Goodwill Industries of Lower South Carolina Board of Directors, Staff and community business partners celebrated Goodwill’s 27th anniversary on Saturday night October 14th, 2006 by honoring long time Community Activist, Mary Ramsay, during its annual gala held at the Francis Marion Hotel. Over 200 attended the gala hosted by Tom Crawford. Featuring a silent auction and keynote speech by College of Charleston legendary coach John Kresse, Ms. Ramsay’s induction into the Goodwill Hall of Fame ended the spectacular evening.

Mary Ramsay, a champion of people with disabilities and former Goodwill Board Member was honored for her commitment to people with disabilities, which helped change the treatment of and the way services are provided. Even today, many of her initiatives impact the way people with disabilities receive treatment.

Thank you to all who attended this special evening, especially to our sponsors who helped to make this night a resounding success for both Goodwill and the people of the Lowcountry!
**President’s Corner**

**2006 Reflections**

As we welcome in 2007, I wanted to take the time to reflect on some of our greatest accomplishments during the past year. In early 2006, Contracts merged with Workforce Development forming a new Mission Services Division which has helped us refocus on our core customer—the people we serve! GoodPeople Staffing surpassed the million dollar mark for the year in revenue, employed 260 people and placed 35 people into permanent jobs!

Workforce Development hosted two Stand Down events this year as well as the Career Fair in July! Workforce Development kicked off Custodial University and supported the Retail Division as we increased the number of people with disabilities working in our stores by 20%! We started Custodial University which helped provide transitional employment to almost 30 people. We also placed over 500 people into new jobs during the past year and served 11,000 folks through the doors of Goodwill.

We had another very successful year in Retail which helped to pave the way for some of the new program initiatives we embarked on during 2006. We opened the Glenn McConnell Store in January and relocated the Rivers Avenue store to the Rivers Avenue Campus location! Some of the retail milestones reached this past year included the Retail Division surpassing the $10 million mark in revenues, while the Dorchester Road Store became our first million dollar store. The Retail division in conjunction with Mission Services committed to integrating more people with disabilities and other barriers to employment in the retail system. In December the two divisions rolled out a conceptual program that will begin in early 2007 called Retail University!

So as we continue into 2007, I just wanted to say thank you to each and every one of you for making 2006 such a special year!

*Bob*

**Board of Director’s Corner**

**BOARD RETREAT**

Thank you to all of our board members who were able to attend the annual board retreat on Friday, February 23-24 in Myrtle Beach. A highlight from the two days included breaking ground on the new Myrtle Beach Retail Store on a chilly Friday morning. Your presence was greatly appreciated!

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 27, 2007 at Goodwill’s Main Office.

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**Board of Directors**

**Officers:**

Michele Creel  
*Chair*

Dr. Sal Moscatello  
*Vice Chair*

George Temple  
*Second Vice Chair*

Diane McGuire  
*Treasurer*

Jim Young  
*Secretary*

John Bleecker  
*Immediate Past Chair*

Robert G. Smith  
*President/CEO*

**Directors:**

Henry B. “Bud” Brawner  

Lewis Creel  

Joe Laferte  

Steven Lenes  

Gloria B. Pipkin  

Chris South  

Tiki Vietri
8th Annual ‘Golden’ Angel Tree Program Serves Seniors

Goodwill Industries 8th Annual Angel Tree Program met the needs and wishes of seniors in our community this holiday season. By partnering with local assisted living communities and senior centers, Goodwill was able to provide much needed toiletries, games, and basic clothing to over 350 seniors.

The senior population (50+) in South Carolina in 2000 was 27.9 percent. This number will increase to more than 33 percent by 2015. There were 67,989 seniors on food stamps in 2002. This group faces many challenges on a fixed income, with the rising cost of prescriptions and health care, finding affordable housing and overall inflation. In a credit driven society, the senior community is the fastest growing debtors in the United States. Goodwill is proud to support this growing population by providing needed items during this past holiday season.

This year’s Angel Tree culminated in a celebration at the Senior Citizens Center in downtown Charleston. Volunteers from Alice Birney Middle School, seen below, assisted in handing out gifts to seniors during the celebration. These students also assisting in assembling the seniors gift bags and helped bring a smile to many faces!

Goodwill would like to thank all of the volunteers and donors who helped to bring good cheer and ‘good will’ to these seniors. With your support, we hope to assist even more seniors next year!

Students from Alice Birney assisted with assembling gift bags for seniors.

Jackie Jenkins Retires from Goodwill’s Board

Jackie Jenkins joined Goodwill’s Board of Directors in June 2002. Having worked with people in need through the social service system, Jackie brought with her a wealth of knowledge and compassion for people seeking economic independence and meaningful work.

In 2005, Jackie retired from Dorchester County Department of Social Services where she served as Area Director for many years. Jackie’s retirement lasted only a short time and she soon found her “second” career as Magistrate for Dorchester County. Faced with a new career, Jackie was forced to evaluate her work schedule along with family obligations and sadly determined that she was unable to continue to commit the necessary time to the Board of Directors for Goodwill.

Although Jackie resigned her position on the board, she remains a faithful supporter of Goodwill. We wish her well!

New Employees

Join us in welcoming the following new employees in the Work Force Development office:

Alycia Bonds
Employment Specialist for Retail Division

Bavier Drayton
Customer Service Specialist

Ella Hall
Customer Service Specialist

Joseph Hayes
Employment Specialist with Operation Independence (Homeless Veteran’s Grant)

Erin Miller
Employment Specialist for Initial Intake and Referral Services at Main Job Center

Joseph Rabon
Assistant Project Manager for Retail University

Sheri White
Employment Specialist with Operation Independence (Homeless Veteran’s Grant)

And in congratulating:

Betsy Diffenderfer
Transitioned from Operation Independence to Employment Specialist over CAFB and NWS commissaries.
8TH ANNUAL VETERAN & COMMUNITY HOMELESS "STAND DOWN"

On October 26th & 27th, Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center in partnership with Goodwill Industries of Lower South Carolina hosted the 8th Annual Veteran & Community Homeless Stand Down. "Stand Down" is a term for the military practice of removing soldiers from combat to a safe place where they can rest and receive assistance before returning to the front. This program provides food, clothing, medical screenings, hair cuts, hygiene products and employment services to veteran and community homeless.

The VA Medical Center first launched this initiative in 1999 to raise awareness of our homeless veterans. Goodwill served over 1500 people from our local community at this two-day event, including over 600 on a very rainy Friday! The success of this event would not have been possible without the assistance of over 120 volunteers from the Charleston Air Force Base, Cathedral Academy, Marine Corps, Navy, students from the Naval Nuclear Power Training Command, Goodwill Industries’ staff, and many others.

Thank you for helping us to “Stand Down” to homelessness in the Lowcountry!

The Winners Are...

SPARKLE AWARD

The following stores were recognized for their Sparkly clean appearance

Moncks Corner #240/October
Dorchester #241/November

Congratulations to the staff and volunteers at these stores for a job well done!
The Winners Are...

- The following stores were recognized for their Sparkle clean appearance before the rain!

SPARKLE AWARD
Dorchester #241/November 2004

- many others.

- Naval Nuclear Power Training Command, Goodwill Industries' staff, and without the assistance of over 120 volunteers from the Charleston Air very rainy Friday! The success of this event would not have been possible from our local community at this two-day event, including over 600 on a

- awareness of our homeless veterans. Goodwill served over 1500 people products and employment services to veteran and community homeless.

- practice of removing soldiers from combat to a safe place where they can rest and receive assistance before returning to the front. This pro-

- Down. "Stand Down" is a term for the military outside the military tent.

- Annual Veteran & Community Homeless Stand

- Industries of Lower South Carolina hosted the 8TH ANNUAL VETERAN & COMMUNITY HOMELESS "STAND DOWN"

- Thank you for helping us to "Stand Down" to homelessness in the

- Lowcountry!

- Goodwill will be opening a donation trailer at the site of the new Myrtle Beach retail store early 2007 to accept new and gently used clothing, shoes, accessories, house wares, toys and computers. The revenues generated through the sale of these donated items will support mission services offered to people living in this area. Goodwill is proud to report that over 90 cents of every dollar earned in its retail stores support mission related programs and services. We look forward to expanding our services into Horry County and the Myrtle Beach area.

Myrtle Beach Expansion Coming Soon!

This year will mark the beginning of Goodwill’s expansion into Horry County. The extension of retail operations and mission services into the Myrtle Beach area is another opportunity for Goodwill to better serve the needs of our community. The new retail store, scheduled to begin construction spring 2007 with expected completion in fall 2007, will be located on the 17 Bypass at 544 in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

Artist rendering of the new Goodwill retail store in Myrtle Beach, SC

Check out more information about the groundbreaking online!
Goodwill Industries of Lower SC’s Annual Meeting

Tuesday, June 19th

More details to follow!