View as Webpage

April 2025

Home | Mission | Retail | Contact Us | Facebook



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



Celebrate Earth Day - April 22nd!

By collecting and selling donated goods, Goodwill organizations help communities extend the life of usable items. Last year, Goodwill SWFL recovered the value of more than 29,742,566 pounds of used goods, giving them a second life.

That is **14,871 TONS** that did not go into the local landfills here in Southwest Florida!

Today, Tuesday, April 22, 2025 is Earth Day! Let's celebrate buy buying second-hand!

When you spend \$30 or more at Goodwill SWFL retail stores on Earth Day, you will get a FREE reusable tote bag.

Give something a second life, and help keep things out of landfills.

* Totes are available at all locations except for the Goodwill Outlet Center



Reusable Bag Giveaway!

When you Spend \$30 or more at any of our SWFL Goodwill Retail locations and receive a FREE Goodwill tote bag!

On Tuesday, April 22, 2025 Only - While supplies last (Excludes the Goodwill Outlet Center)

goodwill

93¢ of every dollar supports our Goodwill Mission. www.goodwillswfl.org

Annual Breakthrough Awards

Join us for the Annual Breakthrough Award ceremony at the Caloosa Sound Convention Center on Friday, May 30, 2025 beginning at 6 p.m. The event recognizes individuals and businesses

who have advanced the Goodwill Mission throughout the prior year.

Due to the event's popularity, it was moved to a larger venue this year to accommodate the number of guests. The Caloosa Sound Convention Center is located in Downtown Fort Myers at 1375 Monroe St, Fort Myers.

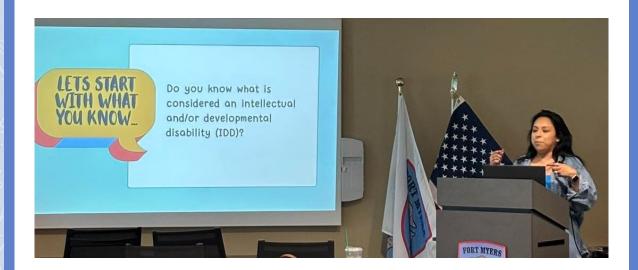
The event includes a plated dinner, a silent auction, and videos of each honoree.





Tickets

Mission Moments



Disability Awareness Training provides comprehensive knowledge and tools to understand and better serve people with IDD

Goodwill SWFL Director of Disability Services & Navigation, Jessica Tursi, just completed valuable training for the Fort Myers Fire Department on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) and available community resources. This collaboration is a step forward in creating a more inclusive, informed community where everyone's needs are understood and supported.





Goodwill Hosts Employability Workshops at Housing Authority's Financial Empowerment Series

Goodwill community service staff visited the Housing Authority of the City of Fort Myers community room and computer lab to provide the resume workshop and interview workshop portions of their Financial Empowerment series.

This 7-week course teaches residents financial responsibility and education on credit and mortgages that can help them on their journey to homeownership.

"We are thrilled to see so many residents join the series to learn more about financial self-sufficiency," states Angela Hemstreet, Goodwill Director of Employment Services. "Equipping yourself with the tools to be successful is the first step in the process and we can't wait to see where this takes them!"

"If you are inspired by the services we provide our SWFL community and would like to get involved in transforming lives, contact, Ashley Price, Director of Development, at ashleyprice@goodwillswfl.org.

Yes! I want to Transform Lives Today.



Ribbon-Cutting for new Cape Coral United Way Resiliency Hub

Our West Cape Goodwill Community Resource Center, located at 1499 SW Pine Island Road, is officially becoming a United Way Resiliency Hub. The public is invited to the official ribboncutting ceremony at 9am on Tuesday, April 29th.

UW Resiliency Hubs serve as a one-stop-shop where individuals and families can receive wraparound social services from multiple community organizations. They have provided 524,000 services in Lee, Hendry and Glades counties, and in times of disaster, serve as distribution sites for tarps, water and other emergency needs. We look forward to fellow United Way

PLEASE JOIN US for the Grand Opening of the **United Way Resiliency Hub**

at West Cape Coral Goodwill

1499 SW Pine Island Road Cape Coral, FL

TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 2025

Ceremony & Ribbon Cutting

9:00 AM

RSVP by April 25 to AlexDamerell@GoodwillSWFL.org



The United Way of Lee, Hendry, and Glades counties invites the public to the ribbon-cutting ceremony of its new Cape Coral Resiliency Hub

partner agencies providing services at the new location.

"In March, Goodwill was invited for this CRC location to become a Resiliency Hub and we were happy to have it added to the local directory of UW Resiliency Hubs," states Angela Hemstreet, Director of Employment Services for Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida.

Goodwill offers FREE training through Coursera

No Cost On-Line Coursera Certification Course in Al Essentials is available at Goodwill Community Resource Centers in Southwest Florida.

If you are a job seeker and want to have the cutting edge on the competition, sign up for this free on-line Professional Certification. Visit https://goodwillswfl.org/crc for a list of Goodwill CRC locations, or call (239) 995-2106 Ext. 2226 to be directed.

"Join the 77% of learners on Coursera who have reported career benefits including new skills, increased pay, and new job opportunities." -2023 Coursera Learner Outcomes Report





Congratulations! Iris Figueroa and Yunier Lopez, two of our Goodwill Community Resource Center Coordinators, who just earned their Google AI Essentials Certificate for successfully completing the Google AI Essentials through Coursera.

Visit your nearest Goodwill Community Resource Center to find out how to get started on your free course today, https://goodwillswfl.org/digital-training-certifications.

Looking for Retired Medical Professionals

Are you a retired medical professional looking to give back to the community?

The Institute of Health Careers and Goodwill SWFL have partnered to help people get their start in a new high-demand career in healthcare.

We are looking for retired medical professionals to contribute their time and expertise to help teach free CNA and MA classes. The curriculum is set, we just need you! A stipend is provided.

Contact Caren at (239) 303-4388 for more details!



Help teach those interested in being a:

- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)
- Medical Assistant (MA)

The curriculum is set. We just need YOU!

Contact (239) 303-4388



Cape Coral Technical College Job Fair

Goodwill SWFL staff was invited to attend a job fair at Cape Coral Technical College. The students learned about Goodwill's many programs including MicroEnterprise (our small business development program), Opportunity Accelerator (next steps to career development), and employment opportunities with Goodwill.









April Notable Anniversaries

Cindy Crippen, Senior Director of Finance and Accounting, 10 years on April 8th.

Jason Rigley, Retail Processorr, 10 years on April 16th.

(*Goodwill SWFL recognizes Years of Service every 5 years)

MicroEnterprise



Fort Myers MicroEnterprise Graduation

Our 136th Southwest Florida MicroEnterprise Institute class graduated at the SWFL Enterprise Center in Fort Myers on Thursday, April 17th. These aspiring entrepreneurs are creating new ventures, and bringing new ideas to the market.

Cape Coral MicroEnterprise Classes

The next Cape Coral small business class, MicroEnterprise, will be held from June 2nd through July 10th, 6pm to 8:30pm on Mondays and Thursdays at the West Cape Goodwill Community Resource Center located at 1499 SW Pine Island Road, Cape Coral.



Launch Your Own Business

Be Your Own Boss Classes Starting on

June 2 - July 10, 2025

Class location:

West Cape Community Resource Center 1499 SW Pine Island Rd. Cape Coral, FL 33991

Class meets

Monday and Thursday evenings 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm



For more information and to register go to: www.goodwillswfl.org/microenterprise

> or click on the QR code or call (239) 995-2106 Ext. 2304

- Develop a solid plan to guide your start-up with the assistance of an experienced business coaching team who serves as your coach.
- Hear from subject matter experts in areas of accounting, legal, marketing, insurance and funding.
- An easy to use workbook, used by organizations across America, assists you in transforming your vision into your plan for a successful business launch.

Major Funding Provided: City of Cape Coral

Goodwill SWFL MicroEnterprise Institute Program Funders:

Bank of America Bank United Bank OZK Comerica Bank Fifth Third Bank City of Cape Coral Third Federal Savings & Loan Valley Bank Regions Foundation TD Bank Foundation First Citizens Zonta Foundation of SWFL

Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida is committed to serving people with disabilities and disadvantages by offering life-changing opportunities to achieve independence.

This six-week small business class assists aspiring entrepreneurs discover if their business idea is feasible (can make money). The students learn directly from industry experts in banking, marketing, legal matters, and more. Once students complete this course they are one step closer to launching their own small business.

These small business classes are offered to residents of Charlotte (including North Port), Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee counties. For more information about upcoming classes, contact Sandra Plazas at sandraplazas@goodwillswfl.org, or call (239) 995-2106 Ext. 2304.

Learn More

Pathways to Opportunity

Join Us for the Strides for Inclusion 5K! Saturday, June 6th 7:30 am at Babcock Ranch

Get ready to lace up your running (or walking!) shoes for a great cause! The Strides for Inclusion 5K is coming up, and we want YOU to be part of this incredible event.

Every step you take helps support programs that promote inclusion and empower individuals of all abilities. Whether you're racing to the finish line or enjoying a stroll with friends, your participation makes a difference!



Spring Fling Recap!

Our Spring Fling was an absolute blast! Our participants had so much fun connecting with one another, dancing, playing games, and enjoying the beautiful spring weather. It was a day full of laughter, friendship, and unforgettable moments.

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make this event so special—we loved seeing the joy and smiles all around!











PTO Field Trip to Cultural Park Theater

Our PTO staff would like to extend a huge thank you to Cultural Park Theater for their incredible hospitality! Our participants had such a blast exploring the arts and enjoying the experience. We're so grateful for community partners like you who make memorable moments like these possible!







Community Services

Free Ongoing Classes

Citizenship Classes

Join us every Tuesday from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the Goodwill Community Resource Center in Cape Coral for free citizenship classes. We assist with your citizenship application and test preparation. Students must reserve a spot with Keith Edison in advance (text: 508-662-2121). Bring a copy of your application, a notebook, and a pen. Supportive friends are welcome to come along.

Nutrition Classes

Free Nutrition classes are offered at Goodwill Community Resource Centers in Fort Myers and Bonita Springs. Participants can eat the foods prepared in the class. For more information contact Hilda (Fort Myers) at 239-995-2106 Ext 2228, or Daisy (Bonita Springs) at 239-318-4644.

ACCESS Training

ACCESS Class is offered every Friday at 9:00 AM at the Bonita Springs CRC. Goodwill CRC coordinators are teaching the community how to create a new account in the MyACCESS Portal and do a renewal (or a new application). This is a free service offered by Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida. Contact Daisy or Linda at (239) 318-4644, or

stop by the Bonita CRC at 11601 Bonita Beach Road, SE.

Digital Skills Classes

If you want to improve your computer skills, **Goodwill provides FREE courses, online** and in person, covering basic topics such as typing, using a mouse, email, internet navigation, and more. We also offer advanced software classes, including Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Office 365. Call (239) 995-2106 Ext. 2226 or Ext. 2228 to locate the nearest Goodwill Community Resource Center and get started today!

Visit our Website



(Español disponible)

9 am - 12 (Noon)

Community Resource Center

Cape Coral Community Resource Center www.goodwillswfl.org/crc

Assistance with:

ACCESS Florida application assistance

- Medicaid
- Food Assistance (SNAP)
- Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA)

Wrap-Around Services:

- Healthcare Navigation
- Housing Resources
- Linkage & Referral
- Job Applications



Our Mobile Goodwill Schedule







ACA ASSISTANCE



The Health Planning Council of Southwest Florida will partner with Goodwill to be present at these locations. A navigator will be on-site to assist with enrolling in health insurance plans and to conduct educational sessions.

1st and 2nd Monday of each month

Port Charlotte
Community Resource Center
24123 Peachland Blvd
Port Charlotte, FL 33980
9 am - 2 pm

3rd and 4th Monday of each month

Community Resource Center
5100 Tice Street
Fort Myers, FL 33905
9 am - 2 pm

1st, 2nd, and 3rd Wednesday of each month

Jewish Federation LLS / SFM United Way Hub

9701 Commerce Center C, Ste 103 Fort Myers, FL 33908 10:30 am - 2:30 pm

4th Wednesday of each month

Pine Manor 5547 10th Ave Fort Myers, FL 339017 9 am - 2 pm

1st, 2nd, and 3rd Tuesday of each month

Lehigh Community Resource Center 2825 Lee Blvd, FL 33971

9 am - 2 pm

4th Tuesday of each month

Immokalee Church of the Nazarene 1207 Carson Rd. Immokalee, FL 34142 9 am - 2 pm

Every Thursday (Mobile Unit) & Friday (CRC) of each month

Towne Centre
Community Resource Center
3759 Tamiami Trail E.
Naples, FL 34114
9 am - 2 pm





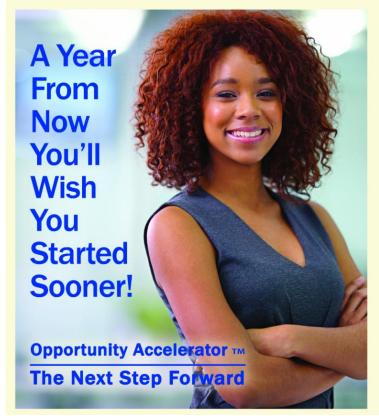
1.866.547.2793

除 www.EnrollSWFL.com

The program is supported by the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) of the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$13, 792, 500 with 100 percent funded by CMS/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor endorsement, by CMS/HHS, or the U. S. Government

Opportunity Accelerator

Invest in yourself! Goodwill offers employability skills, digital skills, and other free workshops at all Community Resource Centers throughout SWFL. It just takes a commitment from you to take advantage of these free classes that are aimed at helping you take the next step forward! Click HERE to get started.



Grow Your Skills For Today's Jobs

Learn at Your Own Pace Essential Computer Software and Typing Skills

- Microsoft and Google Basic Office
- Social Media Navigation and Safety Tips
- Email and Internet Basics

Work One on One with Career Navigators

(by Appointment)

- Resume Creation
- Job Search Assistance
- Interview Basics and Tips

Let's Get Started!

Scan QR Code for Locations and Schedules www.goodwillswfl.org/crc









Calling all Opportunity Makers!

Join us in creating a brighter future for someone. Become an Opportunity Maker! To sponsor one of our Community Resource Centers and/or employability workshops, please get in touch with Ashley Price at (239) 995-2106 Ext. 2213 or email AshleyPrice@goodwillswfl.org.

Free Legal Counsel for Seniors and Caregivers in Charlotte County

Free legal counsel for seniors 60 and up is available through GulfCoast Legal Services at the Port Charlotte Goodwill Community Resource Center (24123 Peachland Blvd., Port Charlotte).

MAY 2, 2025, from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon Please call ahead to reserve time at 941-255-3884.







GULFCOAST LEGAL SERVICES IS NOW SERVING THE





FOLLOWING COUNTIES:

DESOTO

WE PROVIDE FREE LEGAL SERVICES FOR A VARIETY OF ISSUES, INCLUDING CONSUMER-RELATED MATTERS (SUCH AS PUBLIC BENEFITS, DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICES, AND MEDICAL BILLS), HOUSING-**RELATED MATTERS LIKE LANDLORD-TENANT**

CHARLOTTE DISPUTES, AND FAMILY LAW CASES, INCLUDING CHILD CUSTODY CASES INVOLVING RELATIVES AND

LEE FICTIVE CAREGIVERS..

> YOU MAY QUALIFY IF YOU'RE:

1. AGED 60 OR OLDER

2. A FAMILY CAREGIVER OF **INDIVIDUALS AGED 60 OR OLDER**

3. A GRANDPARENT OR OLDER **RELATIVE AGED 55 OR OLDER WHO** ARE SERVING AS CAREGIVERS

CONTACT US TO **LEARN HOW WE** CAN HELP!

(C) 727-821-0726 EXT: 106 **OFFICE HOURS:** MONDAY- FRIDAY 9AM-5PM

WWW.GULFCOASTLEGAL.ORG

FREE Computer Classes for Charlotte County Older Adults

FREE Technology Classes for Older Adults (aged 60+).

Goodwill Southwest Florida is hosting lectures, workshops, and even courses from Senior Planet and AARP to help older adults use technology to learn new skills, save money, get in shape, and make new friends. Classes will be held at 24123 Peachland Blvd., Port Charlotte, FL 33954 and are intended for adults 60 and over.

SENIOR PLANET









FREE Technology Classes!

Goodwill Southwest Florida is hosting lectures, workshops, and even courses from Senior Planet and AARP to help older adults use technology to learn new skills, save money, get in shape, and make new friends. Classes will be held at 24123 Peachland Blvd., Port Charlotte, FL 33954 and are intended for adults 60 and over.

Upcoming Lectures:

April 24: Everyday Al Applications

May 8: Video Conferencing May 15: Al Image Generators

May 22: Cloud Storage

Sign Up Today!

Call: 941-255-3884

Email: sherystahnke@goodwillswfl.org



FREE Computer Classes for Spanish Speaking Older Adults

The Goodwill Community Resource Center in Bonita Springs is offering an opportunity to learn how to make Emojis, GIFs and more online (in Spanish) through Senior Planet, on Thursday, April 17th. To register, call (239) 357-4024. Classes are intended for Older Adults 60+.

The Senior Planet licensing program enables local, community-based organizations to deliver innovative classes to help seniors get online and stay engaged and active in their communities. The Bonita Springs Community Resource Center (CRC) is located at 11601 Bonita Beach Rd SE. This class is for Spanish-speakers, and is intended for adults 60 and over.

SENIOR PLANET



¡Clases de tecnología GRATIS!

Goodwill Southwest Florida ahora ofrece clases de Senior Planet de AARP para ayudar a los adultos mayores a usar la tecnología para aprender nuevas habilidades, ahorrar dinero y hacer nuevos amigos. Las clases se llevarán a cabo en 11601 Bonita Beach Rd SE Bonita Springs, FL, 34135 y están destinadas a adultos de 60 años o más.

Próximas clases:

¡Emojis, GIF y mucho más! Comienza el 24 de april de 2025

¡Registrate hoy!

Llamada: (239) 357-4024



Senior Planet, the principal program of Older Adults Technology Services (OATS) from AARP, helps older adults harness the power of technology to thrive in the digital world. By joining the Senior Planet licensing program, Goodwill SWFL has made a commitment to help seniors in the local area learn to use technology to change their lives.

For more information about Senior Planet courses in other communities, contact Angela at angelahemstreet@goodwillswfl.org.

Events

14th Annual Goodwill Golf Classic

Registration is now open to reserve a player spot in the 14th Annual Goodwill Golf Classic. The annual four-person scramble, scheduled May 22nd at Verandah Golf Club. Proceeds benefit programs and services offered through Goodwill that help people with disabilities and disadvantages remove barriers to their independence.

Players will tee off at 8:30 a.m., followed by lunch and prizes in the club restaurant. Dozens of prizes will be available through course contests and raffles. Cost is \$225 per player or \$750 per foursome. A limited number of sponsorships are available.

Players and sponsors can register online at https://www.eventcreate.com/e/14thannualgolf classic

For more information, contact Alex at (239) 995-2106 Ext. 2271, or email alexdamerell@goodwillswfl.org.

Register





Lehigh Job & Resource Fair Friday, April 25th

Goodwill is hosting a Lehigh Job & Resource Fair at the East County Library in Lehigh Acres on Friday, April 25th from 10am to 12:30pm. There will be more than 20 vendors attending. Come out and see what's new for you. This is a free event open to the public!

There will be a Free Employability Workshop on Wednesday, April 23rd, from 9 am to 3pm to help job seekers gain the skills to make a great first impression. To sign up for the Employability Workshop, contact Sheila at sheilahernandez@goodwillswfl.org, or call (239) 369-4774.

Retail News

VIP New Mattress Sale Friday - Sunday, April 25th - 27th

Special VIP Sale on new mattresses for the weekend of Friday, April 25th through



Sunday, April 27th.

Take 25% off new mattresses at all Goodwill retail stores in Southwest Florida in the following counties: Lee, Collier, Hendry and Charlotte (except for Englewood).

Discount is applied when you use your VIP number at checkout.



VIP Memorial Day Sale Saturday, May 17th

Goodwill SWFL VIP Perk Members get treated to the Memorial Day Sale early on Saturday, May 17th. Get the same great savings of 50% off donated at all Goodwill SWFL retail stores, and 25% off donated at the two blue Boutiques when you use your VIP Perk number at checkout.

Make sure your friends are signed up for the Goodwill SWFL VIP Perk program to get the savings too!

Sign up at www.GoodwillPerks.com

Goodwill SWFL Memorial Day Sale Monday, May 26th

Mark your calendars! Goodwill's Memorial Day Sale is, Monday, May 26th.

50% OFF - ALL DONATED GOODS 25% off donated at the two blue Boutiques.

Remember when you put an awesome find

in your Goodwill® cart, you're not just thrifting, you're helping Goodwill to provide job training and more for your neighbors.

Bring Good Home during the Goodwill Memorial Day Sale!





Enjoy Café blue!

Step into Café blue, where every cup tells a story! Whether you're craving a rich, steamy espresso or a refreshing iced latte, we have the perfect brew for you. Pair your favorite coffee with our freshly baked goods — crafted to delight your taste buds. Stop by and treat yourself to something truly delicious! 2277 First Street in downtown Fort Myers.



Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida, Inc. I (239) 995-2106 <u>lemaillowebsite</u>







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 Candid (formerly GuideStar). 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 FOR OFFICIAL REGISTRATION INFORMATION AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida | 5100 Tice Street | Fort Myers, FL 33905 US

<u>Unsubscribe</u> | <u>Update Profile</u> | <u>Constant Contact Data Notice</u>



Try email marketing for free today!