NON-PROFIT

Spotlight

Salvation Army of Cadillac working to meet the needs of the community

CADILLAC — The Salvation Army of Cadillac has been actively working to meet the needs of the community.

The organization strives to address human needs in accordance with its funding and resources. One of its major accomplishments has been opening a community center that provides a warm place in the winter and a cool place in the summer for community members to seek daytime shelter. The Salvation Army also offers a free light breakfast and a hot lunch.

Through funding from United Way, the Salvation Army was able to install washers and dryers, allowing it to provide laundry services onsite at its facility.

"Homelessness continues to be a major epidemic among the counties we serve as well," said Captain Greg Bock, who, along with Liz Bock, leads the Salvation Army in Cadillac. "We continue to see the number of families accessing our food pantry go up each month. Many are first-time visitors."

According to Housing North, a significant housing gap is projected across the three counties served by the Salvation Army, which will continue to face a shortage of adequate housing through 2027:

- Missaukee County: 1,239 housing gap with only 336 rental units
- Kalkaska County: 1,668 housing gap with only 511 rental units
- Wexford County: 3,756 housing gap with 1,360 rental units

The Salvation Army has rebuilt its advisory board with actively engaged members from the workforce. It has strengthened partnerships across the nonprofit sector in Cadillac and established an Unhoused Needs Task Force in collaboration with First Presbyterian Church. This task force focuses on providing shelter during the cold winter nights when existing shelters are full.

Advisory Board Members

The advisory board includes John Jones, Terry Ingleright, David Meyers, Victoria Martin, Tara Horton, Robin Sims, Alexis Williams, Craig Taylor, Hannah Freeman, Hayley Freeman, Kathy Lazell and Laurie Moore.

Services Offered

The Salvation Army provides a wide range of services, including:

- Pathway of Hope
- Utility Assistance: Caseworker-assisted support
- Rental Assistance: Through Pathway of Hope
- Food Pantry
- Homeless Support: Including housing assistance
- Meal Program: Monday through Friday
- Budgeting Support
- Laundry Services
- Emotional/Spiritual Care
- Holiday Food/Toy Assistance
- Identification and Benefits Support
- Personal Care Pantry
- Thrift Store Vouchers: Clothing and household items
- Transportation Assistance: For job interviews and medical appointments
- Women's Group and Homeless Support Group
- AA Meetings: Saturdays at noon
- Vehicle Repair Assistance: If funding is available
- Sunday Worship Services
- Chaplain Support Services
- Emergency Disaster Services: Includes hotel vouchers, clothing, and essential needs





Needs and Goals

The Salvation Army is always in need of financial donations and volunteers. Volunteers are especially needed in the food pantry, emergency disaster services, thrift store, and community center. The organization also seeks donations of:

- Tents, blankets, sleeping bags, hats, gloves, and coats for adults and children experiencing homelessness
- Processed meats, including deer, bear, elk, cow, and pig, from certified USDA processing centers like Ebels in Falmouth

The organization's physical needs include a large storage building on a concrete slab to address inadequate storage.

Long-Term Goals

- Remodel the current facility
- Build a new building with a commercial kitchen, gym, showers, program space, and transitional housing units
- Create a shower and laundry trailer to provide these services in rural areas

Short-Term Goals

- Install new flooring throughout the current facility
- Remodel the bathrooms
- Update the kitchen
- Ways to Support the Salvation Army
- Financial support can be provided through:
  - Legacy gifts, wills, and estates
  - IRA contributions
  - Monthly support
  - Bell ringing during the Christmas season

To sign up for bell ringing, visit www.registertoring.com.

Donations are accepted at the thrift store located at 607 S. Mitchell St., Cadillac, and food donations can be brought to 725 Wright St., Cadillac.

For those interested in volunteering, contact the Salvation Army by phone at (231) 775-7131 or email Capt. Greg Bock (gregory.bock@usc.salvationarmy.org) or Capt. Liz Bock (elizabeth.bock@usc.salvationarmy.org). Messages can also be sent through the Facebook page, The Salvation Army of Cadillac.

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