



## MEDIA RELEASE

17 December 2012

### **The Salvation Army and asylum seeker internet rights in Nauru**

There has been much misinformation recently about The Salvation Army restricting internet time for people in our care in Nauru.

The Salvation Army facilitates access to the computer room and runs a booking system to ensure everybody gets a fair go. The Salvation Army does not supply the computer or internet equipment; rather, it manages the available resources. Everyone has access to go online without restriction other than to sites which are deemed violent, pornographic or have other inappropriate content.

The decision to alter internet access times was done at the request of and in consultation with various representatives of the different groups in Nauru. They wanted a new policy where internet times could be managed fairly amongst the 385 people in our care.

Through discussions with the asylum seekers, The Salvation Army is attempting to implement a policy that can satisfy the majority. This has already been communicated to the various groups who agreed to work with The Salvation Army staff to achieve this outcome.

The Salvation Army is committed to this being developed to the satisfaction of all concerned, as soon as possible.

#### **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)