

## PRESS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

## **Donations Way Down for The Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign**

Livingston County, MI: Just like Christmas trees and angels come out each Christmas season, The Salvation Army of Livingston County places their iconic red kettles at stores all over Livingston County and requests donations to support their local Christmas goal. The donations collected during the Christmas season are approximately 1/3 of the yearly budget and are used to support its year-round service programs.

With Christmas 3 weeks away The Salvation Army is reaching out to the community to ask for help. <u>As of Wednesday</u>, <u>December 6, 2023</u>, <u>The Salvation Army of Livingston County has raised \$50,795.91</u>, only 12% of the \$400,000 goal. Not quite where they would like to be. However, they know that the community will get them there to ensure that they will be able to continue to help those in need.

The Salvation Army of Livingston County has had many challenges this season, including less bell ringing locations. However, the most important one is not having enough bell ringers.

"This year our challenge is finding bell ringers; I am sure the community has noticed that many of our kettle stands have no one ringing," says Lt. Robert Leach "That is because we are having a hard time finding both volunteers and paid ringers."

The Salvation Army has a simple ask, please sign up to bell ring. If volunteers take the minimum 2 hours and a couple more organizations and businesses take a few more full days we should be able to have the majority of our Kettle sites filled.

Lieutenant also remarks "The more kettles we have available, the easier it is to raise the funds. If we had all of our locations open the entire time, we are positive that we would be able to reach our Christmas goal."

Ringers are still needed to fill locations throughout the week, Monday - Saturday. Those wishing to help with bell ringing can sign up online <u>www.RegisterToRing.com</u>

For those unable to physically ring or that want to double down, The Salvation Army has another opportunity to help, Virtual Kettles. This is a great opportunity for families, organizations and individuals to help from their couch! You can easily sign up at <u>www.FundRaiseForGood.org</u>, choose Howell as your location.

*With 3 weeks* until Christmas, the end of bell ringing, and \$349,204.09 remaining to raise, The Salvation Army is positive the community will step up and help reach the goal.

Donations may also be dropped off Monday-Friday 9am-4:30pm at the corps office (503 Lake Street, Howell), or via mail P.O. Box 647, Howell 48844. ###