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Territorial Commander

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THE SALVATION ARMY

Founded in 1865 by William and Catherine Booth

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA DIVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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Dear Avalon Residents & Surrounding Communities,

As you are aware The Salvation Army is excited about purchasing the American Legion property located at 327 S. Home Avenue to build a new Worship and Service Center for the North Boroughs Community and beyond.

I want to address the concerns of your constituents regarding the programs and services which will be offered from this facility. **Please rest assured that The Salvation Army North Boroughs Worship and Service Center will never operate or implement in any degree or capacity a drug or alcohol rehabilitation/treatment facility or a homeless shelter. We simply would not offer this type of service within this residential community.**

The Salvation Army North Boroughs Worship and Service Center is first and foremost a church. We will offer Sunday Worship services as well as Sunday school and all are welcomed. In addition, we will have a recreational and educational programming center, with a Christian focus on providing quality, supervised afterschool programs such as recreational opportunities for youth as well as tutoring programs, classroom space and computer labs. A facility such as what we are proposing will offer local kids much more constructive alternatives to boredom or unstructured loitering. The Salvation Army North Boroughs Worship and Service Center will be a safe haven for all participants, with the ultimate goal of strengthening the youth, families and neighborhoods of this region. Salvation Army programs for young people are intended to offer strategies for academic, social and spiritual development, while also incorporating preventative strategies to steer them away from crime and addiction, before these negative influences permeate their lives.

Moreover, I want to address the concern regarding the Eagle Scout's Memorial Monument currently placed in front of the American Legion facility. Please know The Salvation Army is willing to have open dialogue as to the future placement of the monument. Whether the monument remains at the current property or is relocated to another public location our objective is to protect the legacy of the memorial for the communities benefit.

The well-being, reputation and success of Avalon and the North Boroughs communities is very important to us, and we would never want to jeopardize these principles. The Salvation Army North Boroughs Worship and Service Center will be advantageous to all residents as we partner and work together towards reaffirming family relationships and uplifting our young people with positive programming.

The Salvation Army is truly grateful for your support and accommodation.

Sincerely yours,

Major Deborah R. Sedlar
Divisional Commander
Western Pennsylvania Division

Please Consider a Planned Gift with The Salvation Army