

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Join Goodwill & Mayor Dixon for a special graduation
Workforce Development agency celebrates first commencement ceremony

Join Goodwill Industries of the Chesapeake, Inc. and Mayor Sheila Dixon on June 9th for Goodwill's first commencement ceremony. Goodwill will honor graduates from the past year who have successfully completed a workforce development program. Goodwill provides training, employment, and family support services to individuals with disabilities or other disadvantaging conditions.

"This is a great way to honor those in Baltimore who have made great strides in gaining employment," said Marge Thomas, Goodwill President & CEO. "We wanted to make sure that our clients were being honored and appreciated for the efforts they have made. For many this will be their first graduation."

The event will begin at 12 pm at Baltimore Polytechnic Institute's Auditorium (1400 W. Cold Spring Lane, Baltimore, MD 21209) with Mayor Dixon speaking after the graduates are honored. Refreshments will follow the closing remarks

Goodwill's primary objective is to help individuals with barriers to employment become self-sufficient through training and employment services. Goodwill serves anyone who wants to work including individuals with disabilities, ex-offenders those who receive public assistance such as welfare, and those who have been dislocated from their jobs. Additionally, Goodwill serves the hardest to serve in neighborhoods with high unemployment, drugs, crime and violence. Goodwill clients receive skills-training classes in several different career fields including computer/clerical, hospitality, nursing, and retail. Upon completion of the program clients receive job placement assistance.

In 2006, Goodwill Industries of the Chesapeake, Inc. provided training, employment, and family support services to approximately 5,111 individuals with disabilities or other disadvantaging conditions. In addition Goodwill assisted over 2,016 individuals in securing permanent and temporary employment.

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