

To Whom It May Concern,

I am reaching out to all those involved in The Salvation Army's, "Red Kettle Campaign" and I believe you have one outside of your store.

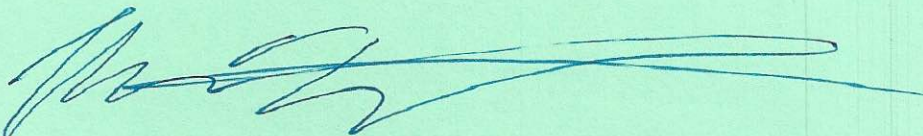
What pushed me to reach out to everyone about The Salvation Army Tree of Lights Red Kettle Campaign was an article I came across in The Omaha World Herald which stated that, "The funds raised from kettles go directly into services like food, housing, utility assistance, and more. The need has always been great for those services — but this year, it's greater than ever amid the COVID-19 pandemic." I was employed at The Salvation Army in Lincoln and kept track of the financial aspect of the donations from the "Red Kettle's" on a nightly basis. The amount of money raised from the Red Kettles in Lincoln does not go towards any direct assistance to individuals.

In a conversation I had with The Salvation Army's Internal Auditor Howard Wagner in Omaha (Divisional Headquarters) when talking about utilities fraud he said "What I don't like is we expense a lot of things, but we don't give out assistance, and what we raise in kettles and all that other stuff basically. Basically, if we don't grant it, they don't give it out." With COVID-19 amongst us I felt it necessary to reach out to everyone helping out with the Tree of Lights campaign this year. By allowing the red kettles in front of your stores I hope that you will demand the Lincoln Salvation Army use those funds on things other than debt, politics, their church, band, officer perks etc. The money you help raise should go to the people of Lincoln.

The Lincoln Journal Star has a direct link to Charity Navigator in one of their recent articles "How Are Your Charitable Donations Used". Typing in The Salvation Army brings up nothing because they are a Church and are not required to disclose their finances. I will tell you however that Major Mark Anderson changed the way they calculate their "direct assistance to individuals" in-between FY 2017 – FY 2018 by adding "Gift in Kind" to the budget which resulted in a \$575,085.00 increase in the budget between those years. The only reason to add "Gift in Kind" is to make it appear like you are doing more for the community when in reality that difference was all donated goods.

Please visit my website task67.com for more information on the many misuses of funds The Salvation Army of Lincoln is involved in. Together, maybe we can force a change. The people of Lincoln need their charitable dollars to be used in good faith.

Thank you,
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One example of TSA's misuse of funds is how they do not use Black Hills Energy Customer and Employee donations according to what they say to the public, like this Lincoln Journal Star article. Notice during this period they received \$16,633.40 from Black Hills (after Omaha took 10%) and then only spent \$596.67 on helping people.

BLACK HILLS CARES CUSTOMER & EMPLOYEE DONATIONS

FOR THE SALVATION ARMY OF LINCOLN

TO USE ON LOCALS IN NEED OF HEAT ASSISTANCE

					July	August	September
# of Lincoln, NE Residents & Black Hills Customers who donated to the Salvation Army to					896	759	884
# of Lincoln, NE Residents & Black Hills Energy Employees who wanted to assist the people					14	14	14
# of donations	ave # donations/month	ave # of donations/day	amount of money raised		910	773	898
2581	860.33	28.36	\$16,633.40				
Average amount raised per day vs actual amount spent per day during the same period					July	August	September
ave \$ per day	ave \$ per month	total for Q4		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 596.67	
\$182.78	\$5,544.47	\$16,633.40					



JOURNAL STAR

Salvation Army quietly making a huge difference

- Awards between \$14,000 and \$19,000 per month in utility assistance through the HeatShare program.

- And, pays for gas vouchers and motel rooms for those who are homeless.

Many of the agency's most ardent financial supporters have a pretty clear vision of how far their donated dollars are stretched, but the litany of services listed by Anderson provided some valuable insight during a recent presentation at a Northeast Lincoln Sertoma Club meeting. "We don't just dole out the cash ... we work directly with the families," Anderson told the Sertomans.

He added that on a national level, Salvation Army's tentacles are reaching out to families affected by hurricane damage in Florida and Texas.

At the breakfast meeting, Northeast Sertoma donated \$500 to the HeatShare program - matched by the Black Hills Energy Foundation - and an additional \$3,068.66 for the hurricane victims in Florida and Texas.

**THE SALVATION ARMY OF LINCOLN, NE
Heart to God, Hand to POCKET!!!**

Major Mark Anderson, chief administrator for the Salvation Army in Lincoln, shares a laugh with Northeast Sertoma Club President Donna Maguire. Northeast Sertoma gave \$3,068.66 to Salvation Army's hurricane