



Making it Happen 2025-2026

Restoring dignity for women and children in Papua New Guinea

Introduction

Background

For more than a decade, women's ministries and other Salvationist groups across Australia have faithfully fundraised for people in developing nations. Many lives and communities were changed in various locations as new projects were launched. Since 2020, the Making it Happen project has invited all Salvationists to get involved. This year's project will raise funds for mission work in Papua New Guinea.

This year's project

In 2025, your support will help transform a critical Salvation Army Women's Refuge in Papua New Guinea (PNG) – offering safety, care, and hope to women and children escaping domestic violence.

With nearly 70% of women in PNG experiencing family or sexual violence, the need for secure refuge is urgent. Yet safe, stable accommodation is severely limited and doesn't cope with the need. Our current facility is overcrowded and in disrepair so many women are left to sleep on pallets on the floor.

This year's Making It Happen Appeal will fund a full renovation and expansion of the refuge, including new beds, furnishings, and vital resources. The upgraded facility will not only offer shelter, but also counselling, vocational training, and pathways to independence.

Corps officers will be equipped with resources and training to help them respond effectively to women fleeing domestic violence—both those staying in the refuge and those within their congregations.

With your support, we can restore dignity, rebuild lives, and bring real hope to women and children in crisis.

Together, we can make it happen!

Winnie's Story – From survival to strength – a journey of hope

When Winnie arrived at the refuge with her children, they had nothing but the clothes on their backs. She had been hospitalised after a violent attack by her husband. Thankfully, hospital staff referred her to The Salvation Army Women's Refuge—where her journey toward healing began.

Winnie considers herself one of the fortunate ones. In a country where safe accommodation is scarce, she found safety, shelter, support, and the opportunity to learn and grow.

While living at the refuge, Winnie accessed counselling and practical skills training. Today, she has a job and is preparing to live independently—free from fear, and full of hope for the future.

Your support makes stories like Winnie’s possible. Help more women and children find safety and a second chance.

Making it Happen Sunday

Corps are encouraged to hold a special Making it Happen Sunday in the next 12 months. This will be an opportunity to raise awareness about, pray for and hold an offering for this year’s project.

You might also like to host an additional fundraising event throughout the year. See our 10 ideas list for fundraising suggestions.

For more information, visit: my.salvos.org.au/making-it-happen

Elements to include

- Intergenerational segment
- Teaching
- Prayer activity
- Making it Happen offering

Scripture suggestions

“For every house has a builder, but the one who built everything is God.” (Hebrews 3:4, NLT)

“We should help others do what is right and build them up in the Lord.” (Romans 15:2, NLT)

“So then, let us aim for harmony in the church and try to build each other up.” (Romans 14:19, NLT)

“When God’s people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality.” (Romans 12:13, NLT)

“Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God’s people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ.” (Ephesians 4:11-12, NLT)

Intergenerational segment

Prior to the meeting, ask everyone to bring gold coins to donate during this service. Have some extra gold coins, if possible, for those who have not brought any.

No matter how old or young we are, we have things that we can be thankful for.

I wonder what you have that you are grateful for? Can you think of five things? You might be grateful for warm clothes to wear? A favourite toy? A dishwasher? A friend or family member? A home to live in?

Hold up five fingers if you can think of five things you are grateful for.

What are you grateful for? ***Allow for some responses.***

Now, I wonder if you can think of five things you are good at or that you like about yourself?

Hold up five fingers if you can think of five things you are good at or that you like about yourself.

Share one thing with someone who is near to you.

God has given us many good gifts. The things that we have, the special things that make us who we are and the things we are good at, are all gifts from God.

God gives generously to us, and he asks that we also give generously to others so that everyone has what they need. ² Corinthians 8:14 (NLT) says, "Right now you have plenty and can help those who are in need. Later, they will have plenty and can share with you when you need it. In this way, things will be equal."

Has anyone ever visited Papua New Guinea? Does anyone know where Papua New Guinea is? It is north of Australia – highlighted in orange.



Did you know that people from The Salvation Army are sharing the love of Jesus in their villages in Papua New Guinea? Especially with women and children who have had to leave their home because it was unsafe. They are also helping to make sure everyone has a safe place to live, healthy food and people to care for them. They need our help with something.

The corps officers need to learn how to help women in need and teach them how to create a safe new life where they can live with hope. Together, people across Australia are giving generously to help renovate and extend an existing refuge and fill it with beds and furniture. It will be a place where women can learn new life skills to help them and their families.

Because God has given so much to us, we can give to help them.

Invite everyone to bring the coins that they have brought and build a tower of coins.

Or

Print the floorplan of a house on an A3 poster. Place the floorplan on a table and invite everyone to cover the outline of the floorplan with coins.

Teaching outline

Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, ⁵ so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other. ⁶In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. ⁷ If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. ⁸ If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly.

⁹ Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. ¹⁰ Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other. ¹¹ Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically. ¹² Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying. ¹³ When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality.

Romans 12:4-13 (NLT)

God calls us to use what we have to build each other up. He gives to us AND calls us to give to others. We model our generous giving on God's generous giving to us.

Main points

1. In his grace, God generously gives us many different kinds of gifts:

- God's giving is unlimited, ongoing, it flows freely.
 - God's generosity to us is not like a jug of water that runs out. It is not like a tap that can be turned on and off. It is like a natural spring that gushes out of a rock without ceasing.
 - God's gifts come in many different forms – finances, time, people, talents, etc.
 - "God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need, and plenty left over to share with others" (2 Corinthians 9:8, NLT).
2. These gifts are not for us to hold – they are for us to give:
- If you have the gift of prophesy then speak; the gift of serving then serve well; the gift of teaching then teach etc.
 - God's gifts, like his love, should flow through us.
 - The way that we live should be for the benefit of others.
 - "We should help others do what is right and build them up in the Lord" (Romans 15:2, NLT).
3. As we each live generous lives, the whole community benefits:
- When one part of our body suffers, the whole suffers. When one part is cared for, the entire body benefits.
 - We are the body of Christ – old and young, rich and poor, near and far.

Conclusion

Today we think of members of the body who are far away. Verse 13 says, "When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality."

Our friends in Papua New Guinea are living this verse out. The new centre will be a place to welcome community people and to practice hospitality.

As we support this project, we will also be putting this Scripture into action as we contribute to the needs of God's people.

Prayer activity

You will need:

- Enough wooden building blocks for everyone to have one
- Masking tape – prior to the meeting, place a strip of masking tape along one side of each block
- Pencils – enough for everyone to have one

Ask everyone to write on the masking tape a word or two that represents their prayer for the work of The Salvation Army in Papua New Guinea and its corps officers.

Invite them to bring their blocks to the front and contribute to building a block house.