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For Immediate Release

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**Goodwill To Celebrate Employee and Student Successes at Awards Ceremony**  
*Honorees will share stories about challenges and triumphs*

**INDIANAPOLIS, Ind.** — Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana announced today that it will honor the outstanding achievements of its employees, students, program participants and employer partners at its upcoming awards ceremony on Friday, September 24. Honorees include Edward Rickenbach, recipient of Goodwill's Employment Achievement Award.

When Rickenbach first joined Goodwill in 2009 as an assistant site leader, he was struggling with homelessness and severe depression — a diagnosis he had first received in college but learned would be a lifelong battle. In just 18 months, he worked hard and was promoted to a site leader position, where he was responsible for managing the store and all of its employees.

“When I arrived at Goodwill, I felt like I was a failure,” Rickenbach said. “I had been suffering from depression for ten years. I felt hopeless...but when I walked through those doors, things began to change.”

Today, Rickenbach manages the Goodwill Guides program, which pairs Goodwill employees, students and program participants with a career and life coach who helps them establish financial, educational and employment goals, and works with them to map out a plan for achieving them.

“My future outlook is to expand the Guides program to support more people...and to educate people on mental health and how not dealing with it can stop their progress,” Rickenbach said.

Rickenbach will share his story along with six other honorees at Goodwill's Awards Ceremony:

**When:** September 24, 2021

**Time:** 9:30-11 a.m.

**Where:** The Foxhole at Hotel Tango, 670 Virginia Avenue, Indianapolis, or watch online beginning at 10 a.m. at: <https://fb.me/e/1dWrpJ8bJ>

Media interviews are available upon request. Please RSVP to Jenny Kakasuleff at [jennifer.kakasuleff@goodwillindy.org](mailto:jennifer.kakasuleff@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. 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.