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In Partnership with The Salvation Army, San Francisco launches a new meal delivery program for unhoused people, increasing their ability to shelter in place and participate in social distancing protocols.

San Francisco, CA – The San Francisco Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH) and The Salvation Army today announced the creation of a meal delivery program, MealsinPlaceSF, to prepare and deliver meals to people experiencing homelessness and living in encampments in San Francisco. The goal of this program is to improve food security and minimize COVID 19 exposure by supporting people living outside and increasing their ability to shelter in place.

Through this program, designed to contain the spread of COVID 19 by removing barriers to social distancing, The Salvation Army will serve 665 unsheltered people daily with 2 prepared meals and snacks delivered daily (ramping up to 1,400 meals per day), Monday – Saturday (Saturday’s delivery will include meals for Sunday) at 40 outdoor locations citywide. A Salvation Army Team of 23 staff utilizing eight cars will transport and deliver the meals directly to people experiencing homelessness during this pandemic.

“As The Salvation Army continues to serve the people of San Francisco during the Coronavirus pandemic through its breadth of social services, we’re glad to be able to partner with the City on such a creative and collaborative approach,” said Captain Matthew Madsen, regional director for The Salvation Army in San Francisco. “It’s part of our mission to serve the community, especially those in need, during a crisis. And now more than ever those who are unhoused, need the extra care and support that we are equipped to provide every day, and certainly during these trying times.”

“Providing food security directly to encampments and unhoused people struggling on our streets is an essential component in expanding Shelter in Place compliance and enabling the most vulnerable among us to participate in social distancing,” said Abigail Stewart-Kahn, Interim Director of the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing. “We are grateful to The Salvation Army for their innovative partnership, resources and commitment to making our community safer for everyone during this crisis.”
The newly launched MealsInPlaceSF program will be implemented for an initial 30 days. In addition to meals, The Salvation Army will be providing optional emotional and spiritual care, as well as distributing hygiene kits and dog food.

About The Salvation Army:
Since 1883, The Salvation Army has been transforming lives throughout the Greater Bay Area. The Red Kettle Campaign started in San Francisco in 1891 and is in its 129th year and is the largest and longest-running fundraiser of its kind. It raised $142.7 million nationwide during the 2019 campaign. The Salvation Army annually helps more than 23 million Americans overcome poverty, addiction and economic hardships through a range of social services. Locally, they serve more than 500,000 people annually in the Greater Bay Area. offering practical support, spiritual comfort and a critical safety net to people in need. The Salvation Army provides services to the homeless without discrimination regardless of ethnic or national origin, race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation or immigration status.
For every dollar donated to The Salvation Army, 82 cents is used to support those services in facilities throughout the Bay Area. For more information go to www.sanfrancisco.salvationarmy.org or goldenstate.salvationarmy.org. Those who are unable to give their time can still help us meet the needs in their community by making a monetary donation. All of our community centers, facilities and programs need support to continue serving the most vulnerable populations. Donate online at goldenstate.salvationarmy.org

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