The mission of Goodwill Industries is to provide opportunities to people with disabilities and disadvantaging conditions so that they may overcome barriers to employment, reach a higher level of independence and improve their lives.
Goodwill Needs Your Donations

Help Goodwill Serve Our Community by donating your household items.

We need the following:
- Small kitchen appliances
- Tableware and Linens
- Knick-knacks, Giftware
- Games and Puzzles
- Books
- Furniture in good condition
- Electronics (working condition)
- TVs (working condition)
- Other miscellaneous items

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.

Goodwill Industries of Central FL, Inc., is a 501(c)3 corporation. All donations are tax-deductible.

Goodwill Helps on Election Day

Tuesday, January 29 was Election Day, and once again Goodwill was a designated voting precinct for the community. Goodwill employees staffed the various poll worker positions to assist in this year’s presidential preference primary election. Although the day seemed busier than previous elections, and almost 600 voters attended, the staff handled all issues including party-challenged  irate voters professionally and calmly, and treated our elderly voters with utmost respect and patience.

The next county candidate primary election will be held August 26, with the general election held on November 4, and Goodwill will again participate in hosting the precinct.

Thanks to all the staff who worked long hours to make sure that the election went smoothly. And a special thanks to Kate Pile, Safety Manager, who coordinated and managed the entire process.

Corporate Donors Deserve a Big Thank You

Holland Knight

Goodwill extends its heartfelt thanks to Holland & Knight, a national law firm, and United Medical Corporation, who recently sponsored corporate donation drives for Goodwill Industries. Employees cleaned out their closets and donated unwanted items to Goodwill. Proceeds from the events will be sold in Goodwill stores, and funds will be used to help provide vocational programs for persons with disabilities and disadvantaging conditions in the Central Florida area.

Job Fair Produces Remarkable Results

If you were one of the hundreds of job seekers who attended Goodwill’s Job Fair on February 27, you were no doubt pleased to see the number of employers offering positions within their organizations. In all, over twenty employers were present, including Walt Disney, Orlando Regional Health Care, Aramark, Orange County School, Orange County Convention Center, Hilton, Avis, and more. Several interviews were conducted, and quite a few of the attendees were actually hired on-the-spot.

Goodwill hosts periodic job fairs throughout the year as a community service in the Central Florida area, joining job seekers searching for employment with employers seeking qualified applicants.
Easter Bunny Visits Fern Park Store

The Market Square Shopping Center, home of Goodwill’s Fern Park store, recently hosted a spring celebration, complete with an egg coloring contest, lunch and pictures with their Easter Bunny. The event was held on March 15. Customers at the Fern Park Goodwill store were also treated to a visit from our own Easter Bunny, Ms. Carol Ann Morgan, Manager of the store. Other events inside the store included a jelly bean guessing contest, lots of balloons and other special treats. Following the celebration, Ms. Morgan played Easter Bunny at the Adopt-a-thon for the Seminole County animal shelter, complete with candy and doggy biscuits.

"Share the Warmth" Promotion a Success

Leading clothing retailer, Banana Republic, recently teamed with Goodwill Industries in a "Share the Warmth" promotion, in which shoppers were encouraged to trade their old sweater for a 30% discount on a new sweater. The promotion was held from December 6 through December 12. Several Banana Republic stores in the Orlando area participated, including ones located in the Altamonte Mall, Florida Mall, and Mall at Millenia. A total of 104 sweaters, along with other articles of clothing, were donated to Goodwill Industries.

Thank you, Banana Republic, for your generous support of Goodwill Industries!

CARF Announces Goodwill's Accreditation

Goodwill’s CARF Accreditation Survey, which took place October 10-12, was a complete success. The staff worked diligently to prepare all the materials needed for the surveyors to review during the accreditation process. Goodwill Industries of Central Florida has just received notification that it has been granted the highest award achievable, a full Three-Year Accreditation. The final report is very positive and contains many commendations about our services. Several programs were scrutinized during the intensive three-day process including Goodwill’s Employee Development Services, Comprehensive Vocational Evaluation Services, Community Employment Services, Employment Services Coordination, and Employment Skills Training Services.
The theme of the 2007 Employee Awards Banquet, held on March 6 at the main facility was Boot-Scootin’, Ranch Ridin’, Cattle Brandin’ “Western.” Attendees arrived decked out in cowboy hats, boots, chaps, and even Indian costumes. The evening was a delightful medley of western-themed entertainment, down-home cooking, and achievement celebrations. Winners of this year’s awards included:

RETAIL

**Most Improved E/R**
PALM BAY - Karen DeFelice, Store Manager

**Most Improved Sales**
EUSTIS – Penny Fowler, Store Manager

**Most Improved Revenue %**
EUSTIS – Penny Fowler, Store Manager

**Most Improved Profit**
MICHIGAN – Dana Cloutier 2007 Store Manager

**Sales Per Square Foot**
LONGWOOD – Rebecca Tulick, Store Manager

**Customer Service Award**
MERRITT ISLAND – Marianne Sheffield, Store Manager

**Highest Average Transaction**
SOBT – Tanya Hassan, Store Manager

**E/R Excellence**
SANFORD – Wanda Badger, Store Manager

**Sales Excellence**
SOBT – Tanya Hassan, Store Manager

**Income Excellence**
ORANGE CITY – Arlene Bolton, Store Manager

**Manager’s Choice Award**
Dara Cloutier, St. Cloud Store Manager

VOCATIONAL & COMMUNITY SERVICES

**Excellence in NCF Employment Outcome**
OAK RIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER – Ildiko Pumpido, Vocational Specialist

**Self Sufficiency Job Center Placement Excellence**
MELBOURNE SSC – Maryjane Wysocki, Coordinator

**Program Excellence Award**
MELBOURNE SSC – Maryjane Wysocki, Coordinator

**Excellence in HSN Employment Outcomes**
Andre Howard - HSN Employment Retention Specialist

**Excellence in Individual Job Placement**
Jorge Abla - Job Placement Specialist

**Excellence in Individual Placement Quality**
Debby Boyer - Job Placement Specialist, Brevard County

**Accident Free Work Sites**
Apopka
Deland
Eustis
Leesburg
Michigan
Sanford
SOBT Hard Goods
Kissimmee SSC
Melbourne SSC
VCS Administration
Nair
Orlando SSC
Merritt Island
Sanford SSC

**Vocational Services**
Lois Williams
Jennifer Martin
Karen Kanashiro
Margaret Larson

**Finance**
Cindy Hudson

**Retail**
Danielle Delgado

**Human Resources**
Lynn DeGroff
Michele Bentley
Myrtal Natal
Nancy Jones

**Community Relations**
Carolyn Gunn

SAFETY

**Vocational Services**
Lois Williams
Jennifer Martin
Karen Kanashiro
Margaret Larson

**Finance**
Cindy Hudson

**Retail**
Danielle Delgado

**Human Resources**
Lynn DeGroff
Michele Bentley
Myrtal Natal
Nancy Jones

**Community Relations**
Carolyn Gunn