



## York America's Promise BtG for 2016-2017

**Scope:** The Bridging the Gap (BtG) Program focuses on 5<sup>th</sup> grade elementary classes and is sponsored and facilitated by The Salvation Army. America's Promise seeks adult business/professional volunteers to participate as mentors for this program in a supplemental role to The Salvation Army BtG staff member.

**Goal:** The BtG program goals are to fulfill the America's Promises of CARING ADULTS and MARKETABLE SKILLS and to help fulfill The Salvation Army's BtG program goals in the School District of the City of York. These goals include covering a variety of topics with small groups of students so that the student's can express themselves and receive individualized attention and support.

**Description:** The BtG staff member is responsible for the curriculum which covers topics on empathy, social skills, anger management and character building education while the volunteer adds his/her life experiences to the topic.

The Salvation Army runs the BtG program in two segments during the school year to cover all fifth-grade classes in the School District of the City of York. Each segment is broken into forty-five minute sessions for each group of six to ten students. To avoid scheduling issues caused by winter weather cancelations, America's Promise does not include sessions held during the months of December, January or February. For all other sessions, volunteers sign up for as little as one, forty-five minute session. However, volunteers are encouraged to continue with that same group of students for as many sessions as possible.

Volunteer orientation and training will be provided as needed.

For more details on The Salvation Army's Bridging the Gap program, request a program flyer.

**Important Note:** Volunteers do not need to be Rotary Club members. All volunteers are required to have a *PA Criminal Record Check* and *PA Child Abuse History Clearance*. These checks are free to volunteers. Volunteers who have not been a resident of PA consistently for at least 10 years are also required to obtain a *Federal Criminal Record Check* at their cost. Information will be provided for you to obtain the proper background checks.

To volunteer, contact Ann Reynolds, America's Promise BtG Coordinator, at areynolds820@hotmail.com or phone 717-659-0522. Or, contact Karen Hansen, Rotary Club of York America's Promise Chair at KHansen@HansenPS.com or phone 717-855-4258 (cell).

For Bridging the Gap program questions, contact Mack White, The Salvation Army Bridging the Gap Program Director at Mack.White@use.SalvationArmy.org or phone 717-848-2364 x291.