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## **The Salvation Army in Seattle White Center Receives Grant for Wrestling Program**

*Funds will help support after-school wrestling program beginning February 2015*

(SEATTLE) – The Salvation Army in the White Center neighborhood of Seattle, WA, has received a grant from Brute Wrestling to support its after-school wrestling program.

The wrestling program was started during the 2013-2014 school year, and will continue in the new school year. The grant from Brute Wrestling will help provide uniforms and equipment for the program. “When we began the wrestling program last year, we didn’t have the equipment we needed, but we made it work” said Major Raymond Erickson-King, Corps Officer of The Salvation Army in White Center. “Now, the kids will have proper equipment and a better experience because of it.”

Brute Wrestling provides the grants through its R.E.A.C.H.E.S. program (Rewarding Educational Athletic Choices Helping Each Sport) program.

Last year, more than 45 kids (ages 5 to 17) participated in the wrestling program at The Salvation Army in White Center. The league was divided into groups for age and gender. The six-week program taught fundamentals of the sport, as well as discipline and sportsmanship.

The Salvation Army in White Center hosts an extensive after-school program during the academic year. Students from nearby elementary, middle, and high schools can come to the community center and participate in various activities. The first part of every afternoon includes homework tutors and reading labs. After academic work, students enjoy a healthy snack, and then spend time in the computer lab or participating in athletics or music lessons. The after-school program is provided at no costs to the families.

### About Brute Wrestling and the R.E.A.C.H.E.S. Program

As the first U.S. Company to sell wrestling products by mail order, Brute Wrestling began in 1967 as the Henson Company, Inc. in the residence of its founder, Captain Josiah Henson. Today Brute Wrestling continues to provide a complete line of top quality wrestling products and apparel to sporting goods dealers; amateur and professional athletic clubs and teams; and other buyers throughout North America. For more information visit [Brute.com](http://Brute.com).

R.E.A.C.H.E.S. (Rewarding Educational Athletic Choices Helping Each Sport) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization founded in 2007 to promote, protect and preserve the integrity of amateur athletics by providing athletic and educational opportunities to all athletes of all ages and abilities. This athletic experience will provide educational, technical, and lifelong lessons for athletes, coaches, parents and fans that seek to capture meaningful, compassionate, harmonious and active lives. All profits from R.E.A.C.H.E.S. will be used to support specific needs in

each sport to ensure future generations of athletes, fans, parents, and coaches will continue to learn from valuable lifelong athletic lessons.

#### About The Salvation Army in Western WA

The Salvation Army was founded in 1865 when William Booth decided to take his ministry into the streets of London where it would reach the poor, the homeless, the hungry and the destitute. It is now part of the universal Christian Church, and an international organization meeting human needs in 123 countries around the globe. The Salvation Army continues its tradition in Western Washington by serving nearly 400,000 people annually, always meeting human needs without discrimination. Among the services offered in this region are rent/utility/gas assistance, food pantry, clothing, disaster relief services, day care centers, summer camps, holiday assistance, services for the aging, medical facilities, shelters for battered women and children, family and career counseling, vocational training, correction services, and substance abuse rehabilitation. For more information, visit [SalvationArmyNW.org](http://SalvationArmyNW.org).

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