

THE SALVATION ARMY I AUSTRALIA EASTERN TERRITORY I HMS.SALVOS.ORG.AU

## MEDIA RELEASE

10 September 2012

## The Salvation Army announces humanitarian support role on Nauru and Manus Island

The Salvation Army has entered into a contract with the Federal Government to provide humanitarian support services for asylum seekers who will be housed and processed on Nauru and Manus Island.

Under the agreement with the Federal Government, The Salvation Army will provide counselling, pastoral care and recreational and other programs aimed at supporting the welfare and emotional well-being of asylum seekers awaiting processing.

The Salvation Army spokesperson, Major Paul Moulds, said: "While The Salvation Army remains gravely concerned about the potential impact of offshore processing on the wellbeing and mental health of asylum seekers, our primary concern is to provide the best possible care in these circumstances.

"As an organisation The Salvation Army is driven by the desire to extend compassion and generosity to any who need it, wherever they might be."

The Salvation Army already provides chaplaincy support to asylum seekers at Immigration Detention Centres in Australia, and is currently involved in the provision of housing and support services under the Australian Government's Community Detention program.

A more detailed statement is available at hms.salvos.org.au/media-releases-2/

## **ENDS**

## For further information or media enquiries please contact:

Joseph Younes, The Salvation Army Humanitarian Mission Services - 0427 509 028

The Salvation Army Media Office – (02) 9266 9820 (diverts after hours)