



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**THE SALVATION ARMY READIES DISASTER RESPONSE FOR APPROACH OF HURRICANE NOLO,
FORECASTED TO BRING HEAVY RAIN, DAMAGING WINDS TO HAWAI'I ISLAND AND
MAUI COUNTY**

The Salvation Army's Hilo Overnight Safe Space guests to be temporarily relocated due to storm

HONOLULU (September 24, 2026) - With Tropical Storm Nolo on track to intensify into a hurricane today, The Salvation Army Hawaiian & Pacific Islands Division has readied its Emergency Disaster Services (EDS) reinforcements in support of Hawai'i Island and Maui. Nolo is predicted to carry significant rainfall to storm-weary communities still struggling to recover from waves of destructive weather systems. Working closely alongside state and county leadership and local partners to prepare for Nolo's approach, The Salvation Army in Hawai'i and Maui County is anticipating activation to provide community feeding operations at county-run emergency shelters. Following the storm, The Salvation Army EDS team members based in the islands and those deployed for the ongoing disaster response for Hurricane Lowell will continue to provide relief where the needs are the greatest.

"The sheer repetition of severe storms that have inundated Hawai'i in a matter of weeks is matched only by the resiliency of the inspiring people we've had the honor to serve, who time after time have risen up to help a neighbor and navigate the uncertainties of these disasters," said Major Troy Trimmer, Divisional Commander of The Salvation Army Hawaiian & Pacific Islands Division. "While the need is growing exponentially with each new stormfront to reach our shores, so too is our readiness to bring relief and advance the recovery of our communities."

Beginning Friday evening, The Salvation Army's Hilo Overnight Safe Space, regularly serving houseless members of the community, will temporarily relocate to Hilo High School—a location designated by Hawai'i County to help weather the anticipated hazardous conditions. The safe space shelter guests will continue to be served by officers, staff, and volunteers of The Salvation Army's Hilo Temple Corps who are familiar with the specialized needs and vulnerabilities of their clients. The State Department of Health will also provide care support, and the Hawai'i Animal Kuleana Alliance (HAKA) is generously bringing kennels and pet supplies for many of the Hilo Overnight Safe Space guests seeking shelter with their pets.

"We are grateful to the County and our friends at HAKA in helping us ensure that the care of our Overnight Safe Space clients goes on uninterrupted in the face of these challenging times," said Captain Felicia LeMar, who serves with Captain Sam LeMar as Hawaii County coordinators in



addition to their roles as Hilo Temple Corps officers. “Together, we are providing a place for those who are houseless to not only ride out the storm, but to feel the community’s collective aloha.”

Over the past few weeks, The Salvation Army has received shipments of replenishments to its local relief supplies such as cleaning kits, personal hygiene kits, and baby essentials, which are at the ready for distribution, in coordination with community partners, as needs continue to arise. Since Hawai‘i has endured the arrivals of Hurricane Lala and Tropical Storm Moke in August, followed by Hurricane Lowell earlier this month, The Salvation Army has walked alongside impacted communities statewide, serving more than 18,000 meals, providing over \$64,000 in direct financial assistance to those impacted by disaster, and distributing more than 700 cleaning kits to households navigating debris and flood damage. On Hawai‘i Island specifically, over 11,600 people have been served in The Salvation Army’s disaster response.

To learn more about The Salvation Army’s Emergency Disaster Services supporting Hawai‘i communities, please visit hawaii.salvationarmy.org. Donations are needed to help provide EDS meals, essential supplies, and emotional and spiritual care to neighbors affected and displaced. Please visit <https://fundraise.salvationarmyhawaii.org/HawaiiPacificDisasterRelief26>.

B-roll and photos of The Salvation Army’s Hilo Overnight Safe Space shelter and Malama ‘Ohana Kitchen Trailer at the Hilo Temple Corps Community Center (taken at a dedication event for the shelter’s expansion in August 2025) are available [HERE](#), courtesy of The Salvation Army.

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About The Salvation Army – Hawaiian & Pacific Islands Division. The Salvation Army Hawaiian & Pacific Islands Division covers the state of Hawai‘i and the Pacific Islands including Guam, The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Republic of the Marshall Islands and The Federated States of Micronesia. The Division offers a wide variety of programs throughout the islands including: affordable senior housing; at-risk youth services and housing; camp & conference center; family stores; food distribution and feeding programs; homeless services; The Kroc Center – Hawai‘i’s largest community center; preschools & day care services; social services – emergency assistance; substance abuse treatment; and work therapy & rehabilitation services. For more information, call [808-988-2136](tel:808-988-2136), visit hawaii.salvationarmy.org, and follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Susan Wright and Laura Young
Becker Communications, Inc.
[\(808\) 533-4165](tel:8085334165)

