

WINTER 2024

DOING GOOD

a publication of
Goodwill Industries of
Greater Cleveland
and East Central Ohio

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INSPIRING
STORIES
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CELEBRATING OUR BREAKFAST HONOREES

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YOU CHANGED A LIFE TODAY. THANK YOU!

A MESSAGE FROM ANNE RICHARDS,
GOODWILL PRESIDENT AND CEO



So many people shop and donate at Goodwill and only know it as a thrift store. We've been trying to combat that thought process for about as long as we have been around.

Did you know Goodwill offers mission programming, helping people right in your community? That's right!

When you shop and donate at our stores, you're directly helping support our 30 vital mission programs — programs that help local people find jobs and gain independence.

WHEN YOU SHOP AND DONATE AT OUR STORES, YOU'RE DIRECTLY HELPING SUPPORT OUR 30 VITAL MISSION PROGRAMS — PROGRAMS THAT HELP PEOPLE RIGHT HERE IN YOUR COMMUNITY.

"You changed a life today. Thank you!" Now every time you shop and donate at Goodwill, you will hear that phrase.

Why? Because we want everyone to know the GOOD that Goodwill provides to the community.

Our mission programs provide job training and coaching, digital skills training, adult literacy training, rape crisis services, summer youth employment programs, a hot meal site and so much more.

And it all starts when you shop or donate at our stores. When you donate your unwanted items, we're able to employ people who price the items and stock our shelves, allowing shoppers to find unique items at affordable prices. When shoppers purchase those items, the funds go directly to help our mission. Pretty cool, huh?

But how does this change lives? Our mission programs help people overcome barriers they face, whether it's difficulty finding a job or struggling to read or use the internet, just to name a few. We are here to help people overcome these barriers and gain independence.

So now when you think of shopping or donating to Goodwill, you will know the GOOD you're doing.

If you learn nothing else from this issue, please remember this: Your Goodwill is local and is here to help people in your community overcome barriers.

President and CEO / annerichards@goodwillgoodskills.org / 330.445.1000

5 WAYS TO GIVE

TO GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF GREATER CLEVELAND AND EAST CENTRAL OHIO



mail

Mail your gift to:
Goodwill Industries
408 Ninth St. SW
Canton OH 44707



online

GoodwillGoodSkills.org/donate



automated
giving

Set up a monthly or quarterly automated gift with VP of Marketing & Development Diane Pilati at 330-617-4734



text

text GOODWILL
to 44-321



endowment
giving

Establish a sustaining gift through one of Goodwill's endowments, available through the Stark Community Foundation or The Cleveland Foundation.



..... NOW OPEN **JACKSON TOWNSHIP ADC**

We opened our newest attended donation center in early November in Jackson Township.

The ADC, at 4140 Portage St. NW, is located at the corner of Whipple Ave. and Portage St., offering a convenient spot for donors to drop off items.

"We're excited to be in the Jackson Township community. This ADC is located in one of the busiest areas in Stark County," said Chief Operating Officer Mark Trew. "We hope its convenience will be appreciated by the community."



This location will be open for donations only, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

GOODWILL TO HOST COMMUNITY RESOURCE FAIR

Individuals and families are invited to participate in a Community Resource Fair, sponsored by Southern Care Hospice Services.

The Community Resource Fair will be held Thursday, December 12 from noon to 5 p.m. at the Goodwill Ken Weber Community Campus, 408 Ninth St. SW in downtown Canton. It is a free event and open to the public.

More than 30 local agencies will take part in the event.

Attendees will be able to receive free children's books as part of Goodwill's BookWorks program. Books are available in reading levels appropriate for infants through young adults.

There will be a food truck on-site with food for purchase. Visit with Santa from 3 to 5 p.m.! Plus, enjoy cookies and hot chocolate!

NORTH OLMSTED CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY A BIG SUCCESS

We showed the North Olmsted community some love in late November with a Customer Appreciation Day.

The event included free coffee from Ohm Aesthetic Coffee to the first 50 customers who brought a donation to the donor door, a raffle basket giveaway and Goodwill swag.

Thank you to everyone who came out! We appreciate you!



BOOK READING & SIGNING AT WESTLAKE BOOKSTORE ON DEC. 16

Come join us for a reading and book signing with national bestselling author Kylie Logan from 4 to 6 p.m. December 16 at our Westlake Bookstore at 30655 Detroit Road in Westlake.

She will share one of her mystery series and how the second book in the series has been turned into a Hallmark movie.

The first 50 people in attendance will receive one signed book from the series.



POWER OF WORK

CELEBRATING
OUR BREAKFAST
HONOREES

We celebrated the accomplishments of Goodwill Participants Latasia Powell, Mason Slusarz and Patrisha Anderson at our annual Power of Work Breakfast in October.



LATASIA POWELL ACHIEVER OF THE YEAR

Latasia Powell is the 2024 Achiever of the Year Award winner. Her previous job wasn't working with her to accommodate her schedule and needs, so Latasia came to Goodwill for help finding a new job.

She needed to find a job that would be stable, work with her schedule and her daughter's daycare schedule and provide enough income to support her family.

Latasia was determined to find a job but needed a little help. She worked with Employment Support Specialist Leslie Bendter to find a job that would work best for her.

They worked together to help Latasia gain the skills she needed to find a job that checked all the boxes and would provide everything she needed. She found employment at University Hospitals.

Latasia showed that hard work pays off. Her tenacious spirit has helped her.



MASON SLUSARZ GRADUATE OF THE YEAR



PATRISHA ANDERSON

EDGAR J. HELMS OUTSTANDING ACHIEVER OF THE YEAR

Patrisha Anderson is the 2024 Edgar J. Helms Outstanding Achiever of the Year Award winner.

She reached out to Goodwill for assistance in finding a job after about a year of being unemployed.

Patrisha had a lot of family loss in a short amount of time, and she wasn't confident in her job skills. She needed help gaining confidence and building skills to find a job.

With help from Goodwill, she was able to build up her confidence and her skillset. Her job coach worked with her to keep her motivated throughout the job search.

Patrisha was able to find employment at the Glidden House as a front desk clerk. She said it feels like a second home.

Patrisha said if she hadn't found Goodwill, she probably still would be looking for a job.

Mason Slusarz is the 2024 Graduate of the Year Award winner.

He started with Goodwill in 2021 with our summer youth experience program. He stocked racks and worked with books at the Middleburg Heights Goodwill store.

Throughout this program, he was able to overcome some of his barriers and learn how to acclimate to a new work environment.

Mason came back to Goodwill in 2023 for an assessment and to try out cashiering as a job goal. He did a two-week assessment at the Middleburg

Heights store. He did a wonderful job and moved into the job development program.

From there, he worked on building his resume, interviewing skills and applying for jobs.

He applied to work at the Strongsville Goodwill store. He was shy at first, but then he really opened up. He landed the job and with support, he was able to adjust to his new role.

He loves coming to work and working alongside his coworkers at Goodwill.

SEE THEIR
SUCCESS
STORY
VIDEOS

SCAN ME



THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

Thank you!

POWER OF WORK BREAKFAST

Our annual Power of Work Breakfast was generously sponsored by the Emotional Relief Fund, Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Huntington Bank, Reddy Equipment Inc., Regent Products Corp., Faircrest Door and M. Conley Co.





OF PEOPLE SERVED

AS OF THE END OF OCTOBER, OUR MISSION PROGRAMS HAVE SERVED A TOTAL OF 17,339 PEOPLE THIS YEAR



7,891

Employment Programs



646

Emergency vouchers



762

Social Services



106

Good Partner



6,359

COMPASS Rape Crisis



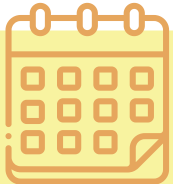
183

Parenting program



1,392

BookWorks



SAVE THE DATE
MARCH 20, 2025

Goodwill's annual Report to the Community Breakfast will be held Thursday, March 20. The annual event allows Goodwill to honor the success of our participants and recognize the outstanding work of area businesses and community leaders in our southern territory.

To learn more and register, visit goodwillgoodskills.org/breakfast

WELCOME NEW LEADERSHIP

In the last quarter, we welcomed two new members to our leadership team, Kevin Akans and Marcie Finney.

Kevin is the new Vice President of Donated Goods Retail. He brings a wealth of knowledge of the industry, as he previously worked for Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania for nearly seven years.

Marcie is the new Chief Financial Officer. Previously, she was with Cleveland Blood Cord Center for almost 15 years. She was a board member prior to accepting her role with Goodwill. She brings with her a keen understanding of our nonprofit organization.



Kevin Akans



Marcie Finney

RECAPPING A DAY AT THE CAMPUS:

Goodwill Industries International board of directors visit

In October, the Goodwill Industries International board of directors visited the Goodwill Ken Weber Community Campus as part of a day touring the greater Stark County and Cleveland area.

While here, everyone toured the campus, learning about all we have to offer the community. The tour ended with a panel led by our Chief Operating Officer Mark Trew and consisted of a Q&A with Stephanie Sweany of the Stark County Hunger Task Force,



Stephanie Pugh of Lifecare, Jennifer Fire of Goodwill's parenting program and Molly MacMath of COMPASS Rape Crisis.



Following the panel, the group visited the Pro Football Hall of Fame and had dinner at Bender's Tavern in downtown Canton. Thanks to Goodwill Industries International for visiting our campus!

SEASON OF GIVING

DONATE YOUR WARES

Your closet, cupboards and storage unit are more powerful than you think.

Currently, all Goodwill stores are experiencing a shortage of donations, especially household goods, such as kitchen wares, small appliances, pots and pans, home decor and knickknacks. These items ultimately support a comprehensive network of outreach programs that help thousands in our community.

The "Cycle of Success" is Goodwill's way of describing how goods are donated, then sold. Funds then support our 30 vital mission programs.

During this season of giving, individuals are encouraged to gather unused items and donate those items at a Goodwill store or donation center. Schools, businesses and places of worship are also encouraged to run donation drives with their constituents during this time of need. **For information on hosting a donation drive, email donations@goodwillgoodskills.org**



NEW THIS YEAR: DIY FESTIVE SWEATER KITS

Festive Christmas sweaters are all the rage for the holidays. New this year, we have DIY kits at all of our stores, so you can make your own festive sweater.

Join in the fun, while also being sustainable. What could be better than that?

Kits are \$3.99 each. Sweaters are priced as marked. Each kit is unique, offering ornaments, buttons, bells, craft wood, etc.



Industries of Greater Cleveland & East Central Ohio, Inc.

408 Ninth St. SW
Canton, OH 44707

17,339



Goodwill mission programs impact thousands of lives each year. As of October 2024, 17,339 people have been served by your Goodwill.

25
million



More than 25 million pounds of goods were diverted from local landfills last year thanks to material donors to Goodwill.

30



Goodwill has 30 mission programs, helping people in our 10-county footprint.

9



Your Goodwill opened a new Attended Donation Center in November, bringing the total to nine throughout our territory.

18%



18% of Americans thrift shop each year.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Katie Spahnne, Chair, Westfield Bank
Taylor Schauer, Treasurer, Schauer Group, Inc.

Marcie Finney, Assistant Treasurer, Goodwill Industries of Greater Cleveland and East Central Ohio

Cleo Lucas, Secretary, Retired

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