Good Skills

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New Endowment Fund Established

Goodwill has partnered with Stark Community Foundation to establish an endowment fund.

New this year, the endowment is an option for donors who prefer the forward-thinking approach to supporting non-profits. With 2018 being our Centennial year, it’s a great time to make an investment in an organization that is sure to still be serving the community in another 100 years. If you would like to make a contribution, visit www.starkcf.org/give-goodwill. If you have any questions, please contact Maureen Ater, Vice President of Marketing and Fund Development, at (330) 445-1032.
Dear Friends,

Welcome to our Centennial year! That’s right, this year your local Goodwill is turning 100 years old – and I want to personally invite you to share in our celebrations!

In the coming months, you’ll see and hear some extra buzz about our organization. This major milestone is inspiring commemorations, celebrations and many special events - including the opening of a new retail store in North Canton, a quilt made of textiles from each of our stores, a speakers bureau and a grant funded photography project at The Ken Weber Community Campus at Goodwill.

So today, I encourage you to sign up for our e-newsletters or follow us on social media if that’s how you prefer to stay informed. (You can do both at www.GoodwillGoodSkills.org.) Because ultimately, YOU are what makes it all possible - join us!

Sincerely,

William P. Bryan

Executive Vice President of Manufacturing and Supply Chain, TimkenSteel
Chairman of the Board, Goodwill Industries of Greater Cleveland and East Central Ohio
100 years ago, Goodwill Industries of Greater Cleveland and East Central Ohio first began its service to the community, opening its doors at an eastside Cleveland factory on Thackery Street. Out of this building, hundreds and soon thousands of individuals from the community were able to find much needed training, assistance and support.

The Goodwill movement had actually begun eight years earlier and more than 630 miles away in Boston, Massachusetts when Rev. Edgar Helms first established the National Cooperative Industrial Relief Association. Helms would gather used or broken household items from wealthy neighborhoods in the Boston area, and then employ poor or unemployed residents to fix or mend the items. He then would resell the items to help support mission work, or give the items to the workers as payment.

Within a few years, Helms and the Relief Association had gained great momentum and popularity, eventually becoming Goodwill Industries and expanding to northeast Ohio.

1918 was a time of change, growth and need. Residents in Cleveland and northeast Ohio were facing the Spanish influenza epidemic and still engaged in World War I. Responding to that need became paramount for organizations like Goodwill. Shortly after its birth in Cleveland, the Union Mission Settlement was founded in the Canton area, eventually changing its name to Goodwill.

Over the next century, hundreds of thousands of northeast Ohio residents were supported through a network of programs, all funded in part by the thrift stores that are synonymous with Goodwill.

“We are excited to kick off our centennial celebration this year and reflect on the 100 year commitment our organization has had serving the community,” commented President and CEO Anne Richards. “More important, though, this is an occasion to look to the future and begin to shape the next 100 years of doing good.”

The 100th anniversary will officially kick off at the annual Report to the Community Breakfast on March 15 and continue on through fall of 2018. A variety of events and programs will be introduced to celebrate this significant milestone with staff, participants and customers.
Throughout life, we all face barriers that we must rise above to become the best versions of ourselves. Goodwill program participants are no different. Goodwill is honored to share three inspiring stories of individuals rising above to better themselves and their families by working towards and achieving gainful employment.

2017 Achiever of the Year

Richard McCully

Richard McCully grew up in a family where work is valued and he knew he could attain employment, despite being diagnosed with spina bifida and hydrocephalus at birth. Richard partnered with Goodwill to learn how to work in a retail store setting. After retail training and gaining confidence, Richard now uses a standing wheelchair to work as a cashier at a local Giant Eagle grocery store.

2017 Graduate of the Year

Donzell Cooper

As an individual with autism, Donzell Cooper always had the skills for success, he just needed to gain confidence interacting with customers and coworkers. Donzell worked through Goodwill’s ComputersAgain program learning soft skills like in-person and telephone communication and customer service. Donzell took his newly learned skills and confidence to Amazon where he works in the scanning and shipping department.

2017 Edgar J. Helms Outstanding Achiever of the Year

Tionna Clark

Tionna Clark is a single mom of two who wanted a fresh start and moved to Canton to access Stark County resources. Motivated by providing for her children and making her mom proud, Tionna accessed the CCMEP program and enrolled in Larock Healthcare Academy for patient care technician training. Goodwill provides Tionna with encouragement and accountability as she works toward achieving her dream of working in healthcare.

Thank you to our 2018 Report to the Community Breakfast Sponsors:

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Parents learn hands-on skills, including interactive play habits based on their child’s age, during their time in Goodwill’s Parenting Skills Training Class.

Did you know that your local Goodwill provides parenting classes in Stark County? Parenting classes are 10 or 12-week classes, most often court-mandated, that guide parents on a journey to safe, responsible and informed parenting. Classes are held at The Ken Weber Community Campus at Goodwill, and cover everything from nutrition to appropriate discipline techniques.

Widely respected in the community, the parenting program recently received a grant in the amount of $180,378 from The Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton – a longtime supporter of Goodwill. These funds complement the funds Goodwill raises from its retail stores.

If you are a Goodwill donor or shopper, you are supporting this important service in the community. Thank you!

North Canton customers, you deserve it! This spring, Goodwill will be opening your new model store at the corner of North Main and Applegrove in North Canton. All the friendly faces you are used to seeing will be there, along with a fresh look and feel. (The current location on Main Street will be closed in conjunction with the opening of the new location.) The site, at 1240 North Main St., has been full of commotion as crews work almost daily to meet a late April deadline. Nearby McDonald’s restaurant is currently being remodeled also, and there are reported plans for a new Starbucks on the same corner – making for a great destination combination!

Stay tuned for the exact grand opening date – and if you have never been to a Goodwill grand opening, you won’t want to miss it!
Thank you for supporting our Centennial awareness efforts:

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If you would like to contribute toward making our 100th anniversary celebration all it could be, please contact Maureen Ater, Vice President of Marketing and Fund Development, at (330) 445-1032. Thank you!
Industries of Greater Cleveland and East Central Ohio, Inc.
408 Ninth Street SW
Canton, Ohio 44707

Stores:

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