



THE SALVATION ARMY
BAHAMAS DIVISION

NEWSLETTER

"DOING THE MOST GOOD"

SPRING 2019

VOLUNTEER PROFILE

KHYLE HIGGS

Visiting Volunteer to
The Salvation Army
Bahamas Division

Melaneese Coakley,
Community Relations
Associate, conducted an
interview with Kyle Higgs,
an avid corporate volunteer.

Melaneese: Can you tell
us a little about you,
hobbies?

Khyle: For most of my
life, I've been an athlete. I
grew up playing baseball
at Freedom



Farm, and Track and Field,
specializing in the throws.
I still hold school records
at Queens University of
Charlotte in the Weight
Throw and Discus throw,
and from time to time I
find myself back in the
ring throwing and assist-
ing other young athletes.
Aside from sports, I really
enjoy cooking, traveling,
and spending time with
my family, especially my
two youngest cousins,
Charles and Celeste.

Melaneese: What is your
profession?

Khyle: I'm currently em-
ployed at Swiss America
Securities as a Brokerage
Operations Analyst. I also
hold the position of Acting
Treasurer in the Delta Ep-
silon Sigma chapter of Phi
Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.

SEE NEXT PG



Love Luncheon 2019

The Salvation Army Grants Town Corps has been within the Bain & Grants Town Community for more than eight decades. The Salvation Army mission has always been to serve the women, children and men who are in need despite the changing landscape of the community. On Saturday February 16th, 2019 The Salvation Army held its 6th Annual Love Luncheon. The Salvation Army Grants Town purposed to show the love of God in a distinct way each year for his children through its Love Luncheon. As the word of God says in Psalm 117 v 1-2 "Praise the LORD, all you nations; extol him, all you



peoples. For great is his love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD." The Salvation Army Grants Town gladly opened its doors to the community in the month of February with great enthusiasm because of the much anticipated

Love Luncheon. The meal was prepared, activities scheduled joined by eager volunteers to make it a memorable day for constituents of the community. The Love Luncheon once again had the support of Corps members, University of The Bahamas Honors Society Stu-

dents, Salvation Army Officers and several other volunteers serving 537 meals to attendees. The day was filled with laughter and joy as the volunteers and constituents interacted throughout the afternoon. The Love Luncheon would not be possible without the donations received during the Annual Red Kettles in the Christmas making the Love Luncheon possible for the past six years. Major Clarence Ingram, Divisional Commander said "this event is just one of the ways The Salvation Army continues to show God's love to individuals and families within our community.



A MUSIC NOTE FOR ALL SEASONS

On Saturday March 23rd The Salvation Army Bahamas Division hosted a Concert of Praise Fundraiser with special guests The Southern Territorial Songsters, Nassau Citadel Band and Gospel Jammers at the Dundas Center for the Performing Arts. Seven months of planning and several weeks of rehearsal and the evening was finally here. The inspiration for the concert was taken from Psalm 98:4 "Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music..."



boards, trumpets, clarinets, and brass instruments, led by the dynamic Band Master Everett Sands and Deputy Bandmaster Kenneth Sands.

The Concert of Praise also included the Gospel Jammers an all male group of men who excel in their musical skills and love showcasing their talent. The combined groups joined together to raise funds for programs offered by The Salvation Army Bahamas Division.

The Songsters, Nassau Citadel

Band and Gospel Jammers took to the stage and transcended the audience into a beautiful place of joy and bliss for two hours. The atmosphere was overflowing with enthusiasm from long time supporters and guests. The audience listened to song selections Baba Yetu - The Lord's Prayer in Swahili, Caribbean Sing Along, Mourning into Dancing and Do Lord just to name a few. During the night the combined group received resounding applause after each selection as the gospel and praise music took the attendees on a journey across genres of music. The evening was one for the ages as the night truly encompassed the theme found in Psalm 98:4 "Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music..."

Volunteer Profile : Khyle Higgs

Melinese: *What was the reason you choose to donate to the Salvation Army - Bahamas Division?*

Khyle: As a Bahamian, I've seen a lot of people been blessed: blessed with the gift of life, a job, wealth, access to resources, etc. While it is a joy to have these blessings, I've been groomed to know that we have to find ways to bless others. We were placed here on earth to live as a people; to me, that means being united, leaving no man behind, paying it forward for the next generation. So, I'm always thinking of ways to do that. My place of employment was planning to do a thanksgiving luncheon, and I felt that it was only right that we try to make sure some families would be able to accomplish the same at their own desire and timing. I had decided to plan a "Thanksgiving giveback" amongst our various departments. After all, thanksgiving is truly a season of giving. That is, giving thanks, giving praise, it wouldn't hurt to add giving to those in need

to that list.

Melinese: *Why do you consider it important to give back to the community through The Salvation Army - Bahamas Division and volunteer ?*

Khyle: I've always been a supporter of the organization, since the mandatory high school community service that St. Augustine's College requires. I completed about half of the mandated hours at The Salvation Army in The Bahamas because I felt connected to the mission of the organization; I can actually see the assistance that the organization provides to those in need. While being in college in Charlotte, I had the opportunity to assist with the local Salvation Army division on numerous occasions. That connection I felt only grew stronger, because I grew to see the transparency of the organization across the board now. This organization has shown me that while it isn't the biggest in numerous areas, it does everything in its ability to provide for those in need. Ranging from items for survival, straight to Salvation, as many locations provide church services. In my

opinion, The Salvation Army is, if not the best, one of the best places to volunteer one's time and resources, especially if you wish to see the effect in your community. No man is turned away from a meal, ever. No man is turned away from the church, ever. And the thrift store provides essentials like clothing, small appliances and shoes at a price that cannot be beat.

Melinese: *How would describe the response from colleagues?*

Khyle: The management of Swiss America Securities was really pleased with the collective efforts that the staff put forward to donate. It was truly an overwhelming amount of support, and they're the true heroes. It'd be wrong of me to take a chunk of the credit for this, when their efforts were amazing. My colleagues were happy to donate, and it's really been influential. My family is even considering planning a regular holiday giveback now, and it's refreshing to see how an act of giving can balloon and create an impulse in others to want to follow suit. I'm really happy with the outcome of the donation.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIVISIONAL COMMANDER MAJOR CLARENCE INGRAM

As you can see from news articles The Salvation Army is both blessed and busy. It is a blessing to receive the kind support from so many people and we are always busy helping those in need. Since the fall newsletter, the newly renovated Emergency Shelter for Women & Children has reopened and is always near capacity. The Community Learning Centers continue to provide education and homework help for young students in Grantstown & at the Mackey St. location and the Christmas kettle campaign was a success. It enabled us to provide hot meals and food parcels especially to our senior citizens.

As we look to the summer, my biggest concern is the Welfare & Feeding program. At this time the program has a very large deficit of over \$75,000 and income is always low during the summer months. We are desperately struggling to maintain this program that so many people rely on it. So at this time I am making a special appeal for you to please help us by providing a financial gift to keep The Salvation Army programs going. Thank you for your help, it is very much needed and appreciated.

My check payable to The Salvation Army is enclosed.

Yes! I'll help you reach out to local individuals and families in need of help and hope.

GIFT AMOUNT

\$25 \$50 \$100
Other _____

You may also give via credit/debit card by going online at www.salvationarmybahamas.org or by calling 242.393.2340 Your gift will be used to meet real Community needs.