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## **NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Salvation Army called upon by the City of Chattanooga to open overnight shelter for individuals displaced from brownfield property**

Chattanooga, TN –This past weekend, The Salvation Army was called upon by the City of Chattanooga to extend shelter for those displaced from the encampment that was forced to close on 11<sup>th</sup> Street due to hazardous living conditions.

“We are continuing to stay in contact with those displaced from the contaminated site and are working to get them into more permanent housing” says Chattanooga Mayor Andy Berke. “We are very glad to be partnering with The Salvation Army and we appreciate their willingness to serve.”

Through the City of Chattanooga’s newly formed Interagency Council on Homelessness, agency partners and outreach volunteers:

- 136 individuals identified who stayed on the site
- 84 individuals have completed a housing application and screening
- 50 applicants have been processed so far
  - 11 have moved into housing
  - 27 have been approved and are waiting to move in
  - 7 have been denied after attending an appeals hearing

- 5 have had appeals and are awaiting a decision
- 52 individuals did not complete a housing screening or application
  - Some individuals could not be found after outreach process started
  - Some individuals refused to complete a housing screening to start the housing process with outreach workers

“We are happy that this is a path to permanent housing for the homeless in our community,” says Major Robert Lyle, Salvation Army Area Commander for the Greater Chattanooga Region.

The shelter will open each evening at 6:00 pm at The ReCreate Café, The Salvation Army's Day Center, located at 800 McCallie Avenue. ReCreate' Cafe staff is busy preparing to serve those in need throughout the evening and during its afternoon hours during the day. The day shelter will remain open during its afternoon hours Sundays – Fridays.

Volunteers are needed to help serve in the shelter. For volunteer information, email [Alissa.Best@uss.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Alissa.Best@uss.salvationarmy.org), or call 423-308-7704.

Donations of coffee, toiletries, blankets and money are being accepted at The Salvation Army, 822 McCallie Ave, Chattanooga, TN 37403. Monetary donations can also be made online at [www.csarmy.org](http://www.csarmy.org), by calling 1-800-Sal-Army. For additional information, please call The Salvation Army at 423-756-1023.

### **About The Salvation Army**

The Salvation Army, an evangelical part of the universal Christian church established in 1865, has been supporting those in need in His name without discrimination for 135 years in the United States. Nearly 30 million Americans receive assistance from The Salvation Army each year through the broadest array of social services that range from providing food for the hungry, relief for disaster victims, assistance for the disabled, outreach to the elderly and ill, clothing and shelter to the homeless and opportunities for underprivileged children. 82 cents of every dollar spent is used to carry out those services in 5,000 communities nationwide.

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