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London, 13 February 2012

For Immediate Release

Dads ‘call in the Army’!

Fathers and their families affected by family breakdown will benefit from a pilot scheme launching this month in Romford.

The project, a collaborative venture between Christian charity Fathers Outreach and Romford’s Salvation Army, will provide free pastoral care and practical support to fathers. Regular events will include activity sessions for fathers and their children, social gatherings for separated dads, and one-to-one assistance such as help with attending court, and counselling.

“Fathers separated from their children are a forgotten segment of society, with unique needs” said Tom Jones, who founded Fathers Outreach last year after suffering the loss of his own son. *“We know what it’s like to lose everything that matters, because we’ve been there – homelessness, poverty and endless court hearings, on top of separation from the children you love. It’s too much to expect anyone to bear alone.”*

“This venture will provide specialist, community-based support to people who desperately need somewhere to turn to, delivered by knowledgeable, caring and experienced people. We are delighted to have found a home and partners in Romford and with The Salvation Army, to commence this pioneering task”

Romford’s Salvation Army will partner with Fathers Outreach to provide a home and a range of specialist facilities for the charity’s activities, to complement its existing programme of community activities.

Commanding Officer Major David Evans, of The Salvation Army, commented *“Family breakdown is a leading cause of homelessness, suicide and many other social problems for countless people in our community. This innovative new venture working with fathers complements our existing family programmes, and is in The Salvation Army’s best tradition of seeking out and helping those who are marginalised and forgotten by the rest of society.”*

Fathers Outreach are holding an open evening, to which fathers and their families are invited, at which special guest Lord Roberts of Llandudno will launch the initiative. This will be held on Monday, 27 February at 1930 hrs, at Romford Salvation Army, High Street, Romford RM1 1JJ.

More information about the group is available at www.fathersoutreach.org.uk and about Romford Salvation Army’s other activities at www.romfordsa.org.uk

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Words: 345

Note to Editors:

Fathers Outreach is a London-based Christian charity supporting fathers and families affected by the destructive impact of family breakdown.

Fathers Outreach Founder Tom Jones is available for interview, contactable as above, and welcomes enquiries from journalists.

Journalists are invited to the launch event on 27 February and photographs will be made available immediately afterwards.