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# Bed & Bread Program

## Program Description

### **The Salvation Army**

Founded in 1865  
By William and Catherine Booth

### **Shaw Clifton**

General

### **Kenneth Baillie**

Territorial Commander

### **Norman S. Marshall**

Divisional Commander

The Salvation Army Bed and Bread Truck has brought food, shelter and compassion to scores of homeless, hungry, or destitute people in Detroit's poorest neighborhoods since 1988. For 20 years, the Bed & Bread program provided millions of meals to those in need in Detroit and surrounding area.

Every day three trucks leave their posts at Detroit Harbor Light Center on the city's west side with a full supply of food and other emergency assistance items to serve 3,000 meals on the streets of Detroit. Yet, these are only a third of the meals we provide daily in Metro Detroit.

Typically, a caseworker rides along on the truck to speak with those seeking assistance. At this time he/she can ascertain any additional needs the person may have, such as drug treatment or emergency energy assistance, and refer them to the corresponding facility.

Many of the people in need keep track of the truck's schedule as it pulls into some of the city's most impoverished areas. Oftentimes the people will be lined up on the street in anticipation of the truck's arrival. Many more emerge from their temporary residences in abandoned houses, cars, or on park benches and walk up to the truck's serving window to receive soup, sandwiches, fruit or a simple "hello" and a kind word.

Much of the financial support to run the Bed & Bread program originates from the Bed & Bread Club® - a system created by The Salvation Army where donors can make regular contributions for program costs. While individual Members give \$120 – 240 and up annually, business memberships start at \$2,500, which includes a day- sponsorship of the Bed and Bread trucks. A \$10,000 contribution will sponsor a week. Both include publicity, opportunities to ride the trucks, and mention by Dick Purtan during the WOMC Radiothon February, 29, 2008, and during the sponsored day or week.

There is no limit on the donation size. All contributions go entirely to battle homelessness by feeding and sheltering the men, women and children in need.

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