



Training and employing
people with disabilities
and special needs

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF NORTH FLORIDA MORE THAN THRIFT STORE;
CHANGING LIVES ONE JOB AT A TIME**

JACKSONVILLE, FL (April 2008) – While many North Floridians know Goodwill of North Florida from either browsing the racks of the retail thrift stores or dropping off sacks of donated items, there is one group for whom Goodwill’s role in their lives goes beyond that.

Just last year alone, Goodwill changed the lives of more than 10,000 in North Florida when they placed them in employment.

Goodwill is North America’s leading nonprofit provider of education, training, and career services for people with disadvantages, such as welfare dependency, homelessness, and lack of education or work experience, as well as those with physical, mental and emotional disabilities.

“We believe that work has the power to transform lives by building self-confidence, independence, creativity, trust and friendships,” said Robert Thayer, CEO of Goodwill Industries of North Florida. “Everyone deserves a chance to have these.”

The Goodwill of North Florida Job Junctions are a valuable community service. These walk-in Career Centers provide a positive and supportive environment; where anyone looking for work may access resources and learn skills to conduct an independent job search at no charge.

Goodwill Job Junctions are located conveniently throughout Jacksonville, with additional centers located in St. Augustine, Gainesville, Lake City, Palm Coast and Palatka.

For more information, call .

About Goodwill Industries of North Florida

For over sixty years, Goodwill of North Florida has been a leader in helping people fulfill their dreams through work: dreams of independence, self-respect and the chance to succeed.

In 2007, Goodwill served over 23,000 individuals and placed over 10,500 into employment. These efforts resulted in \$98 Million in new salaries and new purchasing power.

Goodwill Industries is currently accepting donations of gently-used clothing, shoes, toys, books, household items, furniture and linens.