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Adult Services

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Goodwill Adult Programs: A Hand Up, Not a Hand Out

Goodwill adult programs help people with disabilities and socioeconomic disadvantages achieve the pride, dignity, and self-respect that real work provides.

Since Goodwill was established in Boston by Reverend Edgar J. Helms in 1902, the philosophy has been "a hand up, not a hand out"; helping people help themselves. Goodwill provides a broad-range of training and employment opportunities to assist adults in overcoming barriers to employment so they may achieve a level of independence to participate more fully in life. Goodwill's programs for adults focus on meeting individual needs and ensuring that program participants progress to reach their full potential. Supported by a team of dedicated, professional staff, individuals are regularly assessed and measured to ensure successful and desired outcomes.

Programs for Adults with Disadvantages

- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) programs focus on the needs of employers for skilled, quality workers while also meeting the training, education, and employment needs of individuals. WIOA programs are available for **Dislocated Workers** (job lost due to company closing or lay off) and income eligible **Adults**. Career services are provided to all individuals through the Workforce Centers and include job search, career counseling, labor market statistics, unemployment insurance information, and basic skills and interest assessments. Training services are available to eligible adults. Services include career interest and aptitude assessment, assistance with training that yields industry recognized credentials for demand occupations, and help in finding a training-related job.
- Reconnecting with the labor force can be challenging for anyone. Add a criminal history to the scenario and it can seem impossible. Goodwill's **Prisoner Re-Entry** program assists those persons with a criminal history that have a goal of getting back to work and maintaining long-term employment.
- **GoodCare** – This healthcare training program provides participants with supportive services, life skills training, education, and assistance to obtain employment in the healthcare industry. GoodCare serves individuals who are TANF recipients, as well as other low-income individuals. *Seats are limited and eligibility applies.*
- **Careers in Technology** – This program provides technology training for certifications in areas such as CompTIA A+, Security+, and Network+. Training is focused to prepare individuals for Help Desk or Computer Programmer jobs.

Programs for Adults with Disabilities

- **Medicaid Waiver Programs** – Goodwill's Discovery Services provide day support programming for individuals with severe intellectual, emotional, and physical disabilities. The programs encourage independence and skill development through community integration and structured group day activities. Center Based Group Day, Community Engagement, and Community Coaching services are offered to individuals based upon their preference and interests. These services provide a wide variety of opportunities in both community and center based settings to engage in peer interactions, enhance social networks, and build natural supports while utilizing the community as a learning environment.
- **Employee Development and Training** – Through Employee Development, Work Adjustment Training, and Community Work Adjustment Training individuals develop or re-develop job skills to achieve positive employment outcomes. Extended Employment Services provide paid and unpaid work activities at a Goodwill work center or in an integrated community setting with Goodwill supervision. The goal is to improve productivity, wages, and competitive work skills.
- Employment and Training – Individuals with disabilities and other barriers to employment that are looking for community based work opportunities benefit from **Supported Employment**, Support Services for **Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)**, and **Work Incentive Specialist Advocate (WISA)**. Each program provides case management, and support for both the employee and community employer.

See our interactive [Services Map](#) to view services available in your area.

For more information on Goodwill Adult Programs, e-mail info@goodwillvalleys.com.