Goodwill Industries of Tulsa, Inc.

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### **Message From The President**

DAVID E. OLIVER President

The majority of my last few Grapevine columns have focused on the pandemic, how it has affected our organization and how we have responded to it. This month I want to use my column to update you on some exciting projects that I have not written about for a while and some others that are in process.

The first one is the new store and donation center that we are building in Bixby at  $134^{\text{th}}$  & Memorial. We have reached a very exciting point in the construction in the last two weeks because the structural steel and bar joists are in place and it is beginning to take shape. It is always exciting to reach this point in construction because you begin to see what the building is really going to look like. For this project we have incorporated some different design elements for the exterior and a different concept for the layout and check out process inside the store. When it is opened this will also be our first store that will function as a decentralized store and we will be sorting all of the donations received at this location in the backroom instead of sending them to 2800. Our projected date for opening this location is August 1st. If the weather cooperates we are currently on track to meet this timeline.

The next item that I want to discuss are our Financial Resiliency programs which include VITA and The Financial Empowerment Center. I want to encourage all of you to read Modi Kwanza's article in this Grapevine to learn more about the options that VITA offers for you to have your tax return prepared for free if you meet the guidelines and what you need to do to start the process if you are eligible. As I stated, if you meet the criteria this service is FREE, so do not miss out on this opportunity if you qualify. Also please make others that you know aware of this great opportunity. The Financial Empowerment Center has been up and running virtually since No-

vember and this is another service offered by Goodwill in partnership with the City of Tulsa that is a completely free service for everyone who lives in the City of Tulsa. Once again, please access these services if you are in need of them and definitely tell others you know about them if they could benefit from them. Both of these services are very familiar with the qualifications you need to meet to take advantage of the Earned Income Tax Credit on your tax return. Be sure not to miss out on EITC if you are eligible for it.

In 2020 we expanded our Forklift Training program by adding an Order Picker to the types of machines that we train people to use. However, this was not just your everyday ordinary Order Picker. The machine itself is the same as you would find in any other warehouse setting but in our case it is coupled with a computer that plugs into the Order Picker that allows us to train on this machine using virtual reality simulation. This is because the roof in the Helms Center where we train is not high enough to allow the order picker to go as high as it would need to in a typical warehouse setting. The virtual training simulates going up to the same heights you would typically encounter when hired to run an Order Picker. This unique set up is the only one in Oklahoma currently and we are very proud to be able to offer this training at Goodwill. During 2020 we added a separate daytime Order Picker Training Class to our regular Saturday forklift classes.

There are many other new projects that we are undertaking in 2021 that I do not have time to discuss in this column but I will keep you updated as the year progresses. To each and every one of you I want to thank you for all that you do on a daily basis to support Goodwill's mission.

**Goodwill Pay Periods** 

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# Retail Update ... February 2021



### Hello 2021!

Although January has had its challenges, our retail team has done what it always does and stepped up to the plate. Not only with making goals at the store, but many of them helped out in processing for some days this month to help keep the flow of new merchandise coming in.

Everyone likes a "Fresh Start" every now and then and what better time to do that than in a new year! We have some exciting sales coming up this month as well!!!

On Valentine's Day ... customers will be able to purchase 1 item of jewelry at 50% off and February 20<sup>th</sup> will be our 1<sup>st</sup> ½ price sale of the year. This would be the perfect opportunity to shop our new spring merchandise that will start hitting the stores on Feb 15<sup>th</sup>



### January 2021 Goal:

+7.2%

### **Store Performance:**

**B.A.** +16.5% >>> **Glenpool** +12.3% >>> **Garnett** +11.2% >>> **Carthage** +10.1% >>> **Joplin** +7.9%

Stone Creek +7.2% >>> McAlester +5.4% >>> Claremore +4.5% >>> Owasso +3.0%

Bartlesville +2.3% >>> SW Blvd +1.8%

January 2021 vs January 2020: Even

Customer Count: -15.4%

Average Sale: +18.1%



Thank you for Lonating and shopping with us!

# Open Management Positions:

### McAlester:

Customer Service Manager

#### Glenpool:

Customer Service Manager

### Owasso:

2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Manager

#### **Broken Arrow:**

Customer Service Manager

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# BEING MENTALLY PREPARED FOR EMERGENCIES



Emergencies and disasters are a reality of everyday life. Local and international news programs document such occurrences every day throughout the world. Too many lives are lost and property is damaged because no one was prepared to properly react when immediate decisions and actions counted.

A good start in learning how to respond to an emergency is through certification in Basic First Aid and CPR (Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation). These courses teach important skills. But even

more importantly, they teach *how to respond* to an emergency. Programs offered by organizations such as the highly respected American Red Cross teach people about the kind of situations or conditions that might precipitate an emergency. Knowing what to look for and how to react could save the life of a co-worker or family member.

Safety awareness may be gained through company safety training, internet sites and many different other organizations like your city emergency programs. This awareness will increase your ability to respond if, some day in the future, you are a bystander in an emergency. You should be able to answer the following:

- How and who do you notify in an emergency?
- Are you prepared to react responsibly?
- Should you stay with the injured person or run for help?
- Does the emergency scene need to be secured?
- Do you know the chain of command? Who's in charge during an emergency?

You start your day prepared for the task at hand and knowledgeable on how to handle every day challenges. Being mentally aware is also your best preparation for a potential emergency. Analyze beforehand what to do if one of your co-workers, family member is injured, and if that injury is life threatening. Know how to protect yourself, your co-workers and family is very valuable in life. Chances are, during a crisis, you won't have much time to plan the best possible action-so make those decisions ahead of time.

When an emergency does occur, it is your responsibility to be mentally ready.

# **Human Resources—Training Tips**

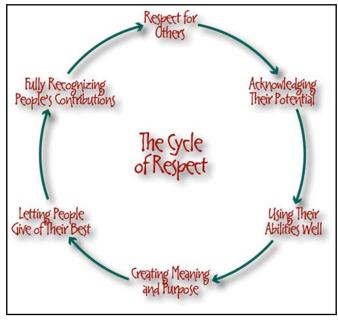
JENNY NOBILE
Training & Development
Coordinator

## The Power of Kindness

Stress and anxiety are at a high for many, so this seems like the perfect time to reinforce the importance and sheer power of kindness toward others.

Generally speaking, most people aren't deliberately unkind to others. Instead, people get caught up in the demands of the day, become stressed out, and sometimes react by behaving in an unkind manner. If you do display mean words or actions though, it's important to quickly recognize your behavior so that you can apologize and repair the relationship.

In keeping with Goodwill's core value of **Respect**, kindness is shown by being friendly and treating people with dignity and respect. Try to lead by example by being as kind as possible with everyone that you interact with. There are many ways to



show kindness in the workplace – such as offering a word of encouragement, helping your co-worker, or offering praise for a job well done. It could be as simple as a friendly smile or being willing to lend an ear to someone who just needs to express their feelings. Each of these acts take little time and cost nothing.

As the old saying goes, kindness is contagious – when you do something kind for others, you will feel better about yourself, and others will start to follow your example too. Always remember, your one kind word or action may be the bright spot in someone else's day.

"At the end of this day, the world will either be a more or less kind, compassionate, and loving place because of your presence. Your move." John Pavlovitz

# Goodwill Employees, Tell your Friends and Neighbors GOODWILL IS HIRING!!!

We need: Clothing & Wares Sorters, Material Handlers, Donation Attendants, Retail Store Management and Sales Associates, Job Coaches, Instructors and Career Navigators.

Most positions are full-time and pay starts at \$10.00/hr.

Apply online at: **goodwilltulsa.org/jobs** 

Or ... CALL US at 918-584-7291 or 918-581-1235 for help with the application process. If they are looking to work for a strong stable company with benefits, check us out.

Goodwill Industries of Tulsa, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer of Minorities, Females, Protected Veterans and Individuals with Disabilities.

# GOODWILL CREATIVE SERVICES

GOODWILL TULSA FACEBOOK PAGE HITS
RECORD HIGH IN ENGAGEMENTS IN JANUARY 2021



People working. Lives improved.





### Goodwill Industries of Tulsa

@goodwilltulsa · Nonprofit Organization









# TOP PERFORMING SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS IN JANUARY

Goodwill Tulsa Recruitment Videos

TWCA Online Training Courses

Job Connection Online Job Board

Retail posts promoting sales, in-store photos and winter-wear.













### VITAL News—February 2021

### Time for Taxes!

We will launch virtual tax preparation February 1. You can start the process now in order to be ready when the IRS begins accepting returns for e-filing February 12.

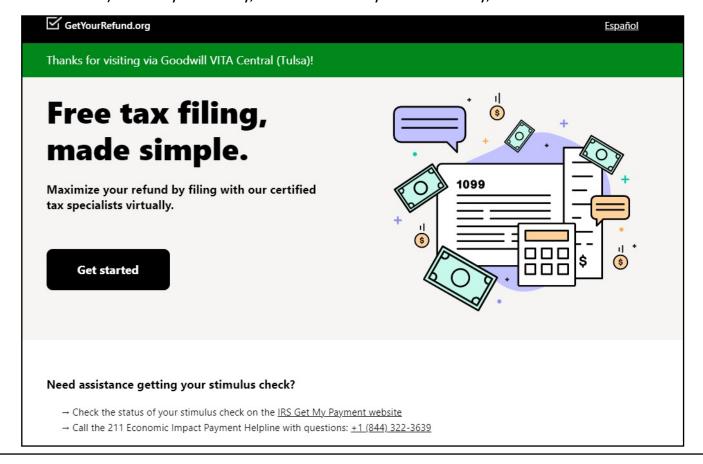
It's super easy to do it yourself.

Scan the QR code to go to the GetYourRefund website on a tablet or cellphone.



- Answer questions to enter your basic information. You will need an email address to use the virtual services.
- Follow prompts to take pictures to upload your identification and tax documents.
- Expect a call within two days from a VITA volunteer.

If you would like assistance in getting signed up, we will have someone available at VITA Central (1667 S. Yale Ave.) Monday-Saturday, 9-1 and Tuesday and Thursday, 3-7.



### **Meet Your Co-Workers**



Meet
Jenniferlee Johnson
Jen is a Sales Associate and
has worked for Goodwill
since June 2020. She likes
her sports teams particularly
the Steelers, the Cowboys
and the Alabama Crimson
Tide. The Bahamas would be
her vacation spot of choice
however, when she has free
time she enjoys her family
and her pets.



Meet
Joanna Lara
Joanna is from Phoenix, Arizona. She works as a Textile
Sorter in Processing. She enjoys watching TV, particularly sports. Her favorites are the Diamondbacks (baseball) and the Phoenix Suns (basketball). Watching a good TV series is a favorite of hers when she has time off. A ski trip would be her ideal vacation!!!



Meet
Socorro Patton
"Sissy" as she likes to be called is a Wares Sorter in the Processing Department. She has seven children and thirteen grandchildren. In her free time she likes to relax and watch TV. Her ideal vacation would be a trip to Iceland and/or Puerto Rico.

Take a moment next time you see one of these new employees & welcome them to Goodwill!!!





# **January New Hires**



Please extend a warm welcome to our new employees.

<u>Processing:</u> John Cherry, Travis Flowers, Darla Longest, Daniel Martinez, Shandi Sisco, Andre Washington <u>Workforce Development</u>: Mark Davenport <u>Retail:</u>
Carrie Nunn <u>Donations:</u> Joseph Perrier <u>Janitorial</u>: Ronika Hunter

# **February Anniversaries**

Congratulations!!!
Your commitment and dedication to Goodwill Industries of Tulsa is very much appreciated!!

1 Year: Parnella Leon, Shakela Lewis, Tia

Robinson

**2 Years**: Carol Keith, Pilar Tapang, Haley

Blue

3 Years: Tonia Turner

4 Years: Dawn Hockett, Michael Raines.

Aaron Thompson

**5 Years:** Darryl Jackson

8 Years: Cheryl Mullins, Amanda Muniz,

Tina Yates

9 Years: Kendal Kearney

11 Years: Clarice Floyd, William White

12 Years: Franklin Sweeten

15 Years: Lamarcus Singleton

**18 Years:** Danny Moxley

# March Birthdays



Cristina Walker—3/2

Daylan Wortham—3/2

Keith Baker—3/4

James Shaffer—3/6

Kim Dodge—3/7

Caley Michaels—3/8

Erika Ceja—3/9

Chris Hunt—3/9

Raquea Flemons—3/12

Leah Hibbs—3/12

Amanda Muniz—3/12

Dorothy Rogers—3/12

Scott Lynch—3/14

Christina Hayes—3/15

Thomas Turk—3/15

Jill Tackett—3/16

Billy Townsend—3/16

Travis Flowers—3/17

Eva Kout—3/17

Teresa Harmon—3/18

Madison Thomas—3/19

Gloria Boudreaux—3/21

Stephanie Kinsey—3/21

Dawn Williams—3/22

Mitchell Bryant—3/25

Teresa Phillips—3/25

Julisa Romo—3/25

Connor Tapley—3/26

Crystal Edwards—3/27

Teri Kelley—3/28

Darla Longest—3/28

Judith Furry—3/30

# **Job Openings**

If you know someone who is looking for a job, Goodwill's Human Resources Department would like for you to refer that person to us.

Openings are subject to change: 2800 & Warehouse—Forklift Driver, Sorters, Utility Processor, Seasonal Categorizer

Retail—Sales Associates, Customer Service Managers, Assistant Manager II <u>TulsaWORKS</u>—Digital Skills Instructor, Career Navigator/Forklift

<u>Vocational Services—Employment</u> <u>Specialist, Job Coach, Program Manager</u>

Off-Site: Janitor Floor Specialist, Janitors, Donation Attendants

For anyone interested in applying for an open position: The Goodwill Job Application is available on-line at: www.goodwilltulsa.org

BIRTHDAY

Goodwill Grapevine 2/2021