



Join the Edgar J. Helms Society

The Helms Society is named in honor of Reverend Edgar J. Helms who founded Goodwill right here in Boston’s South End. We remain committed to his vision of helping individuals with barriers to self-sufficiency to achieve independence and dignity through work.

Membership in the Helms Society begins at \$500. There are multiple levels of benefits based on your giving level.

Consider Goodwill in Your Estate Plan

If you’re looking to create a legacy or generate an income stream for your retirement, Goodwill offers a range of planned giving options including bequests and charitable gift annuities. By including Goodwill as part of your planned giving, you will help individuals to achieve independence and dignity through work for generations to come.

Please contact the Philanthropy Department at [giving@goodwillmass.org](mailto:giving@goodwillmass.org) or 617-541-1404 for more information.

A Legacy of Helping People  
*Neil and Anne Harper are Longstanding Supporters*

Neil and Anne Harper first learned about Morgan Memorial Goodwill Industries through the Wesley Foundation, a United Methodist organization serving students in the greater Boston area.

Reverend Edgar Helms, who founded Goodwill in 1895, was a Methodist minister and his vision laid the groundwork for Goodwill’s mission, which is to help individuals with barriers to self-sufficiency to achieve independence and dignity through work.

Neil and Anne met at the Wesley Foundation in Cambridge in the 1950s. They had both moved to Massachusetts for school and married in 1959, shortly after graduation.

“We have always admired the work Goodwill does to help individuals who face employment challenges to get jobs. When we attended a Goodwill event and heard those success stories, we were quite moved to support that effort,” said Neil Harper, who is a retired engineer and software entrepreneur.

This past year, the Harpers, who have supported Goodwill for more than 40 years, established the Anne Yost and Goin Neil Harper Endowed Fund with a very generous pledge to Goodwill.

“We wanted to give to an organization that is committed to helping people improve the quality of their lives,” said Anne Harper. “We’re very happy that we’re able to do this.”

“We are truly grateful for the long-term and generous support of Anne and Neil Harper,” said Joanne Hilferty, President and CEO of Goodwill. “Their decision to make a significant gift is extraordinarily generous and will enable us to help people in our community to work through challenging times.”



Neil and Anne Harper with Goodwill President & CEO Joanne K. Hilferty (center) at Goodwill’s Annual Meeting in January 2020.

Morgan Memorial Goodwill Industries  
1010 Harrison Avenue  
Boston, MA 02119  
617.445.1010  
[www.goodwillmass.org](http://www.goodwillmass.org)



OUTLOOK

The Official Newsletter for Supporters of Morgan Memorial Goodwill Industries

Spring 2021

Work Through Challenging Times  
*Goodwill’s Mission Services Meet Community’s Need*

Morgan Memorial Goodwill Industries hosted its first ever virtual Annual Meeting in January to recognize the accomplishments of the men and women who worked so hard this past year to achieve independence and dignity through work.

The theme of the Annual Meeting was *Goodwill is Here*, a reminder that through thick and thin, Goodwill is here to serve and to help the individuals who need it most. The participants who came to Goodwill last year faced many challenges, but were undeterred in their determination to go to work.

“It is especially important to remember that Goodwill was born during challenging times and has been doing this important work for 125 years,” Ned Helms, incoming Board Chair of Goodwill Industries International and the grandson of Goodwill’s founder, the Rev. Edgar Helms, noted at the virtual meeting.

Over the past year the pandemic and the economic downturn have presented new challenges for daily life and disproportionately affected the vulnerable populations that turn to Goodwill for support.

Program participants were resilient, however, as they overcame new challenges throughout the year. For Lisa, a cashier at the Goodwill Store in Hyde Park and a participant in Goodwill’s Employment Supports Program, the ability to work “makes me feel happy and it helps me out a lot to have supports in place to find a job and keep a job.” She said she appreciated the help she got from Goodwill when she was having difficulties in her life.

The virtual meeting also included interviews with



Lisa works through challenging times with support from Goodwill.

Alicia, who went through Goodwill’s Human Services Employment Ladder Program (HELP) and now works at Eliot Community Human Services, and Sebyera, who turned Goodwill for help finding the right training program and is now working as a medical assistant at Tufts Children’s Hospital.

Rosalin Acosta, the Massachusetts Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development, was the keynote speaker at the meeting and noted that unemployment was still high in Massachusetts, particularly for communities of color. She said MassHire Boston Career Center, the one-stop career center Goodwill operates, serves a critical role in helping get people back to work.

“You do so many great things at Goodwill,” Secretary  
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Acosta said. “You have kept people coming through (your career center) and continued getting trained.”

As Goodwill reimagines its mission services in response to the pandemic, it will remain committed to its mission of helping people enter and advance in the workforce so they can support themselves and their families.

It is the support of friends like you that helps make this possible.

Operation ABLE—  
a Good Partner

Staff at Operation ABLE, a nonprofit organization that provides support services for job seekers, selected Morgan Memorial Goodwill Industries as the recipient of its holiday giving in December 2020. Marian Walsh, CEO of Operation ABLE, said Goodwill was selected because of the many services Goodwill provides that are used by Operation ABLE to help its participants get jobs.

“It was a very generous action by Operation ABLE and its staff and a wonderful testimony to the work that we are able to do together to help people find employment during difficult economic times,” said Joanne K. Hilferty, President and CEO of Goodwill.

Thank you Operation ABLE!



Goodwill Employer Partner Receives Award  
*American Surgical Company Recognized*



Johnny enjoys working at American Surgical and earning a paycheck.

Morgan Memorial Goodwill Industries business partner American Surgical Company (ASC) was recognized as the Providers’ Council’s Business Partner of the Year. Goodwill nominated ASC and the award was accepted by ASC President Erik Piasio at the Providers’ Council’s Annual Conference in the fall.

ASC, which manufactures single-use medical tools, provides job opportunities for participants from Goodwill’s Employment Supports Program, including Johnny Tran who has worked there since 2015. Johnny says of his time at ASC, “I think this is a great job. I like coming here every day and going to work.”

Goodwill and ASC also combined forces to testify at the Massachusetts State House in October 2019 before the Joint Committee on Children, Families, and Persons with Disabilities to raise awareness of the contributions workers with disabilities can make with appropriate support.

Congratulations, American Surgical Company!

Providing a Helping Hand  
*Goodwill Job Training Program Prepares People to Work in the Human Services Field*



Alicia found a job helping people at a crucial time.

Every day, Alicia Monteiro tries to comfort individuals who are dealing with isolation due to the coronavirus pandemic. Working as a brain injury residential counselor at Eliot Community Human Services in Braintree, Alicia sees her residents struggle because of limited social interactions.

Alicia is helping others now. When she came to MassHire Boston Career Center, she had been unemployed for more than a year and needed help herself. A career advisor told her about Goodwill’s Human Services

Employment Ladder Program (HELP), which prepares people to work in human services.

Alicia was hired at Eliot even before she graduated in early March. Alicia has stayed in her job throughout the pandemic, making sure that those in her residence are supported. Goodwill’s HELP program gave her the tools to navigate along the way, she noted.

“It was a good fit for me,” Alicia said of HELP. “It was exactly what I was looking for.”

Alicia is hopeful that life for her residents will become more normal soon. “Right now, we are focused on keeping everyone healthy and safe,” she said. “That is the most important thing.”

Goodwill Events

Goodwill created socially distant ways to continue its longstanding holiday traditions. These events are an additional way Goodwill supports program participants who are doing everything they can to enable their families to participate in this special time of year.



New England Patriots mascot and cheerleaders at Goodwill’s Thanksgiving-in-a-Basket event.



A young girl receives a holiday package at Goodwill’s Youth Holiday Party.



Your support brightened the holidays for so many people in the community.

2020 BY THE NUMBERS



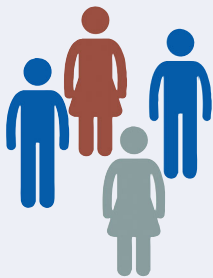
5,235

Individuals served



1,172

Thanksgiving  
meals served



319

Communities  
served across  
Massachusetts