



The Salvation Army Disaster Services Vehicles

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Full Service Mobile Feeding Units



The Salvation Army

These feeding units, also known as canteens, prepare and serve food and are generally capable of providing 1500 meals per day for five to seven days. A typical Full Service Mobile Feeding Unit includes the following equipment:

- Griddle (24 – 36 inch surface)
- Four burner stove top
- Oven and warming units
- Microwave or convection oven
- Three compartment sink
- Hand washing sink
- Large capacity coffee maker (gas or electric)
- Refrigerator/freezer
- Cabinetry and preparation surfaces
- Five to eight kilowatt generator
- Heating/cooling unit

Disaster Response Units (DRUs)



The Salvation Army

A Disaster Response Unit (or DRU) is also a food service vehicle and is capable of providing approximately 1000 meals per day. This vehicle is designed primarily to serve food rather than prepare and serve like the Full Service Mobile Feeding Unit. However, some DRUs have evolved to contain more preparation equipment and thus are hybrids. The typical configuration of the DRU includes, but is not limited to:

- Cambro (brand name) food storage containers
- Refrigerator
- Cabinetry
- Coffee maker
- Microwave or convection oven
- Two burner grill (optional)

Fixed Feeding Sites



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A mobile feeding unit or canteen may become stationary if it will better serve the needs in a particular situation. When a decision is made to do this, the mobile feeding unit is then designated as a fixed feeding site (as opposed to a fixed feeding facility, described below). Other fixed sites include tents or other temporary cover and will have various capacities for service.

Reasons why this may occur include the following:

- The fixed feeding site allows a more centralized location
- Survivors are, or need to be, congregated in a specific area
- Measures are required to control movement of people and or vehicles
- Additional sites are needed

Fixed Feeding Facility

There are two primary reasons for establishing a fixed feeding facility, such as in a local church or community building. These are:

- Convenience of location for affected people
- Needed capacity for preparing and serving food and beverages

The fixed feeding facility's kitchen capacity may exceed the capacity of the mobile feeding unit, allowing larger numbers of people to be served. The fixed facility is also useful when a longer term operation is needed and may be less likely to present maintenance and operational issues. The effectiveness of the fixed feeding facility in a disaster is facilitated by relationships established between The Salvation Army and other partner organizations and churches before the disaster strikes.