



## Fact Sheet

# Goodwill Industries International and Rotary International

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### What is the purpose of this partnership?

Rotary International, one of the world's largest civic organizations, and Goodwill Industries International have an alliance to help thousands of people around the world find and keep good jobs. The cooperative relationship between RI and Goodwill® provides a way to collaborate and combine resources so that more can be achieved to pursue their common objectives in the area of employment and training for people with disabilities and those having a hard time finding employment.

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### Who is Goodwill Industries International?

Goodwill Industries International is a network of 183 community-based, independent member organizations in the United States, Canada, and 14 other countries. Each organization serves people with disabilities, people who lack education or job experience, low-wage workers, and other job seekers by providing education and career services, as well as job placement opportunities and post-employment support. To pay for its programs, Goodwill sells donated clothes and other household items in more than 2,300 retail stores and online at [www.shopgoodwill.com](http://www.shopgoodwill.com). Through its services, the network helps people who are having a hard time finding employment become independent, tax-paying members of their communities. Goodwill channels 84 percent of its revenues directly into its programs and services.

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### Who is Rotary International?

Rotary International is a worldwide organization of more than 1.2 million business, professional, and community leaders. Members of Rotary clubs, known as Rotarians, provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. There are 33,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. Clubs are nonpolitical, nonreligious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds.

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### What is the focus of this cooperative relationship?

RI and Goodwill recognize the power of work and the critical role of employment and training both in building individual self-confidence, personal empowerment, and financial stability and in strengthening local communities and broad-based economies. Both organizations share a commitment to creating and expanding opportunities for steady jobs and reliable incomes for people who are having a hard time finding employment.

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### How can my Rotary club or district get involved?

Each Rotary club or district can collaborate with Goodwill on a project that meets the needs of the local community. Some Rotary-Goodwill projects include:

- **Interview readiness:** The Rotary Club of Tucson (Arizona, USA) and Goodwill Industries of Southern Arizona conduct mock interviews with students to provide them with in-person feedback, suggestions for improvement, and information on employer expectations.
- **Clothing donations:** The Rotary Club of East Portland (Oregon, USA) and Goodwill Industries of the Columbia Willamette (Portland) team up for Good Turn Day, where they canvass the community door-to-door collecting donated clothing and other items. The donations are sold at Goodwill stores, and the funds support job training programs.
- **Vehicle donations:** The Rotary Club of Hamilton A.M. (Ontario, Canada) donated a 12-passenger van to Goodwill The Amity Group to transport participants to and from the Goodwill Works, a career and training program.
- **Social services:** In Alabama, USA, the Rotary Club of Mobile works with Goodwill Easter Seals of the Gulf Coast to cover tuition and transportation for 100 children and adults with disabilities to attend Camp ASCCA, a weeklong recreation and education experience.
- **Family strengthening:** Goodwill of Central Arizona (Phoenix) receives an annual grant from the Rotary Club of Phoenix (Arizona, USA) that helps support youth and family services programs.
- **Community awareness:** Goodwill of Greater Washington launched a "Get to Know Goodwill" tour, where Goodwill staff coordinates with more than ten local Rotary clubs throughout the Washington, DC, metropolitan area, to visit volunteer and civic groups, chambers of commerce, and others identified by local Rotary clubs to share about the transformational power of Goodwill.

Visit [www.goodwill.org](http://www.goodwill.org) to find your local Goodwill, and set up a meeting to discuss joint project opportunities.

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### How can this partnership be promoted?

Rotary clubs and districts can promote this important goal at Rotary gatherings and meetings of other interested groups. RI also encourages clubs and districts to share their successful projects with RI staff by e-mailing [programs@rotary.org](mailto:programs@rotary.org). These success stories may be used as model projects in Rotary's ProjectLINK database, [www.rotary.org/projectlink](http://www.rotary.org/projectlink), or publicized in RI publications.

## Additional Resources

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*Communities in Action: A Guide to Effective Projects (605A)*  
[www.rotary.org/newsroom/downloadcenter/pdfs/605a\\_en.pdf](http://www.rotary.org/newsroom/downloadcenter/pdfs/605a_en.pdf)

*Community Assessment Tools (605C)*  
[www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en\\_pdf/605c\\_en.pdf](http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/605c_en.pdf)

### Contact Information:

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