

FEBRUARY 2026



Tax Season Help: Free VITA Tax Assistance for Our Community

A Message From Michele

Hello Everyone!

As we look ahead, February is a great time to shake off cabin fever and find moments of joy in everyday experiences. Shopping at Goodwill turns a simple outing into a feel-good moment, from discovering an unexpected treasure to finding something that refreshes your space or wardrobe. Behind each full and welcoming store is a dedicated retail team working hard with pride and care for the mission. Every purchase supports local jobs and community programs, making each find even more meaningful.

That sense of support continues through our free tax preparation program (VITA), which is in full swing. Thanks to the dedication of our staff and volunteers, individuals and families are receiving trusted, no-cost assistance that helps make tax season less stressful and more manageable.

February is also Black History Month, a time to honor Black leaders and contributions while reaffirming our commitment to equity, opportunity, and belonging in our workplace and throughout our community.

As Valentine's Day approaches, we are reminded that kindness matters. A donation, a thank-you, a smile, or lending a hand can make a real difference. Small acts of kindness, multiplied, create powerful change.

Thank you for being part of the Goodwill community and for spreading good all month long.

With Gratitude,

Michele Harris

President & CEO



Mission in Motion



VITA: Goodwill's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program

Tax season is here, and Goodwill of South Central Wisconsin's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program is ready to help. VITA provides free, reliable tax preparation for community members with low to moderate income, helping ensure they get the credits and refunds they deserve. Appointments are available this tax season at several local locations, where trained volunteers guide filers through every step at no cost. Many participants leave not only with their taxes completed but also with greater confidence in understanding their finances and accessing available benefits.

Scan to [learn more](#) about VITA and book an appointment!



Celebrating Our Team



February RISE Award Recipient

This month we recognize Harley Lee, Assistant Store Manager at Monona, for Stewardship & Results! Over the past several weeks, she seamlessly managed responsibilities across Monona, North, and the ADC, filling in at multiple locations and training staff while keeping operations running smoothly. Harley's dedication, leadership, and willingness to step in wherever needed have helped strengthen several teams, and she continues to apply her RISE Leadership training to make a meaningful impact across the organization. Congrats, Harley!

Nominate a Goodwill Employee for a RISE Award!



February Anniversaries

1 Year	5 Years
Alex W.	Kozon L.
Dawn W.	LuAnn M.
Felicia C.	Natalie C.-L.
Gregory E.	Ricky R.
GTT.	Valerie W.
Jeremy B.	Yao Fong M.

10 Years



Thank You for 37 Years of Service!

After 37+ years of dedicated service, Audrey Timmons (center) has retired from Goodwill Madison East. Her hard work, commitment, and care for her team and community have left a lasting impact. We're so grateful for all she's contributed and will miss her!

We're Hiring!

Check out our top job openings below:

- Job Coaches – No Weekends!
- Warehouse Specialists
- Store Supervisors

[Click here](#) to view all job openings!



Now Accepting Car Donations!

We're excited to partner with CARS (Charitable Adult Rides & Services). They accept nearly all vehicles—cars, trucks, boats, RVs, motorcycles, and more; running or not, and provide free towing. CARS specializes in vehicle donations for nonprofits—so vehicle donations are tax-deductible.

[Learn more here!](#)



Love is in the (Thrifted) Air at Goodwill

Keep an eye on our socials for a special Valentine's Day giveaway!



Shop One-of-a-Kind Prom Dresses

Looking for a prom outfit that's stylish, unique, and budget-friendly? Shop Goodwill to find dresses, accessories, and more to stand out!

Good to Know Blog

Catch the latest from Goodwill—our blogs are dropping three times a month [here!](#)



E-Comm Highlight

- Top Find: Vintage Reed & Barton Sterling Silver 33 Pcs. Flatware Set
- Donated to Verona



Safety

Tom's Safety Tips

Fire prevention is an important part of keeping everyone safe at Goodwill. Help prevent fires by remembering these key tips:

- Keep aisles, exits, & donation areas clear and uncluttered.
- Use electrical cords and outlets safely; never overload power strips.
- Know where the nearest exit is and follow staff instructions in an emergency.
- If you see smoke or fire, alert a team member right away and evacuate safely.
- Smoking is only allowed in designated areas.

Mr. Safety



Let's Get Social!

Visit our [website](#) and follow us on social media for daily updates, exclusive promotions, upcoming events, and more!



About 33% of students buy their prom dresses second-hand, including from thrift stores.