Goodwill Industries of Tulsa, Inc.

Volume 29 • Issue 6 • June 2021

A Special Thank You

In my column this month I want to provide you updates on a variety of projects and activities that we have been working on and then close by saying a special thank you to one of our long time employees who recently announced their retirement.

The new Bixby Crossing store & donation site that is under construction at 134th & Memorial is rapidly moving toward completion despite numerous delays to the paving of the parking lot that we have experienced due to excessive rainfall in May. We are currently ordering fixtures in preparation for setting up the store once the building is turned over to us. Many of you have probably seen that a number of items are experiencing shipping delays due to the pandemic and we have encountered some of that with our orders. However, at this time we are still on track to meet our target date of opening this new location in early August.

Goodwill's TulsaWORKS Career Academy has a contract with the DHS SNAP E&T program to provide job training services to individuals receiving SNAP benefits. In May an auditor from DHS came to Goodwill to perform an audit of the services that we provide for them. In this process they examined a number of client files and other records and I am very pleased to say that the audit found no deficiencies. Congratulations to all of the TulsaWORKS team members and others involved in the audit on achieving this outstanding result!

We are continuing to move forward with our plans to add an e-commerce component to our Donated Goods Program. We have entered into an agreement with ShopGoodwill.com that will allow us to utilize this

on-line platform to sell donated goods. We are currently acquiring all of the equipment that we will need in order to set up our e-commerce operation. Our goal is to be listing items on-line for sale before the end of the summer.

In closing I want to say a special thank you to Gloria Boudreaux, Goodwill's Director of Vocational Services, who will be retiring on June 30th. For those of you who may not know, Gloria worked for the Vocational Training Center (VTC) at Children's Medical Center (CMC) in 1997 when CMC contacted Goodwill about the possibility of merging VTC into Goodwill. An agreement was reached to do this and Gloria began her Goodwill career at that time. During her 24+ years with Goodwill, Gloria has overseen much of the growth of our training programs for individuals with developmental disabilities. Examples include the hospital enclaves that we operate today which grew out of a program that VTC and CMC put in place that Gloria expanded while at Goodwill. But the 24 years that Gloria spent with Goodwill is less than half of the time she has spent working to improve the quality of life for individuals with disabilities. For 52 years Gloria has worked tirelessly advocating for and helping individuals with disabilities better their lives. I want to thank Gloria for all that she has done in the disability field in general and with Goodwill specifically. You will be missed, but we wish you the best and hope that you enjoy every minute of your retirement because you have earned it.

Goodwill Pay Periods

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Editor: Nancy Webster, Community Relations Director

Retail Update

We have had another month of amazing sales in May! All 11 stores made their month. This makes 4 out of 5 months where all 11 stores have made their sales goals. Congratulations! We have had mild weather this month which has definitely worked in our favor. Let's hope June continues this trend.

1. B.A.	+28.5%
2. Glenpool	+28.1%
3. Stone Creek	+21.4%
4. Bartlesville	+20.9%
5. Owasso	+17.7%
6. Carthage	+15.9%
7. Joplin	+13.6%
8. SW Blvd	+7.7%
9. Garnett	+6.9%
10. Claremore	+8.8%
11. McAlester	+6.2%

May 2021 Goal:

+14.9%

May 2021 vs May 2019:

+16%

Customer Count vs 2019

-8.0% (5997)

Average Sale vs 2019

\$21.31 vs \$16.90

SUMMER is upon us. The stores are stocked with shorts, tanks and dresses galore! New merchandise is pushed out every day. We have our ½ price clothing sale coming up on June 19th, with our Father's Day sale the day after saving you 25% off your purchase in honor of all the Dads out there. We will wrap up June sales with our Customer Appreciation Day sale on Friday June 25th. Also keep on the look out for updates concerning our new Bixby Crossing Store!

Open Management Positions:

Glenpool: Customer Service Manager B.A.: Customer Service Manager Bartlesville: 2nd Assistant





Our mission is to provide work opportunities, job training and support services for people with disabilities or other employment barriers.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 SALE	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 SALE	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Goodwill donation centers and retail stores exist to support our mission services. Your support is what allowed us to serve more than 5,500 people last year!

Thank you for donating and shopping with us!

2021 **J**UNE



Senior Day

55+ receive 25% off total purchase



Half-Price Clothing

50% off all clothing



Father's Day

25% off total purchase



Customer Appreciation Day

25% off total purchase





Let's get social!





Stay connected on sales and more at goodwilltulsa.org

HEAT DISORDERS!

Discussion: Handle The Heat

Working in the heat puts an extra strain on your body. With some understanding of how the body reacts to heat, you can prevent heat-related disorders.

1. Risk Factors

Age, weight, degree of physical fitness, metabolism, medications, use of alcohol or drugs, and a variety of medical conditions such as hypertension all affect a person's sensitivity to heat. It is difficult to predict who will be affected by the heat, or when someone will be affected. Air temperature, humidity, direct sun, radiant heat sources, and clothing are all other factors to consider.



Another factor is whether or not you are accustomed to the heat. By gradually being exposed to working in hot conditions, your body develops a greater tolerance for the heat.

2. Heat Disorders

There are several heat-related illnesses that you should be aware of:

Fatigue. Muscles get tired more quickly in the heat because the body cools itself by sending more blood to the upper layers of the skin. Relatively less blood is available to provide active muscles, the brain, and other internal organs with the energy they need for peak performance. For first aid, rest in a cooler area before a more serious condition develops. Gradual adjustment to working in the heat eventually reduces heat fatigue.

Heat rash. Body heat is released through sweating, but, when it's humid, the skin can remain moist. If the sweat ducts become plugged, a rash can develop. The heat rash may disappear when you return to a cooler area, but washing the area and allowing the skin to dry will help. Beyond first aid, if the rash shows signs of infection, get medical attention. Heat rashes can be prevented by being able to rest in a cool place for part of the day and by regularly bathing and drying the skin.

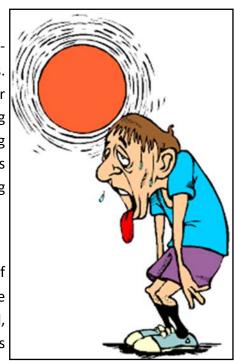
Fainting. As blood circulates to the skin to aid in cooling, it can accumulate in the lower part of the body if you are standing still. Fainting can be the result when the brain doesn't get an adequate blood supply. Lay down in a cool area to recover from the fainting spell. Acclimatization to the heat reduces the chances for fainting. Moving around helps blood circulate and also helps prevent fainting.

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Heat cramps. Muscles can develop painful cramps or spasms from salt imbalances in the body. Sweating and not replacing fluids can cause cramps. Drink about 5 to 7 ounces of fluids every 15 to 20 minutes to replenish your body fluids. Don't wait until you feel thirsty. Avoid beverages containing caffeine or alcohol—they promote more fluid loss through urination. Drinking salted liquids or commercially available carbohydrate replacement liquids helps with recovery from heat cramps. If salt replacement is required, adding a little extra salt to food is better than using salt tablets.

Heat exhaustion. Heat exhaustion may result when a large amount of body fluid has been lost through sweating. The symptoms may resemble the early signs of heat stroke. The victim becomes extremely weak or fatigued, giddy, nauseous, and can have a headache. The person still sweats, the skin is clammy and moist, and the body temperature remains at or near normal. In



serious cases, the victim may vomit or lose consciousness. Heat exhaustion can be treated by resting in a cool place and drinking plenty of fluids, but severe cases may require care for several days. Medical attention may be required.

<u>Heat stroke</u>. This is a life-threatening condition. It occurs when the body's temperature regulatory system fails. In heat stroke, the victim's skin is hot and dry. Body temperature is usually 105 degrees F or higher. The victim is mentally confused or delirious and can have convulsions or become unconscious. Immediate treatment by medical professionals can prevent brain damage or death. Until help arrives, the victim should be removed to a cool area, clothing should be soaked with water, and the body should be vigorously fanned to increase cooling. No person suspected of being ill from heat stroke should be left unattended.

3. Prevention

Here are some suggestions for managing the heat:

- Get accustomed to working in the heat by gradually increasing your work load over a period of a few days.
- Be aware of the symptoms of heat disorders and take rest breaks in a cooler area as needed.

Drink small amounts of water or other fluids frequently throughout the day. About 5 to 7 ounces every 15 to 20 minutes is recommended. Avoid drinks containing caffeine or alcohol.





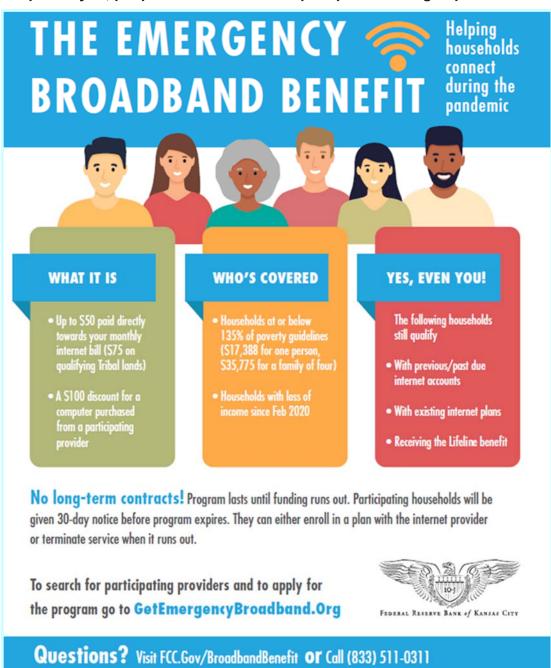
FEDERAL RESERVE BANK of KANSAS CITY

Denver • Oklahoma City • Omaha

Help promote the Emergency Broadband Benefit

Millions of American households now may apply for help to pay for computers and home internet service through the Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) Program. The \$3.4 billion program, which launched May 12, provides eligible households up to \$50 a month (\$75 for households on tribal lands) toward a home internet subscription and a \$100 discount toward a computer.

Millions stand to benefit, but those most in need also are the hardest to reach. Please help get the word out! With a little help from you, people will be able to compare plans and sign up.



JENNY NOBILE Training & Development Coordinator

Showing Respect at Work

With all of the turmoil that the world has seen lately, this seems to be the perfect time to send a reminder of the importance of one of our core values, Respect. Here at Goodwill, we treat all people with dignity and respect. The Oxford Dictionary defines respect as "a feeling of deep admiration for someone or something elicited by

their abilities, qualities, or achievements." But what if you disagree with the other person or don't admire their point of view – just what does respect really mean and how can we show it in the workplace?

Respect begins with actively listening to what another person has to say and taking the time to try to understand how their background, heritage, and culture have shaped them. Valuing and recognizing someone else's thoughts and opinions — even if we don't necessarily agree with them — is the first step to creating a sense of respect.

As Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow confines of his individualistic



concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity." Acknowledging that another person's opinion matters as much as your own can be very powerful in opening up candid conversations, which may lead you to discover that you actually have the same end goal in mind. For example, we all want to see the country improve, although our opinions on how to do that may differ.

To truly be successful, we must **respect** the differences we all have, including our diversity of thought and opinion. Consider your words and actions carefully, and above all else, always show empathy and kindness toward others!

United Way Update

Over the past few months there have been a number of United Way fundraisers going on at Goodwill and depending on where you work you may have participated in one or more of them. Your support is very much appreciated. We will conduct our annual pledge card campaign in the Fall but until then we will continue to



entice you with sweets and treats, great raffle opportunities and some "more to come surprises"!!! Goodwill employees ... you all ROCK!!! Day of Caring will be held this year as usual and we will be participating. Watch for more details to come in the near future! (P.S. If you have an idea for a fundraiser let me know!!! (nwebster@goodwilltulsa.org) Thanks!)

Tax Season Continues

Although our site is closed to new sign-ups, the team is working hard to complete the returns for those clients in our queue by the June 15 deadline. Our goal was to complete and file between 1,500 and 3,000 returns this season. We are on pace to do at least 1,700.

At the Tulsa FEC

In May, the FEC gained 17 new clients and the Tulsa Day Center joined as a referral partner.

The FEC began working with the Tulsa County Misdemeanor Diversion Program. The pilot looks to connect people on the docket with other services they might need. An FEC counselor



will attend the docket every Monday morning from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. via MS teams. If court staff identifies financial counseling as a need, the counselor will join a breakout room with the client. OK Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services is already making some adjustments to the procedure, and we will find the best fit for FEC's involvement.

Child Tax Credit Changes

There have been important changes to the Child Tax Credit, as a result of the American Rescue Plan.

For 2021, the child tax credit will be fully refundable, the maximum age has gone up to 17, and the amount has increased to \$3,000 for over 6 years of age and \$3,600 for under 6.

The other key wrinkle you have probably been hearing about is that taxpayers who are eligible for the CTC may begin to receive half of the credit via advanced payments. IRS and Treasury recently announced the increased CTC payments will be made on the 15th of each month unless the 15th falls on a weekend or holiday. Families who receive the credit by direct deposit can plan their budgets around receipt of the benefit. Eligible families will receive a payment of up to \$300 per month for each child under age 6 and up to \$250 per month for each child age 6 and above.

Advance CTC payments will be estimated from information included in eligible taxpayers' 2020 tax returns (or their 2019 returns if the 2020 returns are not filed and processed yet). Eligible taxpayers must have had a main home in the United States for more than half the year. The advance CTC payments will be made through December.

The IRS is working on an online portal for eligible taxpayers to decline receiving advance payment of the 2021 CTC or to update their household information. For example, children born in 2021 or after the latest return was filed. We are waiting for details on the portal, which will be housed at IRS.gov.

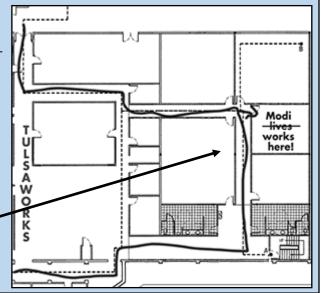
Read here for more information about the CTC, https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/advance-child-tax-credit-payments-in-2021

Side Note

My "new" office is by the classrooms in TulsaWORKS.

Be well.

Modi Kwanza, Ext. 249



Meet Your Co-Workers



Meet
Vanessa Yardley

Vanessa or Nessa as she likes to be called has been at Goodwill since April and works as a Sales Associate. Her children are her cats—Zuko and Azula!
She is an OSU and an Arizona baseball fan! Hawaii would be her ideal vacation location!



Meet Priscila Teekell

Priscila is from Modesto
California. She started
working for Goodwill in
April as a Retail Sales
Associate. She is an avid
sports fan who cheers for
the KC Chiefs and the
Golden State Warriors.
Her favorite thing to do
when she has time off is
SLEEP! She says her ideal
vacation location would be
somewhere that has really
good fruit!



<u>Meet</u> Charles Bullard

Charles has been at
Goodwill since April 2021
working as an Employment
Consultant. He is a Sooners
fan as well as an OKC
Thunder fan! During time
off he enjoys a good
book and sleeping in.
His ideal vacation
would be somewhere
tropical.



Meet Cheyanne Gillis

Cheyanne works for Goodwill as a Sorter in the shoes/purses department. She has three children. OU is the football team she cheers for. Cheyanne enjoys going to the pool with her kids in her spare time. An ideal vacation would be anywhere near a beach!



Meet Amber Philbin

Amber works for Goodwill as a Retail Sales Associate. She says she really enjoys helping the customers. She enjoys watching the Green Bay Packers. Sleeping would be her favorite pastime during the week. Someday she hopes to travel to Japan.

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



May New Hires

Please extend a warm welcome to our new employees.



July **Birthdays**



Processing: Kirsten Archer, Ambrose Boerstler, Peter Deur, Mandy Greene **Retail**: Kimberly Clifford, Lara Huddleston, Nathanial McKellips, Cynthia Stansifer, Kelsey Mayfield, Teri Shepard **Donations**: Carla Schanks, Sarah Boyles, David Singleton **Administration**: Tina Hamilton, Jeff Holloway **Workforce Development**: Cardell Johnson

June Anniversaries

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

25 Years: George Schmidt, Rodney

Rutherford

20 Years: Jael Leon

19 Years: Michael Lyne

18 Years: Matthew Lovett, William David

McKinder

17 Years: Jeremy Gillespie

15 Years: Mary Fidler, Ted Crooks

14 Years: Kim Cox, Jamie Demauro

13 Years: Kristal Washington

12 Years: Sarah Nix

10 Years: Kim Dodge, Raguea Flemons,

Toby Harper, Randy Hudelson

9 Years: Judith Furry

8 Years: Tommy Friend, Lisa Uhl

6 Years: Leonard Stout

5 Years: Frances Normore, Rhonda Smith

4 Years: Ruth Duren, Renee Falkner

3 Years: Gregory Fields, Jana Barham, Susan Sutterfield, Sara Carlson, Oram Lee

2 Years: Jay Boykins, Patricia Bullard, David Conley, Arthur Boyd, Steven

Lhungdim

Administrator

1 Year: Ellen Mize, Erica Page

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: Utility Processor, Sorters, Forklift Driver, CDL Truck Driver, Material Handlers

Retail: Assistant Manager I, Assistant Manager II, Book Clerk, Sales Associates, Customer Service Manager

Donations: Donation Attendants

Offsite: Janitor Floor Specialist, Janitor **TulsaWORKS:** Digital Skills Instructor **Workforce Development:** Employment Specialist, Job Coach/Donations, Job Coach/Hospitals **Administrative:** Marketing & Communications Director, Systems

For anyone interested in applying for an open position:

The Goodwill Job Application is available online at: www.goodwilltulsa.org

Crystal Brown—7/1 Sermetirus Lawrence—7/2 David Dirickson—7/3 Billy Firey—7/3 Dana Jordan—7/4 Kim Dodge—7/5 Glenda Seiter—7/5 Cayce Chavous—7/6 Ralph Summers—7/7 Angela McGill—7/8 Nichole Voris—7/8 Earlene Gordon—7/9 Virginia Brown—7/11 Lian Cinq—7/11 Brett Davis—7/11 Ryan Morris—7/11 Sandra Hieber—7/12 Rodney Rutherford—7/12 Alexia Callahan—7/13 Kaitlyn Foster—7/13 Diane Nash—7/14 Aleah Wigal—7/14 William White—7/17 Kelsey Davis—7/18 David Mathews—7/19 Sherry Love—7/20 Yvette Lankford—7/21 Anthony Conley—7/23 Ingrid Coleman—7/24 Glenda Selsor—7/25 Brittany Geren—7/26 Sabrina Ware—7/26 Troy Carr—7/27 Ethan Roberts—7/27 Emma Cole—7/28 Alan Atkinson—7/30 Stacey Cole—7/30 Cheryl Miller—7/30

Kendal Kearney—7/31

Laurie Ward—7/31