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For Immediate Release

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High School Focuses on Goodwill Services, Increases Graduation Rate

Indianapolis Metropolitan High School holds graduation ceremony June 9

Indianapolis, Ind. – Goodwill’s Indianapolis Metropolitan High School, a best-fit charter school for teens experiencing barriers, celebrated its graduating class of 2018 this weekend. The graduation rate for the school is up 45% over last year.

Indianapolis Met maximizes the culture and mission of Goodwill with an individualized approach that changes lives every day by empowering people to increase their independence and reach their potential. The school places an emphasis on being a best-fit for students who are pregnant, parenting, in foster care, special education, part of the criminal justice system or managing previous enrollments at other schools, with a focus on ensuring students are in college or a living-wage career post-graduation.

Indianapolis Met High School supports students like De’Janae Simpson, who at age 16, became a mother and was about to be expelled from the high school she attended.

“After transferring to Indy Met, I realized I had the support and flexibility I needed to help me pass my classes,” Simpson said. “The teachers did everything in their power to help me graduate.”

Simpson was also referred to Goodwill’s Nurse-Family Partnership®, a program that pairs low-income, first-time moms with a registered nurse. While pregnant, she received home visits from a nurse who helped her prepare for her baby.

“My nurse was like another friend to talk to,” Simpson said. “We had different topics to discuss every week, and she didn’t judge me about anything.”

Simpson was among the graduates celebrated this spring. This graduating class recognizes over 50 students, 88% of whom experienced barriers to their education.

“Indianapolis Met is well-positioned to continue supporting both students and families on a path to self-sufficiency and independence,” Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana President & CEO Kent Kramer said. “Our goal is to provide students like De’Janae with the flexibility they need to complete their education on time.”

To interview an Indianapolis Met student or leadership member, please contact Jennifer Rendant at 630-550-0847 or jennifer.rendant@goodwillindy.org.

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About Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana

Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana changes lives every day by empowering people to increase their independence and reach their potential through education, health and employment. The organization serves 39 Indiana counties and operates more than 70 retail locations, as well as charter schools for adults and youth, a maternal-child health program, a child care center and more.