



**Giving
Hope
Today**

The Salvation Army
Canada & Bermuda Territory
Ontario Great Lakes Division
Brantford Community and Family Services

33 Diana Ave.
Brantford, ON N3T 0C2
Church: 519-752-7813
Family Services: 519-752-7814
www.SalvationArmyBrantford.ca

Dear Friends,

We, the Salvation Army are once again planning our **Community Christmas Program**. Last year, this drive provided 985 children with toys and stocking stuffers, we provided over 711 families with food and toys during the Christmas Season. You can be a part of making a difference in the lives of families right here in Brant County and in Brantford!

The Salvation Army in Brantford, Brant County and provides direct, compassionate, hands-on services and restores hope and dignity to society's most vulnerable. The Salvation has been in the area for over 140 years meeting the needs of its' community. Our hamper consists of gift cards to No Frills or Zehrs, food to prepare for a Christmas Dinner and Gifts and stocking stuffers for the kids! This program serves over 1000 - 1200 families through out the year and we expect the numbers to only increase. We service individuals and families who are on a limited income, recently unemployed as well as the working poor. Through our food bank alone we serve over 8000 individuals all year round.

The most needed items this Christmas are Food (PC Gift Cards), Toys and stocking stuffers. There are several different options to choose from. We have small and large barrels that we can provide you with for collection. Deadline for donations to be in by is December 10th. Feel free to drop-off donations or call us for a pick-up. We are located both at **The Salvation Army Church - 33 Diana Ave, Brantford and 25B Dundas Street West in Paris.**

These are just some ways that you can assist us in "Giving Hope Today" in our community. We are grateful for your involvement and willingness to help us this Christmas! We have attached a letter with different ways to help us this Christmas.

Thank you for considering this donation!

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. My contact information is listed below.

Kind regards,

William Ratelband
Community and Family Services Coordinator

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How can you help?

- **Host a Food Drive** – A Food Drive at Christmas is something that always helps to meet the crucial need all year round. This can be a lot of fun for a school, especially if you create a friendly ‘competition’ between the classes.
- **Host a Toy Drive** – Toy Drives to collect new unwrapped toys are especially needed at Christmas. The area of greatest need is toys for ages 0-3 and 10-13 years and gifts such as skateboards, hockey sticks, basketballs, and footballs are always a great idea. I can provide suggested items for each age category if you wish, but anything is beneficial. We are also in need of gift cards for children aged 10 and up so Walmart gift cards are also a great idea!
- **Host an Angel Tree** – This national Salvation Army program is a great way to collect toys this Christmas. You provide the Christmas tree and we will provide paper angels with toy suggestions to hang on your tree so that people can take the angel and purchase a new unwrapped toy for donation. Your Angel Tree can also be decorated with donations of hats and mittens rather than bulbs or lights.
- **Plan a Book Drive** – the Salvation Army has always been a very strong proponent of literacy. A book drive could be done in conjunction with an Angel Tree and we can provide angels that suggest a choice of either a toy or a book.
- **Collect Stocking Stuffers** – Collect new, small gifts that can be used to fill a Christmas Stocking. Stocking stuffers can include candy canes, fruit, hair elastics, small games, cards, small toys, etc.
- **Homeless Kits** – Collect clothing (such as slippers, hats, gloves, etc.) hygiene items (deodorant, soap, etc.) and food (granola bars, water, etc.). A more comprehensive list can be provided.
- **Senior Baskets** – this is a great way to sponsor a senior who is alone at Christmas time. Men’s baskets include socks, robes, candies, body wash, shampoo, deodorant, etc. Women’s baskets had robes, socks, body wash, shampoo, razors, candies, etc.
- **Corporate Volunteering** – either sponsoring a kettle for the day (2-hour shifts), volunteering on hamper days distributing food and toys, etc.