GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF MISSISSIPPI

Fall Into Goodwill

OUR MISSION

- HOW GOODWILL WORKS -

For 63 years Goodwill Industries of Mississippi has developed the Mission of assisting people with disabilities and other barriers to obtain employment. Goodwill creates jobs, trains and pays wages through its retail select stores and donation centers. The public often confuses Goodwill with other charitable organizations. Goodwill of Mississippi’s mission is different from other non-profits. When people donate goods to Goodwill, the items are received, sorted, tagged, hung and placed on the sales floor as part of the retail training program. This creates many jobs! Customers purchase the merchandise and wages are then paid to the employees. In addition to retail training, Goodwill of Mississippi offers digital/computer skills, customer service and soft skills training. Goodwill of Mississippi is not just a 501(c)3 non-profit thrift store operation - it is a workforce development program to those most in need that offers independence through the power of work.

- WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT -

Goodwill Industries of Mississippi is pleased to announce the expansion of its Workforce Development Program. The leadership of Goodwill of Mississippi has highlighted four areas of concentration for our Workforce Development Program that will expand job opportunities for people in our state.

Retail Academy: This program is free to the public and will offer retail fundamentals and customer service training and certification.

Youth Workforce Incentive Program: Offers instruction and soft skills training to youth 14 – 21 years of age.

Digital/Computer Skills Training: This certificated program is open to the public and offers basic to comprehensive digital/computer skills training for people 18 years and older. Trainers will assist in online job applications, interview prep and career and resource search.

Ex-Offender Workforce Re-entry: Working with the MS Department of Corrections to offer training and job opportunities to people re-entering society.

When YOU Donate – When YOU Shop – YOU Create Jobs – YOU Change Lives

Our Goodwill Mission:
Assisting people with disabilities and other barriers to obtain employment.
A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO
David Hollingsworth, President and CEO of Goodwill of MS

Goodwill of Mississippi has been one of Mississippi’s longest running Workforce Development organizations. Goodwill of Mississippi, partnering with the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation as early as 1957, has provided thousands of jobs to assist those with disabilities and other barriers gain meaningful employment and live independent lives. In fact, Goodwill of Mississippi is currently the No. 1 employer of people with disabilities in the state!

We at Goodwill are excited to provide even more services such as expanded digital skills training and hi-tech training methods such as virtual reality job interviewing. And we will be offering these services to more Mississippians in more counties than ever before. In these challenging times, our Mission of assisting people with disabilities and other barriers can not be more vital to creating jobs for those most in need. We are grateful to such a caring community which directly fuels the Goodwill of Mississippi mission.

GOODWILL OF MISSISSIPPI’S WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TEAM

(Left to right) Marianne Rankin, Vocational Rehab Program Manager – Robin Stricklin, Mission Services Director – Vicki Burton, Vice-President of Workforce Development – Lou Johnson-Jones, Digital Skills Supervisor – Trey Burton, Vocational Rehab Program Manager – Clare Carr – Vocational Rehab Program Manager
Goodwill of Mississippi has been awarded the WIOA Governor’s Discretionary Grant to facilitate the Digital/Computer Skills Training and Certification Program to seventeen counties throughout Mississippi. The program will be free and open to the public to aid and assist with digital/computer usage, online job search & applications, resume writing and interview preparation. The free service will be offered at local WIN Job Centers and community organizations throughout the seventeen-county area. The program is scheduled to begin in November 2020. For more information, contact Goodwill at 601-853-8110.

Goodwill of Mississippi salutes our Employees of the Month for June, July and August 2020. These outstanding employees were selected for their dedication to the Mission and Service of our Goodwill organization.

**JUNE**
- Willie Chambers, Admin
- Linda Ephraim, Centre Street
- Carrie Gray, 51 Place
- Alex Harvey, Crossgates
- Kolecia Jelks, Clinton
- Lajonti Jones, Hattiesburg
- Ashley McMurtery, Jacksonian

**JULY**
- Anthony Collins, Admin
- Lakeshia Kersh, Centre Street
- Derez Green, 51 Place
- Domanick Ferguson, Crossgates
- Christian Meadows, Clinton
- Rhonda Allen, Hattiesburg
- Jennifer Eason, Jacksonian

**AUGUST**
- Myron Hughes, Admin
- Patrick Collins, Centre Street
- Matthew Price, 51 Place
- Christopher Johnson, Crossgates
- Kenya Ward, Clinton
- Devon Lee, Hattiesburg
- Jasmine Nevels, Jacksonian
- Edna Flowers, Byram
In Loving Memory

Ms. Pam became a special part of our Goodwill of Mississippi Family on August 2, 2016. She worked four years at the Jacksonian location and will be greatly missed.

Jackson worked at the Goodwill of Mississippi location in Hattiesburg, Mississippi and made a huge impact with her joyful spirit and unconditional love for people. She is greatly missed by all.

Pam Cowan 1966 - 2020

Jackson Weaver 1997 - 2020