



Goodwill Industries
3100 West Fourth Street
Sioux City, Iowa 51103

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We are grateful to our volunteers

February 2, 2013 marked the day of our first annual Camp Goodwill "Winterfest," a wonderful fund raising event filled with great entertainment and educational activities. First year events are always a huge undertaking, but scheduling a winter event with outdoor activities had a unique set of challenges. The success of the event was made possible by the incredible volunteerism and support we received from businesses, donors and our Camp Advisory Committee. Committee members did a tremendous job securing auction items, finding sponsors and volunteering their talents to make this event a huge success, especially Amy Buster, Lori Warner and Rhonda Johnson. They rose to the challenge, and went above and beyond to help raise funds for summer activities at Camp Goodwill. The fun filled family event included everything from chain saw carving, fireworks, and a popular photo booth, to ice skating, wagon rides, children's activities, festive food and more, all in an attempt to highlight Goodwill's 86 year-old Camp. We are all so very proud to call Amy, Lori and Rhonda friends of Camp Goodwill. To learn how to volunteer visit goodwillscia.com and click on "Our Impact" and "Volunteer Sign-Up."

Open your heart, send an at-risk-youth to Camp Goodwill. Go to: goodwillscia.com and click on the "Friend for Good" button on the bottom of the home page or mail your check to: Goodwill Industries, 3100 West 4th Street, Sioux City, IA 51103.

Coming Soon: New store - Worthington, MN, 1122 Ryans Road - Summer 2013

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Update from Goodwill President and CEO John Hantla

Dear Friends,

I am happy to report that we are growing! From Mason City to Rapid City we are expanding the Goodwill mission across the Great Plains. Included in our expansion are our Connection Centers. With the addition of Rapid City we are now numbering six. Connection Centers are located in and funded by our stores to provide access to employment services to the community, at no charge. Services include job search and placement, access to job market information, help with resume writing, interviewing, and job fairs. It is always important to note that when you donate and shop in our stores, you are helping unemployed people get jobs. With Goodwill's assistance, over 400 people earned jobs last year, which resulted in a \$6 million economic impact in the communities we serve. Our goal is to help over 600 people find jobs in 2013.

The Achievement Center at Camp Goodwill is making a big impact. Completed last year, the Achievement Center has taken Camp Goodwill to a whole new level. In addition to the 500 at risk youth served each summer, we are now able to offer year around services in the multi-use facility. Thus far, the Camp Achievement Center has served an additional 3,000 people from community based organizations and we will soon be providing adult day care services to Nebraska residents at Camp Goodwill.

In addition to serving people, Goodwill also serves the planet. We like to say we are "Green for Good." Last year over 8.5 million pounds of salvageable waste was kept out of landfills and recycled. An additional 270,000 pounds of obsolete computers, known as "E-waste", were diverted from landfills and completely recycled through our Dell Reconnect program. We also recycle card board, metal, paper, books, and even stuffed animals. Yes, it's true. Even stuffed animals are repurposed for other uses! At Goodwill we are committed to recycling and being kind to the planet.

A heartfelt thanks goes out to all of you who donate to and shop Goodwill. By doing so you help create jobs and change lives!

Have a wonderful summer,

John Hantla, President/CEO



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Participant of Goodwill's Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program shares his story.



James Decker

James Decker, a decorated Marine Veteran of the Gulf War, told his story of becoming homeless and rising from the depths of despair to a spellbound audience at Goodwill's Annual Employee Awards Luncheon.

His story began when he moved from Omaha, NE to Sioux Falls, SD in the summer of 2012 following the death of his father who he had been caring for. His uncle from Sioux Falls encouraged him to move there where he could help him find work with a landscaping company. At the same time, Decker's cousin invited him to stay with her until he figured out what area of Sioux Falls he would like to live in.

Late in December, his landscaping job had

ended for the season and he sold his car with the intent of buying a truck which he figured would be more suited to his landscaping work. He also had plans of renting an apartment and looking for winter work. On a cold winter morning before heading to the store, he went to get some cash out of an envelope in his dresser. The envelope was empty. Since he and his cousin were the only ones in and out of the townhome, he was puzzled and confronted her that evening hoping she had just needed to borrow the money. Offended by his accusation, she became outraged and threw him out.

He packed a bag intending to go to a hotel for the night to allow her time to cool off, and headed out into the cold snowy night. Not wanting to call attention to himself by carrying a suitcase as he walked down 41st Street on his way to a hotel, he hid the bag in some pine trees but removed his grooming supplies so he could clean-up in the morning.

When he got to the hotel he gave the clerk his debit card to pay for his room, and they said it was declined. Knowing his account held a significant amount of money including the proceeds from

selling his car he immediately called the number on his debit card where they confirmed he had a zero balance. He had no one to call for help. His Uncle was in Florida for the winter and he did not have his cell number. He headed for an all-night laundry mat he had passed on the way to the motel. He needed to get out of the cold and a place to think. He pretended to do the wash and tried to avoid the surveillance camera.

In the morning he cleaned-up in the restroom and headed for the bank. A woman in the fraud department confirmed two large checks had been written on his

account and the signatures were not his. Decker proceeded to fill out the necessary paperwork so the fraud could be investigated but learned the process would take weeks. Leaving the bank he headed to the mall to get out of the cold where he pretended to be a mall walker. He had \$8 in his pocket and used that to eat sparingly. At the point Decker was officially a homeless Veteran.

Decker came to Goodwill through our Homeless Veteran Reintegration Program. The program allows homeless veterans temporary work at Goodwill while they qualify for housing and other support services, such as VA medical services. During their time at Goodwill they receive job experience and other support services that help Veterans get back into the workforce in the job of their choice. Today, Decker has completed the program, has a good job, apartment and new life. All of us at Goodwill honor him for his service to our country and the courage it took to overcome great hardship.

Read the complete story at goodwillscia.com –

click on the "Our Impact" tab on top of the home page.

Annual Awards Luncheons honor recipients.

The objective of our Achievement Awards is to honor employees, volunteers, program participants, supporters, organizations or businesses for the significant impact they have made in helping Goodwill carry out its mission of helping people with barriers build independence, and a better quality of life through work opportunities. The awards are based on Goodwill's Core Values which are Compassion, Achievement, Potential, Integrity and Dignity. Since our territory is so large we hold Awards Luncheons in Sioux City and Sioux Falls. Honorees include:

Sioux City Awards

Compassion: **Jill Pringle** – Employee Fort Dodge Store
 Achievement: **Sue Froelich** – Employee Sioux Falls Store
 Potential: **Chelsea Decker** – Employee Rapid City Store
 Integrity: **Michaela French** – Employee Sioux City Main Store
 Dignity: **Cathy Myers** – Employee Sioux City Mission Services

Sioux Fall Awards

Compassion: **Loren Craig** – Employee Mitchell Store
 Achievement: **Stuart VanNoort** – Employee Sioux Falls South Norton Store
 Potential: **Ashley Stumpf** – Employee Spencer Store
 Integrity: **Tara Berglund** – Employee Accounting Dept.
 Dignity: **Grant Dorothy** – Veteran Volunteer for Goodwill Homeless Veteran Reintegration Program

CAPID Award – CAPID is an acronym for Goodwill's core values which are Compassion, Achievement, Potential, Integrity and Dignity. The recipient is selected by their peers: **Barbara Christensen** – Employee of Yankton Store

Store of the Year – Yankton, SD

President's Choice Award – "Friend for Good"

Sioux City: **John Gleeson** – Sioux City Businessman • Sioux Falls: **Allen Stowe** – Minnesota Businessman

Despite slim odds, a determined YouthBuild student succeeds.

In Sioux City Goodwill offers a program called YouthBuild where persons between 16 and 24 who are unemployed or a high school drop-out can earn their high school diploma or GED. The program also includes paid construction training where they work on building houses for low income families, along with leadership training, personal support and a chance for a bright future.

Vanessa Hernandez is a devoted YouthBuild student, who is an amazing inspiration to her peers and support network at Goodwill. Born in Sioux City, IA, Hernandez moved with her family to Zapotlanejo, MX at age two. The family returned to Sioux City when she was 12, but she did not speak English. She attended West Middle School and took ESL classes, but it was tough to assimilate. By the time she got to 9th grade she was headed down the wrong path with a group of friends and started skipping class and finally dropped out. In 2010, a friend told her about Youthbuild, but she wasn't ready to commit. It wasn't until after the birth of her daughter that she decided it was time to get her degree. She said, "I wanted a better life for my daughter. I wish I had made my parents proud the first time. I saw YouthBuild as the answer."

Today, Hernandez takes care of her baby girl, works nights as a shift manager at Taco Bell, attends CNA classes at Northeast Nebraska Community College and is a Youthbuild model student. In December her parents returned to Mexico, but Hernandez has never wavered from her goals. Juggling everything takes a great deal of will and determination, but Hernandez is taking on the challenge with an impressive energy. All of us at Goodwill and YouthBuild are very proud of her. *For more success stories and details on how to join our YouthBuild program, visit goodwillscia.com or contact Nate or Sarah at 712-258-4511.*