



Meet *Blue Thunder!*

Goodwill's official mascot that is part of the American Quarter Horse Statue program in Amarillo. Blue Thunder's name was selected from contest entries during the Bell Plaza Grand Opening located at 45th & Bell in Amarillo. For more information, go to www.centercity.org under the HOOF PRINTS tab.

Mission



is a local nonprofit helping people



overcome challenges,
build skills, find jobs & grow careers

Vision

Goodwill is a local nonprofit empowering people to get jobs with higher earnings.

Values

- . Integrity . Inclusiveness .
- . Innovation . Empathy .

We value integrity. To have integrity means to always make decisions based on honesty. Integrity is necessary to be good stewards of the community.

We value inclusiveness. To have inclusiveness means to embrace diversity in all forms with respect and appreciation. Inclusiveness is necessary to provide excellent service to the most people possible.

We value innovation. To have innovation means to always be looking for ways to improve. Innovation is necessary to keep our services relevant and our work fulfilling.

We value empathy. To have empathy means to care about the obstacles others face. Empathy is necessary to motivate us to serve our clients and community well.



Amarillo Grand Opening Hero Staff!

YES! An energized and excited staff served up a successful grand opening in October 2021

The store at Bell Plaza has a 10,000 sq. ft. sales floor and sits next to one of the largest United Supermarkets in town. A customer was overheard calling the new store the "Neiman Marcus of all Goodwill's." Grand opening was a huge success as Amarillo customers shopped and lined up to the back of the new facility to make their purchases. It was an exciting day to unveil new staff, showcase great customer service, and practice team skills. Meeting and greeting members of the community was exhilarating; all while unveiling Blue Thunder, our American Quarter Horse Association store mascot. The facility has a large training room and warehouse in the back that holds 115 gaylords of donated goods that keep 31 new employees working. The donation drop-off is located on the south side of 45th street, entering behind Harbor Freight, where greeters and sorters welcome community donors who drive up and drop off in a safe environment. All donations received further advance the mission of Goodwill!

Who would've thought at this age
at this stage...

That I would venture to embark
on an adventure.

I said my Prayers And I took
the dare to explore and learn
more all about progressing
In computer processing.

Never TOO late
TO step up to the plate.

Who would've believed at age 62
What I would pursue?

I let go of fear as ALL can see...
And I am now more computer
literate... Finally!

Gloria Salinas,CRC Graduate





Operational Reserves **\$2,518,605.89**



CAREER RESOURCE CENTER

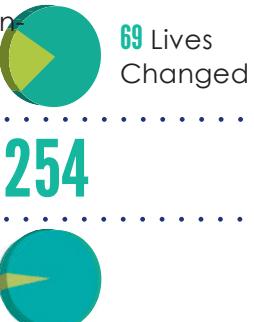


85% of participants met the grade and attendance requirements to receive the South Plains College Certificate for CEU's.

254 attended specialty training classes.

98% of participants reported satisfaction with computer training, facility and technology resources.

Total Served: 158 Unduplicated Participants: Goodwill served a total of 158 unduplicated participants through the Career Resource Center Programs in 2021.



254



CONGRATULATIONS Menyon Alexander & Kevin Baker, with instructor, Tamika Thomas



CONGRATULATIONS
Kevin Baker, Student & Achiever
Laura Boyd,
Guyon Sanders
Resource Center



Kevin Baker learned about the Goodwill Career Resource Center (CRC) from Client Case Manager Laura Boyd at Guyon Saunders Resource Center in Amarillo. When asked how Laura encouraged him to attend computer skills classes, he said he was working in the dayroom, and she came in and matter-of-factly said, "You're going to take the class!"

Kevin said he thought it would be a good path to take because he needed to improve his life and wanted to earn Certifications of Completion as proof of his skills and hard work. He received his third certificate from Goodwill's CRC computer classes and the accompanying Continuing Education Credits from the agency's partner at South Plains College, Lubbock. Kevin was living a much different story just a year before enrolling at the Career Center in July 2021.

He had been working part-time as a volunteer at the Guyon Saunders Resource Center and was dependent upon the center for most of his needs, and lived in his car which was parked outside the center. Kevin divulged to Goodwill that he has a history of drug addiction but has been clean for almost nine years. "I have gone from being homeless to housed. I will be getting my own home in about three weeks, with the help I've received," he said with great delight.

Kevin has completed the Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced Computer Classes offered at no charge through CRC.

Tamika Thomas, the Amarillo Career Resources computer instructor, said "Kevin is a straight A student. In the Basic's Class he achieved a 99.5, a 99.6 in the Intermediate Class, and is expected to make an overall score of 100 in the Advanced section." Tamika also says

Kevin helps others in class by taking time to explain and demonstrate finding solutions to problems.

"Kevin picks up on things quickly and needs only a little instruction. He would often slow his pace to make sure others in class understood each lesson." Kevin said he really enjoyed helping his classmates. When asked to name some of the best moments with staff in the program, he said, "Tamika is an awesome instructor and teaches us well." He said that staff is kind, encouraging and has shared multiple resources with him.

Kevin, a high school graduate, said he will think about connecting with Amarillo College to determine his future plans. He also said his confidence level had greatly increased since he connected with Goodwill. Kevin believes the skills he gained from Career Resources will benefit him in the future by helping him possibly start a home-based business. Kevin said the next step in his life, owning his own home is coming true. "I used to have a don't care attitude, and now I can't wait to see what the future holds for me. The sky is the limit!"

2021 CRC Impact



Samantha Joy is her name - her shirt reads "Cool Mom;" we think she's all that and so much more! Samantha was shopping at the I-40 & Bell Goodwill in Amarillo when she caught our attention with an overflowing cart of books, and working on filling a second cart. Samantha generously gives of her time and money in hopes of passing along her love for reading to as many children as she can possibly reach. She does this by compiling lists of books from teachers all over the Texas Panhandle, and then searching through all the books at every Goodwill store in Northwest Texas. She then sorts and delivers the books to the teachers who requested them. We don't want her partner, Patrick, to go unmentioned, because he is a huge part of this. He told her to quit her job and do what she loved - that he

would provide for their family. As a result, Samantha also has been able to reach more teachers all over Texas - having

been able to purchase a small trailer to transport more books. Thank you to this generous family for making the Panhandle a better place.

Employee Appreciation Day: Employees enjoy some time together by cooling off with a special treat from a local ice cream truck along with Cookie Monster who visited to give hugs and posed for some photo opps. What a great time to reconnect and let everyone know how valuable they are to the mission and success of Goodwill.

