



***Our Mission: Committed to serving people with disabilities and disadvantages by offering life-changing opportunities to achieve independence.***

## Meet one of our Breakthrough Award Winners

### Breakthrough Acheiver of the Year Wilson Waldrop

Wilson Waldrop started his journey with Goodwill as a student at High School High Tech. After graduating, he began volunteering at the Goodwill in Port Charlotte, working on developing job skills with his coach Maryjane Nickerson, a Goodwill "Pathways to Work" Employment Consultant.

Shanie Thames, who was the Assistant Manager at the time at Port Charlotte, watched Wil's hard work and dedication and was impressed by his effort. So, when she was promoted to manager at the Kings Highway store, she thought of Wil when a position opened up and offered him his first job.

MaryJane shared something Shanie said, "She said, 'I will hire Wil. I have been over at that store and I have watched him work, and how dedicated he is. How he calls in even as a volunteer when he is not coming, and how he comes in and gets right to work. He doesn't sit. He doesn't take breaks. He just works and, she said, I will hire him. I want him.'"

Shanie explained, "A position became available, so he got a job, and that is one of the nice things about the programs that we offer. It gave him an opportunity."



"Everyone loves Wil. It's hard not to love him," Shanie says.

"Wil is very polite and gets along very well with his other associates, and is very good with the customers," says Wil's current store manager, John Monahan.

Will has been with Goodwill for 3 years now, and loves every minute of it.

"I love working here at Goodwill," says Wil.

He went on to say his favorite thing about his job is helping the customers and stocking the shelves.

## Mission Moments

### Festival of Trees wins Best Nonprofit Charity Event

Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida and The Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center's Festival of Trees event won **Best Overall Charity Event** at The Community Foundation Charity Event Award ceremony on Tuesday, April 5th.

Now, in its 16<sup>th</sup> year running, Festival of Trees has become a family holiday tradition in downtown Fort Myers bringing thousands of visitors of all ages together to see beautifully decorated trees from local businesses.

"We are so grateful for the people who worked hard to get this event off the ground 15 years ago and the individuals and organizations that make it the holiday tradition it is today!" - Ashley Price Swick, Director of Development.



From left to right: John Nadeau (Goodwill SWFL CEO), Jim Griffith (SBDAC CEO), Doug Stewart Goodwill SWFL COO), and Dr. Carol Rae Culliton (Philanthropist).

For more information about the 16th Annual Festival of Trees, Nov 30 - Dec 4, 2022, contact Rachel Stanborough at [rachelstanborough@goodwillswfl.org](mailto:rachelstanborough@goodwillswfl.org).

## Annual Breakthrough Award Ceremony



We hosted our annual Breakthrough Award ceremony at the Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center on Thursday, April 7th. The event recognizes individuals and businesses who have advanced the Goodwill Mission throughout the prior year.

### The 2021 Breakthrough Award recipients are:

*Wilson Waldrop, Goodwill employee, Chet Perry Achiever of the Year*

*Walter Barb, Goodwill employee, Employee of the Year*

*Barbara Zirilli-Lonergan, owner of Zirilli's Chilly Treats in Cape Coral, William J. Barrett Graduate of the Year*

*Charlotte County Habitat for Humanity, Employer of the Year*

*Soy Williams, Volunteer of the Year*

*Pelican Marsh Golf Club, Philanthropist of the Year*

## Celebrating Autism Awareness/Acceptance Month



Our Pathways to Opportunity participants celebrating Autism Acceptance Month with a "Light it up Blue" poster.



### MicroEnterprise Graduation

The 105th MicroEnterprise class graduated in Port Charlotte on Thursday, April 7th. This 6-week small business class helps those wanting to start a business, learn how to create a feasible plan so that they are able to launch successfully. MicroEnterprise is just one of the mission services that Goodwill SWFL offers.

For more information about the MicroEnterprise program, contact Sandra Plazas at (239) 995-2106 Ext. 2215 or email [sandrplazas@goodwillswfl.org](mailto:sandrplazas@goodwillswfl.org).

## Easter Bunny Visits Goodwill

The Easter Bunny visited several Goodwill stores on Sunday, April 17th greeting customers, and posing for pictures.



There were lots of smiles and photos taken by surprised customers throughout the day.

If you missed him, you can catch him next year at a Goodwill SWFL store.

## Naples Community Appreciation Day

**50%** off all donated, **25%** off new mattresses

**Saturday, April 23rd**

Doors open 8am - 8pm

Heritage Bay Goodwill

(8915 Sage Ave., Naples)

**First 100 shoppers get a \$10 gift card!**

# HERITAGE BAY Goodwill

**Community Appreciation Day!**  
*Día de reconocimiento comunitario*

Visit our newly  
remodeled Heritage Bay

**Doors Open 8:00 am**

*Visite nuestra nueva tienda "Heritage Bay"  
Puertas abiertas 8:00 am*

**50% off  
Donated  
Goods**

**50%  
de descuento  
en Artículos  
Donados**

**Saturday,  
April 23rd**

**Sábado, 23 de abril**

**8915 Sage Ave  
Naples, FL 34117**

**25% off  
New  
Mattresses**

**25%  
de descuento  
en colchones  
nuevos**

**Onsite  
Food  
&  
Music**  
  
**Comida  
y música  
en el lugar**

**First 100 Customers receive a \$10 Goodwill Gift Card (1) Gift Card per family**

**Los primeros 100 clientes reciben un certificado de regalo de buena voluntad  
de \$10 Una (1) tarjeta de regalo por familia, por favor**

## Events

### The 11th Annual Goodwill Golf Classic Fundraiser

Register today for our 11th Annual Goodwill Golf Classic. It's a great way to raise funds for our community supports and services while having an amazing day with friends. Lots of raffle prizes and you may win a hole-in-one all-expense-paid Pebble Beach golfing trip. [Register](#)

# Goodwill Southwest Florida



# Golf Classic

Held at:

## Verandah®

Golf Club, Fort Myers

**Thursday, May 5, 2022**

**Verandah Country Club**

**12201 River Village Way**

**Fort Myers, FL 33905**

**\$150 per player / \$500 per foursome**

Includes 18 holes, cart and lunch

shotgun start four person scramble: 8:30 am

Register online:

[www.goodwillswfl.org/Events](http://www.goodwillswfl.org/Events)

(scroll down to Golf Classic RSVP)

Sponsors:



Visit our website

## Classes

### Upcoming Small Business Classes in Cape Coral

Goodwill's MicroEnterprise has helped nearly 500 local small businesses start, or strengthen. If you are looking to launch your small business, this is the key to success!

[Save your seat](#)



# Southwest Florida MICROENTERPRISE



## Launch Your Own Business!

Business coaches are our secret sauce!  
Learn from the best or join our team of the best.  
**Classes starting soon!**

### Cape Coral:

May 23rd - June 30th  
Monday and Thursday  
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

*Attendance is limited,  
sign up today!*



### Class location:

Cape Coral Public Works Building  
Community Room  
815 Nicholas PKWY. E.  
Cape Coral, FL 33990



For more information: [www.goodwillswfl.org/microenterprise](http://www.goodwillswfl.org/microenterprise)

## Pathways to Opportunity

Do you know an adult with a intellectual or developmental disability who could use life skills training? Goodwill's Pathways to Opportunity program has an interactive summer series scheduled. For more information, contact Jessica Tursi at 239-995-2106 Ext 2301.



### Life Skills Summer Series

Adult Two Week Interactive Camp

Monday—Friday from 9:00am to 3:00pm



- Life Skills Reviewed:**
- Money Skills (Safety and Handling)
  - Communication & Boundaries
  - Community Safety
  - Drama Club
  - Computer Skills (Basics/Coding)
  - Daily Living Skills
  - Employment
  - Exploration
  - Cooking

At the end of the two weeks, participants will receive a report outlining their strengths, employment exploration assessment and progress. As well as new relationships to last a lifetime.

#### Who Could Benefit From This:

- Individuals 18+
- Considering Deferment
- Considering Adult Day Training programs
- Someone wanting a new experience during summer break

#### Cost:

- \$300 flat fee per 10 day session.
- Entry fee for outings included.
- Lunch is not included (bring from home)
- July Session: 07/11/22—07/22/22

Contact Jessica Tursi for more information:

[jessicavalos@goodwillswfl.org](mailto:jessicavalos@goodwillswfl.org) or 239-995-2106 ext. 2301

### Pathways to Opportunity Presents



## Life Skills Summer Series

Adult Two Week Interactive Seminar

July Session: July 11th, 2022 - July 22nd, 2022

Schedule: Arrival starts at 9:00am and Dismissal starts at 3:00pm

	Day of the Week				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week One: 07/11/22 - 07/15/22	Money Skills & Computer Skills 	Cooking Prep & Cooking 	Self-Advocacy/Rights & Communication/Boundaries 	Pre-Employment Training & Job Shadowing 	Drama Club 
Week Two: 07/19/22 - 07/22/22	Shell Factory 	Field Day - Lakes Park 	Shell Factory Nature Park 	Bowling League 	Performance at 1:30pm 

#### Week One Hourly Breakdown:

- 9:00am - 10:00am: Power Hour
- 10:00am - 11:30am: Class
- 11:30am - 12:00pm: Lunch (Bring from Home)
- 12:00pm - 1:45pm: Class
- 1:45pm - 2:45pm: Personal Enrichment
- 2:45pm - 3:00pm: Prep for Dismissal

#### Week Two Breakdown:

- 9:00am - 10:00am: Power Hour
- 10:00am - 1:45pm: Outing/Lunch (From Home)
- 1:45pm - 2:45pm: Personal Enrichment (Except for Friday)
- 2:45pm - 3:00pm: Prep for Dismissal

#### Friday 07/22/22:

All Parents and Caregivers are Invited for the performance! Following the Performance: Reports will be distributed and staff will be available for discussion.

## Digital Navigator

Need a computer? Internet? Want to learn how to navigate online or use a

computer? Attend our Digital Navigator information session and sign up at our Charlotte County Community Resource Center on Friday, May 6th. #GoodwillSWFL



## Digital Navigator Program

*Let's Get Connected!*

Are you interested in computer training,  
free or low cost Internet, or devices?

Goodwill Community Resource Centers provide individual assistance to those in need of fundamental computer training, affordable home Internet services, or reasonably priced devices to make the most of the Internet and its opportunities.

**Sign Up  
Friday, May 6th**

**Palm Beach Community Resource Center  
4162 Palm Beach Blvd  
Fort Myers, FL 33905**

- Affordable internet service through the Federal Communication Commission's Affordable Connectivity Plan
- Applications for computers or tablets at a low cost
- Sign-up for basic internet skills and basic computer skills classes sponsored by Goodwill Southwest Florida

***A session with a Digital Navigator is entirely FREE!***

*We understand the importance of helping people connect with education, health, employment, and other vital services over the internet.*

# Goodwill

Industries of Southwest Florida, Inc.



Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida, Inc. | (239) 995-2106 | [email](#) | [website](#)



Stay Connected

Don't forget to leave a review on Facebook or Google if you've visited one of our locations recently.

Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida, Inc. Has received a Platinum rating by GuideStar Charity Navigator <https://www.guidestar.org/profile/59-6196141>. Our charitable contributions/solicitation registration # is CH1930. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE 1-800-435-7352 WITHIN THE STATE OF FL. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. PLEASE VISIT [www.800helpfla.com](http://www.800helpfla.com) FOR OFFICIAL REGISTRATION INFORMATION AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.