



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

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](#)

You are Cordially Invited to our

2024 Breakthrough Awards and Gala

Growing Goodwill

Friday, May 30, 2025

Cocktails & Networking 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Dinner & Reception 7:00 pm

\$225/per person \$2000/table of 10

Caloosa Sound Convention

Center

1375 Monroe Street
Fort Myers, Florida 33901

Cocktails & Networking 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Dinner & Reception 7:00 pm

\$225/per person \$2000/table of 10

To register for the event visit:

www.eventcreate.com/e/growinggoodwill



Thank you to our

Partner In Opportunity Sponsor:



Mission Moments

Goodwill SWFL on Capitol Hill

Several of our Goodwill team connected with nearly 300 lawmakers and staff on Capitol Hill on May 1st. Ashley Price, our Director of Development, and Angela Hemstreet, our Director of Employment Services, visited Senator Ashley Moody's office where they discussed the importance of Goodwill SWFL's employment training and services, and partnerships with organizations that help reentering for individuals coming out of the judicial system.

Multi-Year funding for WIOA (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) is imperative to support programs like Goodwill's and others that support job seekers nationwide.



2025 APEX Awards

We are proud to announce that our Chief

This award recognizes women who demonstrate exemplary achievements in business and community service, including outstanding leadership, mentorship, and philanthropic contributions.

Carolyn has dedicated more than 27 years to Goodwill, providing visionary leadership and unwavering commitment to our mission of empowering individuals through the power of work. Her nomination is a testament to her significant impact on our organization and the wider Southwest Florida community.

We congratulate Carolyn on this well-

Mission and Development Officer, Carolyn Johnson, is one of five finalists for the APEX Award by the Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce.

deserved recognition and celebrate her ongoing commitment to professional excellence and community engagement.

SWFL INCredible Awards

Goodwill SWFL proudly attended the SWFL INCredible Awards where we were nominated as Nonprofit of the Year. The nominations were submitted by the community and winners were selected by committee and announced at the May 13th annual awards event.

"Being nominated for *Best Non-Profit* among such a thriving Southwest Florida community was truly special," states Ashley Price, Goodwill SWFL's Director of Development. "Congratulations to all the award recipients and fellow nominees! We're inspired by the collective impact in our region!"



From L to R: Ashley Price, Dir. of Development; Doug Stewart, COO; Carolyn Johnson, CMO; Skip Mitchell, BOD; and John Nadeau, President & CEO.



Best Buddies Friendship Walk

Pathways to Opportunity staff and members of our Mission staff, including Goodwill SWFL Chief Mission Officer Carolyn Johnson, were out this past Saturday helping our friends at Best Buddies!

Our team showed up for their Friendship Walk on May 3rd, supporting inclusion, friendship, and community for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Let's hear it for inclusion, SWFL!



"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.



New West Cape United Way Resiliency Hub

On April 29th, we celebrated the ribbon-cutting for the new Cape Coral United Way Resiliency Hub at our West Cape Goodwill (1499 SW Pine Island Road in Cape Coral). The new Resiliency Hub will be co-located with the Goodwill Community Resource Center (CRC).

Angela Hemstreet, Goodwill SWFL's Director of Employment Services explains, "In March, Goodwill was invited for this CRC location to become a Resiliency Hub, and we are happy to have it added to the local directory of UW Resiliency Hubs."

UW Resiliency Hubs serve as a one-stop-shop where individuals and families can receive wrap-around 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. Additional social service agencies are also expected to take up residence at the new location.

Goodwill Success Stories

Rudni found that the workshop provided just the help he needed, and he applied to several jobs that same day.

He stayed proactive, regularly checking the center's job listings. Soon, his dedication paid off—he was hired by a business near

Welcome to the Lehigh Acres
COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER
Connecting You to Services and Opportunities!



his home. Committed to his professional growth, Rudni continues to visit the center to learn about computer classes, new job opportunities, and job fairs.

Rudni shared how much he values the welcoming environment and excellence of service at Lehigh CRC. He especially appreciated the help of Sheila, the Coordinator, noting:

"You can tell Sheila truly enjoys her job—she always does her best to assist everyone with a bright smile." - Rudni T.

Mr. Rudni T. came to the Goodwill Lehigh Community Resource Center with a clear goal: to find a job close to home. He attended one of the center's Employability Workshops, where he learned how to craft a marketable résumé, search online for jobs, and practice interview skills.

When Alejandro arrived at Goodwill's Lehigh Community Resource Center, he was overwhelmed by the digital job search process. New to the U.S. and unfamiliar with technology, he struggled with resumes and online applications. That changed after he attended Goodwill's Employability Workshop, where he learned how to build a professional resume, navigate job search websites, and practice interview skills.

With guidance from Coordinator, Sheila, Alejandro created a strong resume and applied to Goodwill—he got the job! He continued visiting the center to learn to use tools like Microsoft Teams and to complete HR paperwork, gaining both skills and confidence with each visit.

Alejandro shared with the coordinator how grateful he was for the support he received, and how he's now sharing with others that Goodwill can offer this same support and guidance in their skilling and employment journeys!



The League Club Supports Goodwill Mobile Services in Collier County

The League Club awarded \$30,000 to support Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida's Mobile Community Resource Center. The Mobile Resource Center travels to communities where transportation would otherwise be a barrier to receiving training and services.

\$10K Grant from United Way of Collier and the Keys

Goodwill SWFL has received a grant of \$10,000 from the **United Way of Collier and**

the Keys to support the Opportunity Accelerator program delivered through the Goodwill Mobile CRC. Opportunity Accelerator addresses skills gaps in the community by providing essential training to individuals who lack access to higher education and paid training opportunities.



May Notable Anniversaries

Annette Newkirk, Retail Sales Associate, 15 years on May 11th.

John Nadeau, CEO and President, 10 years on May 18th.

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

MicroEnterprise

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.



Southwest Florida
MICROENTERPRISE



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

Shop for a Cause - Kendra Gives Back Event

We're so excited to announce that Pathways to Opportunity (PTO) is partnering with Kendra Scott for a fundraiser on Friday, May 16 — and you can shop online or in-store!

Here's how you can support:

Online: Shop at kendrascott.com anytime from May 16–17 and use our custom code GIVEBACK–JJXKN at checkout.

In-Store: Join us between 12–2 PM on May 16 at Kendra Scott at Waterside Shops in Naples to shop in person with us!

20% of all purchases made using our code (or during our in-store time) will directly benefit PTO and the amazing participants we serve.

Support inclusion, empowerment, and opportunity—one beautiful piece at a time.

Shine Bright, Do Good

JOIN US FOR A KENDRA GIVES BACK EVENT

Friday May 16th, 12:00a.m.-2:00pm

Kendra Scott, Waterside Shops
Enjoy Sips & Sweets and 20% of
the proceeds will benefit

PATHWAYS TO
OPPORTUNITY

Can't make the event, shop Online
5/16/25 & 5/17/25 with CODE:

GIVEBACK- JJXKN



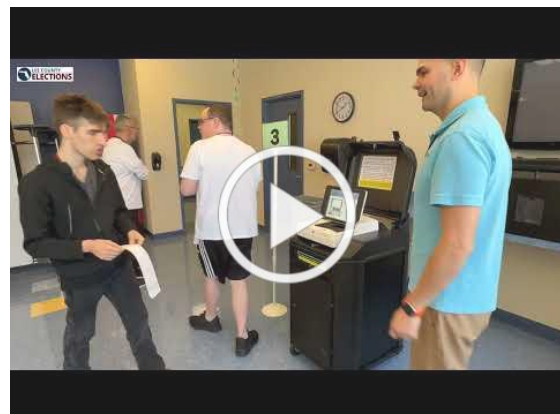
KENDRA SCOTT



PTO Advocacy Council Elections

Monday, May 12th was Election Day at Pathways to Opportunity and thanks to the Lee County Elections team, our PTO participants got to vote for their favorite Advocacy Council candidates for this quarter.

This exercise not only teaches the participants how to vote, and their right to vote, but also gives them a voice within the PTO program by enabling them to select their Advocacy Council spokespersons.





Big News!

We're thrilled to announce that Shari Armstrong will be the official MC for this year's Strides for Inclusion 5K & Walk!

Shari is a seasoned news professional, gifted storyteller, and proud Southwest Florida native. You've seen her on Fox 4 News, and she was honored as one of Gulfshore Life's "40 Under 40."

Her passion for people and talent for bringing stories to life make her the perfect voice to guide us through this empowering event. With her warm presence, dynamic energy, and authenticity, Shari will make this a day to remember!

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!

Haven't signed up yet?

Register today at <https://www.pathwaystoopportunity.com/5k>



5K • FUN RUN Saturday June 7, 2025 at 7:30am

Register by May 7th for a discounted price

For more info or sign up use the link or QR code below:
PathwaysToOpportunity.com/5K

Hosted at Babcock Ranch
42911 Lake Babcock Drive
Punta Gorda, FL US 33982



BABCOCK RANCH



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!

FREE AI Essentials Coursera Certification

No Cost On-Line Coursera Certification Course in AI 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.

Visit our Website

Cape  *Coral*
Caring *Center*

TUESDAYS

(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

Schedule for Goodwill Mobile Community Resource Center



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

TICE
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

1st, 2nd Friday (Mobile Unit) of each month

Suncoast Community Center
2241 Case Ln,
North Fort Myers, FL 33917
9 am - 1 pm

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.

**A Year From Now
You'll Wish You
Started Sooner!**



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



**Community
Resource Center**



Partner Agency



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 Computer Classes For Older Adults (60+)

Cloud Storage, Thursday, May 22nd

Goodwill Southwest Florida is hosting lectures, workshops, and 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. Call (941) 255-3884.

SENIOR PLANET
FROM AARP

**Community
Resource Center**



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:

Goodwill Community Resource Center

24123 Peachland Blvd.

Port Charlotte, FL 33954

and are intended for adults 60 and over

Upcoming Lecture - CLOUD STORAGE

May 22, 2025

10:00 am

Sign Up Today!

Call: 941-255-3884 or **Email:** sherystahnke@goodwillswfl.org

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.

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

GOT A PASSION FOR PEOPLE?



**We are looking for retired
medical professionals
to volunteer their services!**
(Stipend is provided)

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

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!

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/14thannualgolfclassic>

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

Goodwill Southwest Florida

SAVE THE DATE

Golf Classic

Held at:

Verandah
Golf Club, Fort Myers

Thursday, May 22, 2025

Verandah Country Club
12201 River Village Way
Fort Myers, FL 33905

Register online:
www.eventcreate.com/e/14thannualgolfclassic

We are Looking for Sponsors
Please contact: Alex Damerell
at alexdamerell@goodwillswfl.org

Register

Retail News

VIP Memorial Day Sale
Saturday, May 17th



Goodwill
Memorial Day

VIP PERK SALE
Sat, May 17th
50% OFF
Donated Goods.

*Sale Excludes: Goodwill Outlet Center, New Goods/Special Purchases.
Cannot be combined with any other sales promotions. Sale is good at Goodwill Retail & Donations Centers in Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Hendry Counties.
www.goodwillswfl.org

25% off Donated Goods*
at Downtown blue and
Ave Maria blue Boutiques,

*Sale excludes: New Goods/Special Purchases.
Cannot be combined with any other sales promotions.
Sale is good at Goodwill Retail & Donations Centers in Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Hendry Counties.

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



Sábado 17 de mayo
50% OFF
de descuento
Bienes donados

*La venta excluye: Nuevos Bienes/Compras Especiales, y Goodwill Outlet. No se puede combinar con ninguna otra promoción de ventas. La venta es buena en Goodwill Retail & Donations Centers en Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Hendry County.

Ahorre un 25% de descuento
en las boutiques Downtown blue y Ave Maria blue
(Excluyendo Bienes Nuevos)

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!



Goodwill
Memorial Day

SALE
Mon, May 26th
50% OFF
Donated Goods.

*Sale Excludes: Goodwill Outlet Center, New Goods/Special Purchases, or the \$1.99 Monday. Cannot be combined with any other sales promotions. Sale is good at Goodwill Retail & Donations Centers in Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Hendry Counties.
www.goodwillswfl.org

25% off Donated Goods*
at Downtown blue and
Ave Maria blue Boutiques,

*Sale excludes: New Goods/Special Purchases.
Cannot be combined with any other sales promotions.
Sale is good at Goodwill Retail & Donations Centers in Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Hendry Counties.

Enjoy Café blue!

Have you seen our new book, vinyl and media section at Cafe blue? You



can buy art there too. Stop in for a new book. Check out our vinyl records and CDs, and of course delight in one of our delicious baked goods and flavorful coffees. Cafe blue is downtown Fort Myers at 2277 First Street.



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 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

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