THE POWER OF WORK

In the Spring of 2018, Christine Guthrie found herself on terminal leave - a final leave using her remaining accumulated leave time - due to retirement after 20 years of military service. She was working as a security guard and trying to make ends meet, but Christine was living on her own and in need of a more permanent and steady income. Concerned about being able to continue paying her bills, she was referred to Goodwill’s Operation: GoodJobs (OGJ) - a program providing one-on-one, intensive assistance to help veterans and their family members attain financial stability through employment - and met with one of Goodwill’s experienced Veteran Career Coaches.

After enrolling in the program, Christine and her coach, Toya, had regular one-on-one sessions to help Christine prepare to re-enter the workforce and transition from military service to civilian employment. Christine was referred to employment events and various Goodwill community partners, and participated in a Women Veteran Financial Fitness event where she met other women veterans and learned about financial services available to her through Goodwill and other veteran service organizations.

OGJ has improved her life by connecting Christine with other women veterans in the Upstate. Additionally, it gave her the outlet to discuss her fears and anxieties about transitioning. Through OGJ, Christine was able to find more confidence in her ability to find employment and she found support needed to keep looking for the job that fit her.

“Operation: GoodJobs is a great start for any veterans moving into the workforce,” Christine advises other veteran colleagues. “They have a wealth of information, programs and great people to help you succeed.”

We are excited to report that Christine is currently employed with Greenville Rubber and Gasket Industries at a full-time, salaried position with good wages. Christine continues to be active in Operation: GoodJob activities.

BE THE GOOD: GOODGUIDES PROGRAM RECRUITING MENTORS

Are you interested in mentoring a young person and helping to prepare him or her for future opportunities? Goodwill’s GoodGuides® program needs you!

GoodGuides is a national mentoring program for youth ages 12-17. Screened volunteer mentors work with youth one-one-one or in a group setting. Planned activities include career and college exploration field trips, service learning projects, and other skills building sessions. Our GoodGuides program is focused in Greenville County.

To learn more about becoming a mentor, contact Lindsay Maynard at 864-303-3769 or email goodguides@goodwillsc.org.
Dear Friends:

Here we are, on the cusp of another spring.

The next few months promise many new and exciting things for Goodwill. New locations are scheduled to open in Union and in the Moonville area of Greenville County. We are implementing and expanding a variety of programs, providing services such as digital skills training, reentry assistance, and mentoring programs for youth. There are many people in South Carolina looking to make a fresh start, and we are privileged to be able to serve them.

So, as spring arrives with all of the promise of a new season, I hope you will take a moment to consider the people in our community who have taken the opportunity to start anew and built success and self-sufficiency through the power of work. Thousands of people have been able to overcome obstacles, leave the past behind them, and to see and realize their own potential. It is a wonderful and inspiring transformation, and you are an integral part of it.

Thank you for telling jobseekers about our services, for shopping in our store locations, for giving of our material and financial resources, and for supporting Goodwill and our mission in so many ways every day. Together, we are changing lives and strengthening our communities.

Sincerely,

Robbie Robinson
Chair, Board of Directors

GIVE IT GOOD: BUILD A LEGACY THROUGH GOODWILL

Change the lives of Goodwill participants with a gift that represents your legacy.

We are pleased to announce The Helms Society as an opportunity for supporters to leave a legacy gift for Goodwill Industries of Upstate/Midlands South Carolina (GIUMSC).

This ultimate level of financial support is designed to help Goodwill’s participants receive the job training and services they need to become independent for years to come.

Named after Rev. Edgar James Helms, founder of Goodwill Industries International, members of The Helms Society will receive special recognition, invitations to special events, and updates from GIUMSC’s CEO, while having the opportunity to create sustainability for a cherished organization.

There are multiple ways to become a member of The Helms Society:

- Designate GIUMSC as a beneficiary in your life insurance policy or IRA
- Provide gifts of appreciated stock

Membership in The Helms Society requires the completion of a Donor Statement of Intent form.

If this option looks appropriate for your personal financial situation, please speak with your attorney, accountant or trusted financial advisor regarding your intention to support Goodwill with a financial gift.

If you decide to become a member of The Helms Society, please let us know so that we can send you a Donor Statement of Intent form and properly thank you. To learn more or to share your decision, please contact Jocelyn Slaughter, Director of Development, at jslaughter@goodwillsc.org or 864-351-0118.

Goodwill Industries helps people become independent through education and training leading to employment.
Goodwill Industries of Upstate/Midlands South Carolina is fortunate to have a talented, passionate group of volunteers on our Board of Directors, who volunteer their time and expertise to lead Goodwill. Please join us in welcoming our 2019 class of directors, including three returning members and three first-time members.

- Rhonda Cox (Cox Accounting Solutions - Returning)
- Jacqui DiMaggio (Greenville Technical College - Returning)
- Lynn Finley (Laurens County Development Corporation - New)
- LaCrystal Jackson (SC Department of Education - Returning)
- Ronald Rhames (Midlands Technical College - New)
- Nancy Rice (Pedestal Technology - New)

Our board officers for 2019 are: Robbie Robinson (Chair), Danielle Gibbs (Vice-Chair), Jerod Mann (Secretary), and Michelle Edwards (Treasurer). For a full list of directors, please visit www.goodwillsc.org/about/leadership.

Thank you to all of our board members, who give their time and talents so generously to serve Goodwill and our community.

Good Tips

Marie Kondo Inspires People to “Tidy Up”

What does a television show have in common with Goodwill? In the case of Netflix’s “Tidying up with Marie Kondo,” it is the simple truth that decluttering can lead to happiness, even joy.

Kondo published the best-selling The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up: the Japanese Art of Decluttering and Organizing in 2014. In her new TV series, Kondo visits families to help them “clear out the clutter - and choose joy.” *

We suspect that many of those unneeded items are finding their way to Goodwill where, of course, we turn those donations into jobs and multiply the “joy” exponentially as we help people become independent through employment. We think that’s pretty magical!

You can learn more about “Tidying Up with Marie Kondo” at www.netflix.com.

*from https://www.netflix.com/title/80209379

Good newS | page 3
Good Together

Donations from South Carolina businesses support Goodwill’s programs.

Businesses in the Upstate and Midlands are known for their generosity, and with good reason. Thank you to the following local businesses who supported Goodwill with their recent donations:

- Bosch
- Clemson Chi Alpha Campus Ministry
- Colonial Life
- the Columbia Chamber of Commerce
- ECPI University
- Tire Centers of America

These donations helped Goodwill provide several scholarships for our industry training programs, hours of case management services, and support services for our participants, creating long-lasting and life-changing impact for people right here in South Carolina.

Good News

Digital Career Accelerator® Program Builds Tech Skills

Did you know that approximately 27 million online job postings require digital skills? And more than three-quarters of mid-level jobs require spreadsheets and word processing skills as minimum requirements.

Goodwill & Google.org are teaming up to empower people with the digital skills they need to advance their careers and transform their lives. With the Goodwill Digital Career Accelerator® Program, participants will complete digital programs and certifications, acquiring the digital skills necessary to open up a new set of career possibilities and gain financial independence.

Skills training includes: introduction to computers, keyboarding, internet use, Windows operating system, email, social media (security), and computer safety. Advanced courses include Google IT Support Professional Certificate, SC Codes (self-paced online coding instruction), and Northstar Digital Literacy Assessments.

The Digital Career Accelerator® Program is open to people of all age groups and skill sets. Learn more at www.goodwillsc.org/job-training/programs or contact us at digitalcareers@goodwillsc.org.

See the Good

Join us at a Goodwill Impact Tour!

Have you ever wondered what happens to the “stuff” that you donate? Those clothes, shoes, and household goods are turned into revenue that fund Goodwill’s ability to put people back to work.

Goodwill Industries of Upstate/Midlands South Carolina changes lives through the Power of Work for thousands of people seeking independence through education and training, workforce development and employment.

We welcome you to a behind the scenes Goodwill Impact Tour so that you can learn more about our programs and participant success stories.

Please contact Jocelyn Slaughter, Director of Development, at jslaughter@goodwillsc.org or 864-351-0118 to get scheduled today.