

Voice of Goodwill

Volume 2, Issue 1, Spring 2004



Goodwill
Store
at 407 W.
Locust
in downtown
Tyler



Goodwill Industries.

409 W. Locust St.,

Tyler, TX 75702

Tel: 903 593 8438

Fax: 903 593 8774

tylergoodwill.com

Opportunities in Tyler

500 ENE Loop 323

Tyler, TX 75706

Tel: 903 593 2481

Fax: 903 592 7262

"Thank you East Texas"

Thank you East Texas for over 90,000 donations last year. What did we do with your generous donations? We recycled them into sales in our nine stores and salvage

operation. We then use the cash to provide jobs, training programs and opportunities for disabled and disadvantaged individuals with barriers to employment. We now have over two hundred and twenty employees. Of our total payroll, 58 per cent goes to disabled or disadvantaged employees. Over 88 per cent of the revenues we generate goes back into the community for jobs and training.

Part of our training is done by our Workforce Division. It had a 26.3 per cent increase in 2003 in the number of people served. At any one time we average over twenty-seven people in placement for jobs in East Texas. Some of the services we provide are vocational evaluations, work adjustment training, personal/social adjustment training and supported employment.

Additional training and employment is offered in our Contracts Division at its facility

on the North Loop #323 in Tyler. There are over eighty employees in division and over 75 per cent are in our sheltered workshop. The workshop provides jobs and income for individuals who might not be able to find regular employment. Through their hard work our contracts division sells quality products and services to local and regional companies at very competitive rates.

*"Fuel the
Power-Donate
to Goodwill"*

FREE TAX SERVICE

Goodwill and the IRS are providing free income tax preparation for low to moderate income individuals. The service is every Saturday at the Goodwill store at 1817 WSW Loop 323 in Tyler. The service is made possible by ConnecTyler, who donated three computers, East Texas Workforce Center, donated training space and volunteers, Gifts In Kind Tyler donated the software for the computers and Cox Communications helped with the Internet connections. The service will assist workers with free filing of their tax returns to ensure receipt of Earned Income Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit and other federal and state tax credits.



WORKING TOGETHER SERVES MORE PEOPLE



The need for vocational training in Tyler for special education students is greater today than almost any other time. We have special education students that are going to graduate from high school without an adequate transition-to-work plan. Because of this Goodwill and Tyler Independent School District (TISD) are partnering to provide additional services for these special students. Students will be given a 3 day vocational evaluations and thirty day work adjustment training. The idea behind this project is to ensure that the graduating special education students know their individual skills and have every opportunity to find a job. *We are looking for scholarship sponsors; each student will need a \$1000 scholarship to complete the testing and work adjustment training.*

*TISD
Bus to
pick-up
students
at Goodwill*

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GIFTS IN KIND TYLER

Gifts in Kind Tyler (GIKT), a service of Goodwill, finished out its first year with over sixty members. The members come from many of the surrounding communities in East Texas, such as Longview, Palestine, Whitehouse and Jacksonville. Organizations like The Salvation Army, Texas College, United Way and the ARC of Tyler/Smith County belong to GIKT. The members saved over \$264,000 in expenses by belonging and receiving product either free or for a small handling fee. In October GIKT distributed over 40,000 toothbrushes to its members free of charge. Organizations like East Texas Crisis Center saved over \$34,000 by receiving GIKT donations. GIKT's mission is to save non-profits money while helping them to expand their services. With this in mind 2003 was a very successful year.

*"Creating a
better
community"*

NON-PROFIT

CORNER

The non-profit corner is a new feature of the newsletter. It will highlight another local non-profit agency in East Texas. The first featured agency is:

The Arc of Tyler/Smith County

Their mission is to enhance the general welfare of persons with mental retardation and development disabilities by providing programs, services, education and compassion for those they serve and their families.

Walk-A-Mile for a special child-Thursdays, April 22nd
Call the Arc at: 903-597-0995

GIFTS IN KIND
Tyler™