MISSION SERVICES

OUR MISSION IS CHANGING LIVES

PUTTING GOOD TO WORK
There’s really nothing like Goodwill.
For many, we’re a great retail shopping experience offering amazing value. For others, we’re a convenient place to donate used clothing and household goods. We’re a retailer and a recycler that puts all of our sales revenue back into the communities we serve. Through your donations, we’re creating jobs and enhancing the lives of people with disabilities and disadvantages. We’re providing vital skills and training to those who need it most. We’re Goodwill Industries of Northern Illinois – a 100% non-profit organization doing good work throughout an 18-county area in Northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin. Our Mission is changing lives and transforming communities.
• **Almost 11 million pounds of goods ‘recycled’ each year**
  Donations from individuals, companies and organizations are the first vital step in putting our Mission into motion – everything from lightly used clothing to computers, housewares to handbags, books to boots and toys for tots. These items become the ‘recycled’ merchandise we sell at our stores.

• **Retail customer counts exceeded 1 million at 12 stores**
  For some, it’s an opportunity to find hidden treasures at amazing bargain prices. For others, it’s a source for the vitally important clothing and household goods that might be unaffordable in a conventional retail store. Sales of donated goods then funds our Mission Services programs.

• **Over 24,000 program participants annually**
  Learning important skills is vital to overcoming barriers and advancing in the workplace. Finding ways to learn and develop these skills is increasingly difficult in many communities. Mission Services programs provide the training needed by many to take that critical next step.

• **Over 1,000 individuals put to work or placed**
  Barriers to employment exist for thousands in our communities who lack the skills or have significant mental and physical disabilities. Our mission creates opportunities for individuals with barriers to enhance their lives.
Goodwill Employment Services* programs work with individuals with disabilities to help them prepare for and obtain work in the community. Participants work to build and refine their basic skills through:

- One-on-one job skills preparation with Employment Specialists.
- Learning how to create resumes and cover letters.
- Practicing interviewing skills.
- Coaching before, during, and after the job interviewing process.

* Participants must have a documented disability to enroll in this program.
Goodwill believes in the power of work, and that jobs change lives.

Goodwill’s Achievement Centers offer assistance in job placement and skills development. Opportunities at our Achievement Centers include:

- Workshops that help build skills, including job-seeking and advocacy skills.
- Mock interview and skill development programs: first impressions are important. These sessions help participants practice, and polish, their interviewing skills.
- FREE access to computers and connections to a variety of agencies and programs.

Contact Us at:
Phone: 815.965.3795
Email: programs@goodwillni.org
Web: www.goodwillni.org
Goodwill’s Supported Employment Program (SEP)* works with adults with significant disabilities to help them learn job seeking and retention skills, while gaining valuable work experience and income.

Participants perform janitorial duties and receive hands-on job coaching, job development, case management and training – all in a real work environment.

Participants will work with their Job Coach to transition to community integrated employment.

Participants come away from SEP with a sense of accomplishment and many of the new skills they’ll need for long-term success.

* Participants must have a documented disability to enroll in this program.
Our GoodGRADS program is an Adult Basic Education program that provides education services as well as case management for individuals interested in obtaining their High School Equivalency (or GED) – a critical first step to meaningful employment. We help prepare and support our students with:

- Interactive classroom learning.
- One-on-one attention.
- Small class sizes.
- Case management services.
- Scholarships for the High School Equivalency tests.

We make getting started easy too. Our full-time case managers can help prospective students enroll, work through overcoming barriers, make connections to resources, and provide support and encouragement.
Filing state and federal tax returns every year can be a painful and increasingly complicated process – or not.

The IRS-certified volunteer tax preparers at Goodwill make it FREE and EASY to prepare an individual’s state and federal income taxes – and get the refunds they qualify for. It’s a fast-growing program available to families and individuals earning less than $54,000 a year. Free ‘File Online’ too!

GoodTAXES is available during tax season from January to April and throughout the year at various locations, or on-line at www.goodwillni.org.
The Let’s Go to Work Program gives adults with disabilities the opportunity to earn while learning. Goodwill provides a job coach, work readiness training, case management, and a supportive work atmosphere.

With Let’s Go to Work, participants gain valuable work experience, and important skills and training. This program is designed to help participants maintain their work at Goodwill while learning and developing new skills all in an integrated setting.
All of us need second chances sometimes. Through the Young Adult LifeLaunch program, Goodwill can help you get your second chance and gain the skills you need to earn a good job.

Get FREE employment training and job placement help in warehouse and manufacturing related fields.

If you are between 18 and 24, have dropped out of school or have been involved with the justice system, and you want to work toward a better future, Goodwill can help.

The Goodwill Young Adult LifeLaunch 2.0 Reentry Program is made possible with a $4.5 million grant award, covering 88 percent of operating costs, from the US. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration. Goodwill is contributing leveraged funding valued at $597,241 to cover the remaining 12 percent of operational costs.
Goodwill feels great. Try it, you’ll like it...

It can start by dropping off that closet-full of clothes you never wear. Or that table and chair set, lamp and dishes that furnished your college kid’s apartment. Or the computer that’s now obsolete. We’ll take it, ‘recycle’ it, and turn it into revenue that changes lives.

Then shop at Goodwill. You’ll find amazing merchandise and budget-friendly prices. Most importantly, your shopping dollars go directly into the Mission Services programs that change peoples’ lives and help transform the community you live in.

Thank you. Without your donations, shopping, and the support of local businesses and the community at large, we could not perform these services that are so increasingly vital to thousands of individuals throughout Northern Illinois and the Wisconsin Stateline.

Through Goodwill, you’re creating opportunities and changing lives.
OUR MISSION

Goodwill Industries of Northern Illinois is a community-based not-for-profit organization whose mission is to create opportunities for individuals with barriers to enhance their lives.