



Goodwill
Southwest Florida



Job-Link Success Story *Annetta Gaddy*

Annetta Gaddy is a single mother who struggled with providing for her three children on less than \$100 a month as a substitute teacher.

The Clewiston resident was referred to Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida where she met Mercedes Maturana, the Job-Link coordinator there.

“I noticed that she was very negative and lacking self-confidence,” said Maturana, who helped Gaddy apply to the Family Self Sufficiency Program through a Community Services Block Grant.

Gaddy completed all the necessary paperwork to receive services and to enroll with Paramount Training Services to begin Certified Nursing Assistant training.

“Goodwill gave me the opportunity of a lifetime because CNA was always something I wanted to do, but didn’t have the income to achieve the goal,” she said.

Other agencies partnered with Goodwill to help Gaddy with other expenses, such as her utility bill, fuel for transportation to and from school and to purchase her CNA uniform.

“I can’t thank them enough for helping me achieve my goal,” said Gaddy, who was hired by Palm Terrace nursing home in Clewiston. She now works with VIP America as a home health CNA.

Besides help from others, Gaddy relied on her own will and determination to improve her situation.

“As Ms. Gaddy completed all the steps to achieve her goal, her attitude and self-confidence changed immediately. She has been one of the most dedicated clients under the grant program,” Maturana said.