After getting an honorable discharge from the Marine Corps, Arthur found himself struggling in life. He turned to marijuana and alcohol as a way of escape. He moved from San Antonio to Dallas but he didn’t know where to turn for a place to stay.

“I called around and everywhere I was calling, they said, ‘We can’t help you … however, you can go to The Salvation Army,’” Arthur said.

He called our Carr P. Collins Social Service Center in Dallas and was told to just show up. He went there with a bag of clothes and began staying in our shelter. He remembers the staff telling him that it was not a permanent place of residence. He understood that he would have to do something different to get out of his situation.

“I stopped the marijuana, stopped the alcohol, stopped the ‘stinking thinking’ – just being negative, blaming everybody,” Arthur said. While staying as our guest through the support of donations from the community, Arthur found a job and began saving money.

“I would wake up at four in the morning and leave at five,” Arthur said. “They would give me a sack lunch. … The fact that since I was at The Salvation Army I didn’t have to spend any money, that was a huge help.”

In four and a half months, he saved enough money to move out of the shelter. He now lives happily in a two-bedroom apartment in Dallas.

“I have security; I feel extremely blessed,” Arthur said. “[Before] it was a struggle, to where now, it’s maintainable. I can largely credit The Salvation Army for helping me with my struggle.”

“A Veteran Gets Back on His Feet

The Salvation Army DFW Metroplex Command | Summer 2018

“The fact that since I was at The Salvation Army I didn’t have to spend any money, that was a huge help.” - Arthur
As a child, Joyce and her siblings received shoes and clothing from The Salvation Army. They also received toys and food at Christmastime. “My mother would take us there at Christmas,” Joyce said. “There were six of us, and The Salvation Army was very gracious, not making you feel like you’re a charity case.”

When she became an adult, Joyce found ways to show her appreciation for the help her family received many years ago. “I always gave to the little red bucket that they had out, because it was always just a way of giving back,” she said. “If I added it correctly, I think we’ve given at least four cars to The Salvation Army. We never sold our cars; we always gave our cars.”

In addition to donating money and cars, Joyce has also given her time to The Salvation Army. “Through the years, I would volunteer with Salvation Army – help them put up stock for groceries and things like that, help them put baskets together, and then I would help them in the toy area getting … everything organized and given out.”

Joyce’s childhood experience getting help resulted in a commitment to support The Salvation Army. She has confidence that her donations have gone to a good cause. “It’s always been an organization that you can trust to use your funds properly,” Joyce said.

Members of our Pleasant Grove Advisory Council went on a hardhat tour on April 18 to view the progress of a major renovation of our community center in the Southeast Dallas community.

When complete, the facility will have a sports complex, a completely remodeled worship space, a new food pantry, and much more parking available for people to access programs offered to the Pleasant Grove community. It is anticipated that the center will reopen by September.

Cristian Murdock, Executive Director of Advancement and Strategy (left), and Robyn Moline, Youth and Education Manager (right), with Beverly Fricke and Thomas Cornell, board members of The Houston J. and Florence A. Doswell Foundation, who presented us with a $175,000 check to underwrite the Doswell Foundation Youth and Education Manager staff position and to support our youth programming efforts.
In 1917, The Salvation Army began a mission to provide support for U.S. soldiers fighting in France during World War I. About 250 volunteers provided doughnuts, which were fried up and served to soldiers.

The Salvation Army is credited with popularizing the doughnut in the United States when the troops returned home from the war.

National Doughnut Day began in 1938 to honor The Salvation Army’s efforts and to raise funds during the Great Depression. The day occurs annually on the first Friday of June.

Last year on that day, we served doughnuts but with a new twist. People were invited through Snapchat to create their own doughnut designs. Some of the best designs were then recreated on actual doughnuts by our Signature Partner, Albertsons. Those doughnuts were then distributed to veterans at our transitional shelter in Dallas.

**Xavier Attends Youth Music Conservatory**

Xavier began playing the cornet at The Salvation Army when he was eight years old. During the summers, he had the opportunity to further hone his skills at our Youth Music Conservatory, an annual camp experience focused on developing musical talent. Now a teenager, Xavier also plays the tuba, trumpet, baritone, euphonium, and bass guitar.

“They taught me a lot of stuff, like how to breathe properly, play properly, [and] air flow,” Xavier said of his instructors at The Salvation Army. “They taught me everything that I know today.”

During his week at Music Conservatory, Xavier also had the opportunity to participate in various activities including Bible study, team-building exercises, and live performances.

“All the years I’ve been coming here, it’s been fun,” Xavier said. “I’m excited to come here every summer. … They’ve helped develop my skills and helped me grow more.”

Xavier is currently an active member of the praise band at The Salvation Army of Garland, where he plays bass guitar during church services on Sundays. He said playing music with The Salvation Army has given him the opportunity to learn about Christ.

“If it wasn’t for The Salvation Army, I wouldn’t have come close to God, or even learned any instrument at all,” he said. “Getting closer to Christ is one of my goals.”

**Celebrate National Doughnut Day on Friday, June 1**

Go to your favorite doughnut shop & have a tasty treat.

Then, go to salvationarmydfw.org and make a monetary donation.
Noteworthy Donations for The Salvation Army Mabee Center in Fort Worth

Junior League of Fort Worth Grants $50,000

The Junior League of Fort Worth selected our Mabee Social Service Center as one of their 2018-2019 Community Projects. The League is granting $50,000 for upgrades to the center’s kitchen.

In addition to monetary support, the League will provide volunteers to help with the kitchen remodel, and will also conduct their Kids in the Kitchen program for families staying at the center to educate children and their families about nutrition and fitness through hands-on activities.

Colonial Savings Foundation Donates $5,000

Colonial Savings Foundation in Fort Worth donated $5,000 for housing services at our Mabee Social Service Center.

Major Jon Rich, DFW Metroplex Commander, and Beckie Wach, Executive Director of the Mabee Social Services Center, accepted the donation from Robert Turner, Vice President – CRA Officer / Fair Lending Manager for Colonial Savings.

Thank you to our signature partners

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE

To donate to The Salvation Army DFW Metroplex Command, visit SalvationArmyDFW.org
To donate gently used furniture, clothing, household goods, or vehicles, call 1-800-SA-TRUCK or go to satruck.org