

The Salvation Army Media Release



For Immediate Release

The Salvation Army Launches Myanmar Cyclone Disaster Relief Appeal

Singapore, 8 May 2008 – The Salvation Army in Singapore has launched an appeal to help more than a million people believed to be left homeless by the devastating cyclone that hit Myanmar.

Latest figures indicate that Cyclone Nargis killed more than 60,000 people, with many more missing.

100% of the funds raised will be in aid of the affected victims of Cyclone Nargis. These funds will add to the grants that we will be receiving from various Salvation Army counterparts around the world.

The Salvation Army is putting together an assessment team to enter Myanmar to assist the local Salvation Army team there with their relief operations.

The Singapore, Malaysia and Myanmar Territorial Commander, Commissioner David Bringans, says “Our people in Myanmar are already dispensing rice and other relief to the cyclone victims in Yangon. Both of our two Children’s Homes in Yangon have artesian wells and are running the generators to pump water from these, almost non-stop. The public are therefore able to come to our compounds to receive clean water at this time. We are now planning to assist with the recovery and reconstruction of affected communities.”

The public may donate in one of the following ways.

1. Online – www.salvationarmy.org.sg or www.salvationarmy.org/Singapore
2. By cheque made payable to ‘The Salvation Army’ and indicate on the back ‘Myanmar Cyclone Disaster Relief’. Mail to The Salvation Army, Myanmar Cyclone Disaster Relief, Ang Mo Kio PO Box 640 Singapore 915605.
3. Street collection on 15 May 2008, Thursday – Salvation Army staff and volunteers will be ringing bells next to our familiar Salvation Army red kettle pots at selected shopping malls island-wide. Donation boxes will also be placed in all Starbucks stores. Please refer to our website for the shopping mall listing.

Currently, we are only accepting financial donations due to logistical difficulties. All donations towards this relief effort are non tax-deductible.

-End-

Contact:

Gregory Lee
Director, Public Relations
The Salvation Army
6555 0240 (O)
Gregory_Lee@SMM.salvationarmy.org

Diana Pang
Manager, Public Relations
The Salvation Army
6555 0245 (O)
Diana_Pang@SMM.salvationarmy.org

Background of The Salvation Army, Myanmar

The Salvation Army was first established in Myanmar in 1915 and provides a range of social services and development assistance. This includes a food distribution and food security programme; first aid; drilling for clean water; small-scale hydroelectric power schemes; a primary school; three children's homes; and a community-based HIV-AIDS programme.

Myanmar is under the leadership of the Territorial Headquarters in Singapore. The Territory includes three countries, Singapore, Malaysia and Myanmar.

The Salvation Army has always been active in providing rescue and relief work particularly when Myanmar is hit badly by floods.