Doing Good

“Friends of Goodwill, be dissatisfied with your work until every handicapped and unfortunate person in your community has an opportunity to develop to his fullest usefulness and enjoy a maximum of abundant living.”
— Dr. Edgar J. Helms, 1941

Those words, penned almost 75 years ago by Goodwill’s founder, have shaped our efforts this year. The year 2015 saw us opening our first Excel Center—a high school for adults, the Elkhart County Industrial Services training center, and our third Community Career Center in South Bend. We began the Nurse-Family Partnership program for first-time mothers living in Lake County, partnered with the City of Gary (IN) through the Group Violence Intervention program, brought the 2nd Chance at Work (for those with felony history) program to LaPorte County, and began Goodwill Works which provides job training assistance to anyone who needs “a hand up”. It has been a very busy year!

963
People placed in jobs

40,378
Volunteer Hours in our Communities

15 Counties Served in Indiana
22 Retail / Outlet Stores
8 Workforce Development Sites
3 Community Career Centers
1 Excel Center

Our Mission
“To strengthen communities by empowering individuals and families through education, training and job placement.”

“Goodwill helped me break the bondage of generational poverty for me and my kids”
Jakelia Dooley Jones
Achiever of the Year
As students begin classes at The Excel Center, we ask them to write down what their motivation is for completing their high school education. Allow me to share with you the thoughts of one of our students who is writing to her teenage daughter:

“When I was fifteen I found out I was pregnant with your sister. I dropped out of school because I had no one to watch her, and because of my parent’s financial situation we could not afford daycare. I went to work at multiple fast-food restaurants to pay for daycare, but have never been able to find a job that paid over minimum wage because of not having a diploma.

Being a single mom is hard. If I could go back in time I would have finished school. It has been a struggle for me, but my motivation is you. I sit here at 35 years of age, desperate for a better life for you, I urge you to stay in school and finish your education. Your children will benefit from your efforts. Whatever life throws at you, you are strong enough to overcome.

I love you!
Mom.”

6,814 Tons Diverted from Landfills

42.2 Million Pounds of Donated Items

1,061,234 Donations Received

$.87 Of every dollar received is invested in our Mission

$29,303.05 Total Revenue

Group Violence Intervention

Chicago Tribune
Gary for Life Sets Big Goals With Small Steps

Elkhart Training Center

$50K Challenge Grant

$21K Development Grant

Out of School Youth

ExcelCenterHS.org

Stewardship

Annual Report
report.goodwillindiana.com/