, transformed lives and brought a newfound sense of dignity to communities.**

In a world where access to basic sanitation is often taken for granted, the toilets you have built have become symbols of hope, progress and unity. Six toilet blocks have been built to service three rural health care centres — one for females and one for males at each location. Previously, there was a single overflowing pit latrine that was for staff to use only. Patients had to relieve themselves in the bush, leaving themselves exposed to danger. Lack of facilities also meant patients would often refuse to seek help, so their health suffered.

With the addition of the new toilet blocks, community health as a whole is improving. Women and children are less vulnerable than they were, so they have more confidence and security. Patients now seek medical help, and the spread of sanitation-related diseases, such as cholera and diarrhoea, is reduced.

Hand washing facilities have been included, so sanitation has improved, and preventable diseases are decreasing.

One of our beneficiaries, Grace, the mother of four children, said, **“Since The Salvation Army has come into our area, they have helped us ... Through this initiative, things have changed. The toilets have generally improved our dignity and privacy, especially for women, girls, elderly people and people with disabilities.”**

Lizzy is 25 years old and expecting her second child. She expressed her thanks too. “We were

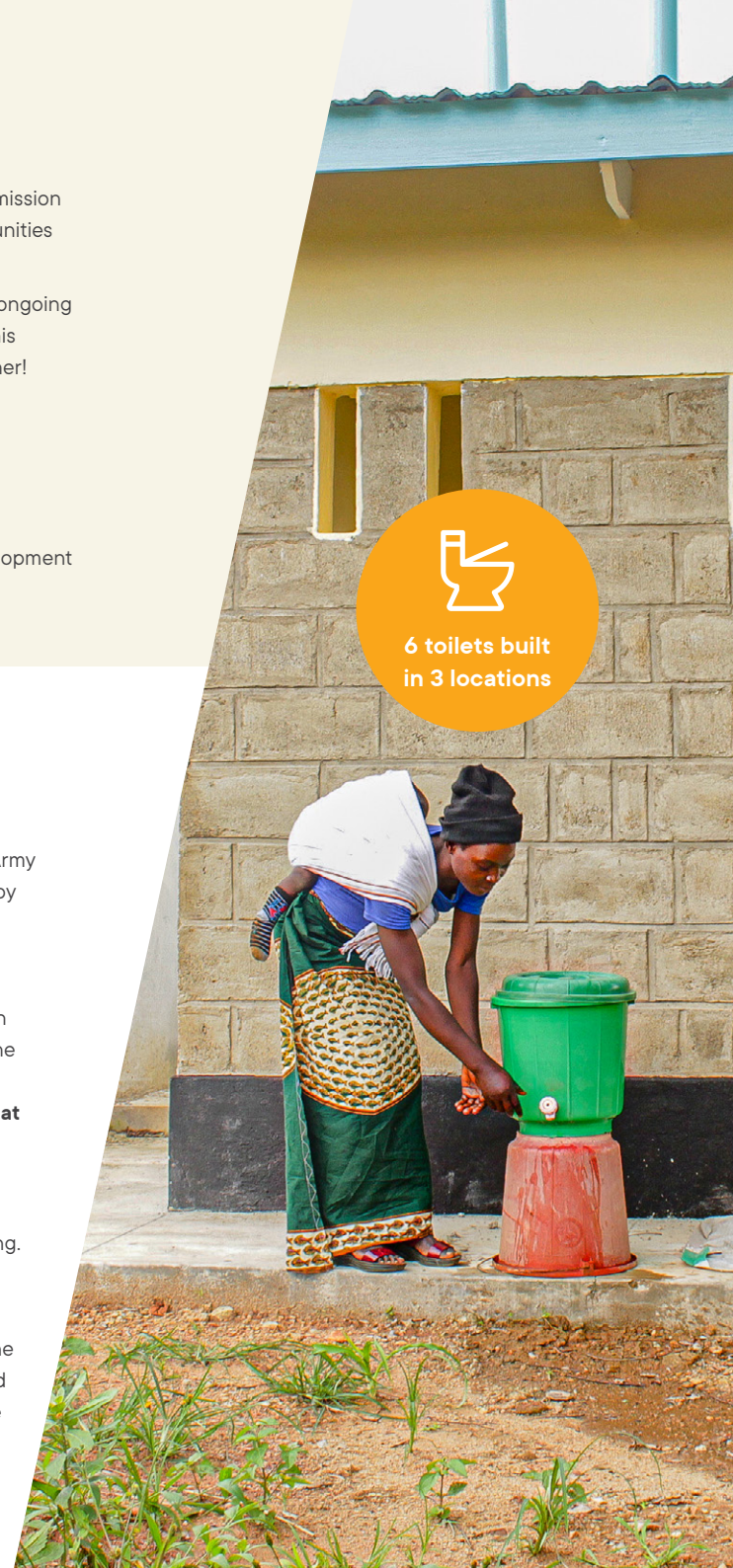
scared of being attacked by violent people or even violent animals. It was not easy for a pregnant woman ... Now that The Salvation Army has constructed these toilets, I am very happy and all women in this area are happy too. When I was coming for the delivery of this pregnancy to the health care facility, I was assured of my safety, as well as the sanitation and hygiene of the health care facility and the surrounding areas ... **I thank The Salvation Army for constructing these toilet blocks at our health care facility.”**

Soon after the toilets were built, Malawi experienced a flood. The old pit toilets were washed away, but the new toilets stood strong. Thank you to all who contributed to this life-changing project.

“And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock.” — Matthew 7:25 (ESV)



6 toilets built  
in 3 locations





## Giving aid to Ukraine

The Salvation Army territories around the world have joined together to care for some of the five million internally displaced people in Ukraine.

As the war continues, people move from areas that have been bombed to areas which are relatively safer. They have often fled their homes with only minimal belongings and are in desperate need of help.

Iryna recalls, "On February 24, at 5am, a rumble was heard ... The thunder and cannonade did not stop. Planes flew and there were explosions and fires all over the city ... People ran to the subway. I lived there for a month. I slept on the floor on cardboard covered with a blanket. It was winter outside. Constantly there were terrible sounds of war. I got pneumonia. Hospitals and transport did not work, there was nowhere to be treated. We decided to go to where we could see a doctor and stay warm by sleeping indoors, not underground. We took a minimum of things and a cat with us.

"Thanks to volunteers and The Salvation Army, we received support in the form of products, blankets, bedding, hygiene, clothes and things that you don't value in ordinary life, but at this time you understand how difficult it is without them. **With The Salvation Army, I was able to rest and relax a little in the company of caring people, to warm up not only physically, but also mentally.** I attend art therapy at The Salvation Army, by painting I forget my fear and distract myself from the terrible events that happened near me and continue to happen in our country."

Alexey with his wife and two sons (two and six years old) miraculously escaped from the crushed woods near Kiev. They say: "How the Lord had his hand over us ... [Our] family thanks The Salvation Army for the support and essential help at a difficult hour! Food products and two warm blankets helped us very much!"

As well as clothes, blankets, camp beds and mattresses, nappies and formula for babies, so far the global Salvation Army network has provided:

- 115,209 vouchers
- 45,261 food parcels
- 25,673 hygiene packs
- 85,930 meals
- 4358 people with housing in Salvation Army premises

Thank you to all who have contributed to help the people of Ukraine. You are providing much needed comfort, as well as helping to meet the essential needs of thousands of displaced people who have been caught up in this war — all in the name of Jesus.

## Daniel's story

"I have learned if you take care of the land; the land will take care of you," says farmer Daniel with a broad smile. "I never knew it [was] possible to cut costs, increase yield and, at the same time, mitigate climate change."

Daniel, from Malawi, is finally able to feed his family of seven without fear of food insecurity, and in a way that protects his land. Through a Salvation Army project, Daniel learnt sustainable and profitable farming methods based on minimal disturbance, permanent soil cover and crop rotation.

With yields stunningly increased and costs down, he is now a passionate advocate for Conservation Agriculture. He says: "I am urging my fellow farmers to quickly adopt Conservation Agriculture. It will improve production, but also save energy, time and money. It is a win for both people and the planet."

Thanks to our supporters, Daniel is one of 677 small-hold farmers to take part in the project in Malawi, which also offers greater access to safe water, small loans and ongoing support.



677 small-hold farmers empowered with new skills





## In FY21-22

57,367 people reached



585 people living with a disability reached



## Kenya



1527 small-scale farmers trained



1439 community members indirectly benefiting

## Malawi



8 boreholes drilled



49% increase in clean water supply



800 goats distributed

## Uganda



558 children given aid, including 18 living with disabilities



35 children reunified with families

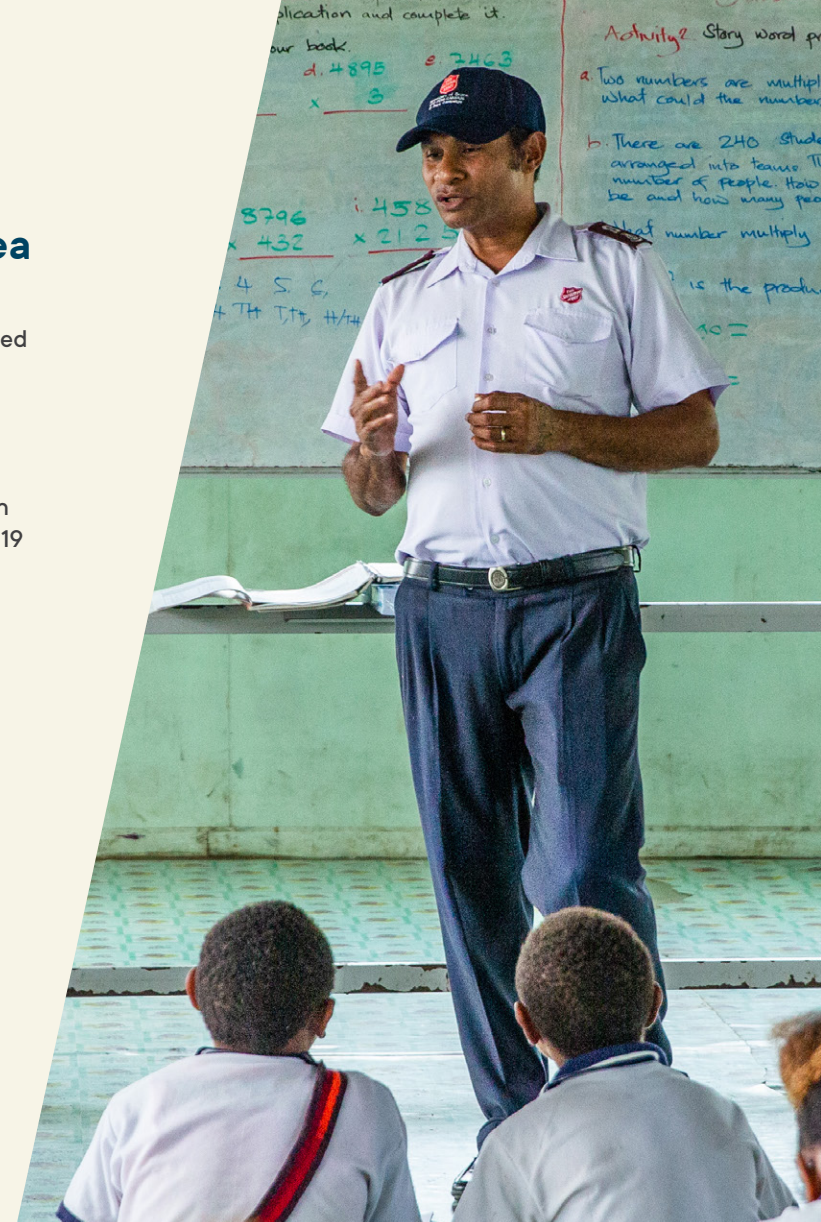
## Papua New Guinea



150 children received informal education



PPE materials given to all divisions and 19 health facilities



## How To Give

**Website**  
salvationarmy.org.au/overseasaid

**Credit Card**  
Give via the website or call 03 8541 4511

**Cheque - made payable to The Salvation Army (VIC) Property Trust Self Denial Overseas Aid**  
Post to: The Salvation Army  
Locked Bag 3010, Nunawading VIC 3131

**Direct debit**  
BSB: 033 177  
Account: 105888  
Account Name: The Salvation Army (VIC) Property Trust Self Denial Overseas Aid  
NB: Please email overseasaid@salvationarmy.org.au to let us know of your donation, where you would like it to be used and for tax receipt.

## The Salvation Army International Development

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03 8541 4511 | overseasaid@salvationarmy.org.au  
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ABN 52 609 689 893 (Overseas Aid)

