



MEDIA RELEASE

19 February 2014

The Salvation Army saddened by Manus Island death

The Salvation Army is deeply saddened by the death of an asylum seeker in Manus Island Offshore Processing Centre and thoroughly welcomes an independent investigation into the circumstances that led to this tragedy.

Sharon Callister, Chief Executive Officer for The Salvation Army Humanitarian Mission Services, has asked for remembrance of the deceased. "We remember the deceased and we pray for his family, other asylum seekers and our personnel who are undertaking this important work in caring for all those who come into our care," Ms Callister said.

The Salvation Army confirms all its personnel on Manus Island are safe from harm, with most having left the facility before the violent unrest commenced.

Working on Manus Island and Nauru since the recommencement of offshore processing in 2012, the Salvation Army has been contracted by the Australian Department of Immigration and Border Protection to provide humanitarian support and welfare services to the asylum seekers transferred there.

This support has included practical assistance, case management services, recreational activities, educational and other programs aimed at supporting the welfare and emotional well-being of asylum seekers.

ENDS

For further information or media enquiries please contact:

Joseph Younes, The Salvation Army Humanitarian Mission Services – 0427 509 028

The Salvation Army Media Office – (02) 9266 9820 (diverts after hours)