

A “Helping Hand” Grant



DOING THE MOST GOOD®
GREATER NEW YORK DIVISION

Grant Application and Instructions

Graduating Class of 2026

Key Contact:

Captain Nereus Mogaria

Phone: 718-345-7050

Email: Nereus.Mogaria@use.salvationarmy.org



The Salvation Army Brooklyn Brownsville Corps “Helping Hand” Grant

Overview:

The Salvation Army Brooklyn Brownsville Corps “Helping Hand” Grant is awarded to students graduating from a high school in the Brownsville/East New York Community.

The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.

We are the Greater New York Division of The Salvation Army, and for over 130 years, we’ve dedicated ourselves to doing the most good for the men, women and children in our area who need it most.

What is the Helping Hand Grant?

The “Helping Hand” Grant is a one-time award presented to graduating seniors who have consistently shown characteristics of integrity, resilience and service to others, and who will be attending an accredited college, university, community college, technical or trade school.

The primary criteria of this grant are based on students’ attributes and community achievements as communicated by the applicant and supporting recommendations. Graduating students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.3 or higher.

For 2026, the grant amount will be up to \$500.00.

To receive a Helping Hand Grant:

The graduating senior must attend one of the following high schools:

- W.H Maxwell Career and Technical Education
- Frederick Douglass Academy VII
- Brownsville Academy
- Teacher’s Preparatory
- Thomas Jefferson Educational Campus:
 - Performing Arts and Technology
 - World Academy for Total Community Health
 - FDNY High School for Fire and Life Safety
 - High School For Civil Rights

Each student must provide a completed application and two required recommendations by the stated application deadline.

The Helping Hand Grant selection committee will evaluate all qualified applicants. The decision will be based on information obtained from the applications submitted and, if deemed needed, discussions with the applicant(s). The decision of the selection committee will be final.

The award recipient(s) must submit proof of acceptance to an accredited college, university, community college, technical or trade school. Proof of acceptance, (i.e.; Bursar’s registration bill, school housing receipt, or other official documents) will be required to receive the grant award.



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Help Hand Grant Application Instructions

Eligible students must complete and submit all required forms by the announced deadline date by taking the following steps:

Step 1: Student must complete the Application Form

Using the APPLICATION FORM in this application, the student must neatly complete and sent it by either:

- Email - Captain Nereus Mogaria; Subject: Helping Hand Grant at Nereus.Mogaria@use.salvationarmy.org; or
- Mailed to The Salvation Army Brooklyn Brownsville Corps, 280 Riverdale Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11212. Attn: Helping Hand Grant

Step 2: Obtain two (2) Personal Recommendations and include with Application Form

Using the PERSONAL RECOMMENDATION FORMS included in this application, the student must obtain two (2) recommendations. The recommendations can be from a teacher, instructor, coach, community leader, religious leader, or supervisor who worked with the applicant, or any other adult (not a family member) who is familiar with applicant’s personal achievements and abilities. Completed recommendations should be:

- Returned to the student in a signed, sealed envelope for the student to include the recommendation with their completed application.

Due Date:

Completed applications for the Salvation Army Brooklyn Brownsville Corps “Helping Hand” Grant must be received by **Friday, May 15, 2026**. Any applications received after the deadline will be considered void and not considered by the review committee.

From the pool of applications received, applicants may be selected to do an on-line interview with the selection committee. Interviews will take place in the month of May 2026. Advanced notice regarding the exact date will be provided.



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HELPING HAND GRANT APPLICATION

General Information (Please Type or Print)

Full Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Home Phone: _____
Mobile Phone: _____
E-mail: _____

Educational Information (Please Type or Print)

Name of High School attending: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Date of Graduation: _____ G.P.A.: _____
Name of Guidance Counselor: _____
E-mail: _____

Post High School Information (Please Type or Print)

Name of College/University/Technical/Trade School: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Major / Course of Study: _____



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In 200 words or less, describe two (2) examples where you’ve helped someone or your community. Include what motivated you to help them and what did you learn from each experience?

In 200 words or less, tell us about a challenging time or an obstacle that you’ve faced. What did you do and what did you learn about yourself?

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How would you rate yourself in the following areas: (Please place a check mark in the appropriate column)

CATEGORY	Below Average	Average	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Respects all individuals					
Is trustworthy					
Learns from one's mistakes					
Can overcome barriers					
Will follow through on commitments					
Is a kind person					

Attestation and Release:

The information provided in my application is, to the best of my knowledge, complete and accurate. I understand that false statements on this application will disqualify me from receiving the grant.

I (please print your name) _____, give permission for any college, school, or individual to release to The Salvation Army Brooklyn Brownsville Corps any information necessary to process my grant application. I understand that it is my responsibility to ensure that all supporting documents are received by the Salvation Army Brooklyn Brownsville Corps by the due date. I give permission to use my name and photo for any press release or external communication as a grant recipient.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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PERSONAL RECOMMENDATION FORM #1

TO THE APPLICANT:

Please give this recommendation form to your personal reference who will complete Sections B & C and return it to you in a signed, sealed envelope to include with your completed application.

SECTION A (Please Type or Print)

Applicant's Name: _____

TO THE RECOMMENDER:

Please complete the requested information in Sections B & C. When completed, please:

- 1) Sign the form
- 2) Put the completed recommendation form in a sealed envelope
- 3) Sign your name across the seal of the envelope
- 4) Return it to the applicant

SECTION B (Please Type or Print)

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Mobile Phone: _____
E-mail: _____
How long have you been acquainted with the applicant? _____
In what capacity have you interacted with the applicant? _____ _____



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SECTION C (Please place a check mark in the appropriate column)

In comparison to young adults in a similar group or capacity with whom you have interacted, how would you rate this applicant in terms of the areas listed below?

CATEGORY	Below Average	Average	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Helps Others:					
Makes a difference in school and/or the community					
Helps those who are not in a position to help themselves					
Is a mentor; willing to teach others					
Encourages others to do well or the right thing					
Is a Good Person:					
Respects all individuals					
Is trustworthy					
Learns from one's mistakes					
Can overcome barriers					
Will follow through on commitments					
Is a kind person					

Additional Comments: (If more space is needed, please attach a separate sheet)

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____



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PERSONAL RECOMMENDATION FORM #2

TO THE APPLICANT:

Please give this recommendation form to your personal reference who will complete Sections B & C and return it to you in a signed, sealed envelope to include with your completed application.

SECTION A (Please Type or Print)

Applicant's Name: _____

TO THE RECOMMENDER:

Please complete the requested information in Sections B & C. When completed, please:

- 5) Sign the form
- 6) Put the completed recommendation form in a sealed envelope
- 7) Sign your name across the seal of the envelope
- 8) Return it to the applicant

SECTION B (Please Type or Print)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Mobile Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

How long have you been acquainted with the applicant? _____

In what capacity have you interacted with the applicant?



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SECTION C (Please place a check mark in the appropriate column)

In comparison to young adults in a similar group or capacity with whom you have interacted, how would you rate this applicant in terms of the areas listed below?

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Encourages others to do well or the right thing					
Is a Good Person:					
Respects all individuals					
Is trustworthy					
Learns from one's mistakes					
Can overcome barriers					
Will follow through on commitments					
Is a kind person					

Additional Comments: (If more space is needed, please attach a separate sheet)

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____



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Brownsville Corps - 718-345-7050