



DOING THE MOST GOOD™

RAY AND JOAN KROC CORPS COMMUNITY CENTER IN CHICAGO

HOME

ABOUT US

NEWS

EVENTS

DONATE

CONTACT US



About the Kroc Center

The Kroc Center will be a state-of-the-art community and social service facility in one of Chicago's most underserved areas, a community center of unprecedented scope and size. It will provide thousands of people of all ages with new opportunities and become an anchor for the community and a beacon of hope. The array of sports, educational, arts and supportive programs has never been offered in Chicago.

[\(learn more\)](#)

[Support the Kroc Center Campaign](#)

[NEW! Learn about the latest Kroc Center developments. Go to \[www.KrocCenterChicago.org\]\(http://www.KrocCenterChicago.org\)](#)

Around the Kroc News

January 2009

Salvation Army Responds to Increased Need This Holiday Season



Due to difficulties caused by the recent economic downturn, The Salvation Army experienced a tremendous jump in the number of families seeking assistance this past holiday season, an estimated **75-80% increase in demand**. In the West Pullman area, The Salvation Army provided holiday assistance to **2,515 individuals** including **850 children**. For the second year, The Salvation Army partnered with Alderman Carrie Austin's office to provide food, toys and even Christmas trees to area families. More than 40 crates of canned goods were collected and 323 food baskets were distributed. Gift bags including presents for each child up to 18 years old were distributed as well as coat vouchers, hats, gloves, toiletries, and Christmas cards for participating families.



The Gift of Music

Delighting students with holiday music, Salvation Army musicians toured West Pullman schools with a message of "You have to Read to Succeed." The sing-a-long concerts, held at **Johnnie Coleman Academy, West Pullman Elementary, Marcus Garvey Math and Science, Higgins Community Academy, Wendell Smith Schools, W.E.B. Du Bois School and Whistler Elementary** promoted literacy and provided school supplies to 1,415 students.

Higgins Community Academy Assembly Honors First African American President

With a little help from The Salvation Army, students and families celebrated the inauguration of our 44th president, Barack Obama with a school-wide Inauguration Day Assembly at Higgins Community Academy. Students also inaugurated their new student council during the festivities. Special guest Cook County Commissioner Deborah Simms joined in the celebration that featured rousing performances by the Higgins Drum Line, Gospel Choir and The Salvation Army Brass Band. The Salvation Army also provided lunch for attending parents, families and members of the community.



Upcoming Activities in West Pullman

Family Movie and Game Day at Johnnie Coleman Academy

Hundreds of folks, young an old, are invited to Johnnie Coleman Academy January 30, 2009 to enjoy an afternoon of family entertainment sponsored by The Salvation Army. The event, created to reward perfect attendance, will feature games, a movie and a free pizza lunch for all. Families will also receive games to take home and enjoy together. The Salvation Army has plans to organize similar events at additional area schools.

The Salvation Army in Chicago and the Nation

The Salvation Army is the largest social service organization in the world and the single largest direct provider of social services in Chicago and the state of Illinois. The Army operates 200 points of entry in neighborhoods across the greater Chicago area, providing disaster relief, shelter, meals, rehabilitation programs, child care and head start, senior services and more. On any given night, about 900 people are sleeping under a Salvation Army roof. In 2010, The Army will celebrate 125 years of service in Chicago. The Salvation Army is there every day, 24-hours-a-day in Chicago and throughout the country providing disaster relief to people in crisis.

The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.