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Goodwill Opens New Location in Avondale Meadows

Northeast Indianapolis store near Goodwill's adult high school, The Excel Center

Goodwill celebrated the opening of its newest store today in Indianapolis' Avondale Meadows neighborhood on the city's northeast side. Located at 2950 E. 38th Street, the store features more than 80,000 items for sale, including clothing, household goods, toys, books and more. Donations are accepted at the site, which will be open Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Goodwill also operates its adult high school, The Excel Center, nearby.

"Our organization is proud to continue to invest in the success of this neighborhood," said Eric Schlegel, Goodwill's vice president of retail operations. "Our stores and schools have much to offer our employees, students and neighbors. They represent the kinds of opportunities we mean when we talk about our commitment to employment and education – and changing lives."

The 12,000-square-foot store employs about 20, mostly part-time, workers. Two-thirds of Goodwill's 2,400 retail employees face significant barriers, including disabilities, limited education and criminal history. Employees have access to a variety of resources to help them increase their education and future employability. Goodwill also helps employees connect with higher-wage positions within the organization or with other employers, when they're ready for a transition.

"Each new store means new opportunities for Hoosiers who can benefit from our services," Schlegel said. "Our shoppers and donors make it all possible. We wouldn't be here if it wasn't for their support and the support of this neighborhood and community."

Close by, The Excel Center provides opportunities for Goodwill employees and members of the community at large to increase their educational attainment. Students can earn their high school diploma, gain industry-recognized certifications, receive college credit and more. The Avondale Meadows location, opened in 2011, is one of one of 11 operated by Goodwill in central Indiana. Three employees at the new Goodwill store have a connection to The Excel Center. Two are current students; the other is a graduate.

To learn more about Goodwill's mission and services or to find a store, donation center or school, visit goodwillindy.org.

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