

August 19, 2020  
For Immediate Release

Contact: Ivan Cropper, Vice President of Marketing  
317-417-0652  
ivan.cropper@goodwillindy.org

**Twin Brothers Achieve Independence Through Employment at Goodwill**  
*Local not-for-profit serves Hoosiers with barriers*

**INDIANAPOLIS, Ind.** — Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana announced that it will honor twin brothers Andre and Austin Archer with its Barbara Robinson Memorial Award, which recognizes persons with a disability who have demonstrated a substantial desire to overcome barriers. Both young men were diagnosed with autism, which statistically suggests they're unlikely to drive, live independently or work, but in just three years, they accomplished all of these and more.

In 2017, the Archers were hired as part-time pickers in the ebooks department at ClickGoodwill, Goodwill's eCommerce division. Due to their hard work, they were promoted to full-time and cross-trained on book auditing, book scanning, shipping, product shelving and have even helped train new employees.

"I like working at ClickGoodwill because I like to learn new things, and I want to be useful for the company," Austin said.

During their first year of employment, the Archers relied on public transportation to get back-and-forth to work—a journey that often took 90 minutes each way. They worked with the Disability Services team to prepare for the driving test, and both passed and earned a license. Now they drive themselves to work.

"Getting my driver's license is one of my proudest moments," Andre said.

The Archers were each awarded a McClelland Scholarship through Goodwill, which they used to complete the University of Maryland's online program for Computer Networking, earning their associate degrees in 2019. They also moved into their own townhouse in 2019.

"Goodwill provides a hand-up to Hoosiers like Andre and Austin who are seeking a path to empowerment through employment," said Kent A. Kramer, president and CEO of Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana. "They illustrate how much an individual can achieve when provided with the right tools."

The Archers will be recognized during Goodwill's virtual event series, *Breakfast with Goodwill*, on August 19.

###

**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. Goodwill 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.