

GWLCO's Annual Holiday Party

On December 21, 2024, Goodwill Industries of Lorain County held our annual holiday party at the LCCC Spitzer Conference Center in Elyria. Our employees and their guests enjoyed a catered dinner, photo booth, and music from our DJ. All employees and guests were able to leave with a gift. Later on in the night our CEO, Alonzo Vance, unveiled our new acronym, mission, vision, pillars, and values for 2025. To celebrate our refreshed branding, employees received Goodwill hoodies and T-shirts featuring our new acronym. Our new mission, vision, pillars, values, and acronym can be found on page 4 of this newsletter.

As we close out a successful year, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude to all of our employees for their hard work, dedication, and commitment to our mission. Your efforts have made an incredible impact in our community. We're excited for what's to come in 2025 and look forward to continuing our journey together to empower lives and create brighter futures. Thank you for being an essential part of our Goodwill family!



Pumpkin Decorating Contest

In October, we had our first ever pumpkin decorating contest. Pictured below are the submissions from Avon, Center, Lakeside, Production, Marketing/HR, Transportation, Oberlin, and Missions. Oberlin won 1st place, Missions 2nd, and Center 3rd.



October's Celebrations

Birthdays

Dante Allen - Corporate	10/3
Chelsea Trainer - Sheffield	10/5
John Valus - Center	10/14
Hannah Oxley - Sheffield	10/14
Syvia Reyes - Avon	10/16
Lily Dute - Center	10/20
Keyla Clayton - Corporate	10/21
Rick Hernandez - Corporate	10/26
Simone Magnasco - Avon	10/27
Heather Solheim - Lakeside	10/27
Paul Harrell - Oberlin	10/30

Anniversaries

Richard Farsetti - Oberlin	1 year
Matthew Weber - Corporate	1 year
Ani Allende-Rivera - Corporate	2 years
Benjamin McFadden - Corporate	2 years
Arniesha Ramsey - Sheffield	2 years
Franchelly Rivera-Cintron - Elyria	2 years
Kennedy Schroeder - Oberlin	4 years

Goodwill Connect

This year, Goodwill of North Georgia hosted the annual Goodwill Connect event in Atlanta, GA. Our executive team had the opportunity to go this past November. Goodwill organizations from across the nation joined our team to make connections, share insights, and learn from each other's experiences.

This allowed our team to bring back valuable insights to improve the work we do in Lorain County. We look forward to utilizing all that we learned and attending the event again next year!



November's Celebrations

Birthdays

Maya Lopez - Lorain	11/6
Stephanie Henry - Corporate	11/7
Willie Arnold - Elyria	11/10
Rafael Rivera - Oberlin	11/13
Carrie Denet - Elyria	11/14
Dawn Stanley - Lakeside	11/14
Curtis Workman - Lakeside	11/14
Megan Thurman - Elyria	11/15
Heidi Bermudez-Martin - Corporate	11/17
Brianna Corsaro - Oberlin	11/17
Eric Winfrey - Oberlin	11/17
Stephanie Beach - Lakeside	11/18
Aidan Wargo - Lorain	11/28

Anniversaries

Alexandra Crayton - Avon	1 year
Paul Harrell - Oberlin	1 year
Esperanza Trabucco - Avon	1 year
Eric Winfrey - Oberlin	1 year
Leatha Evans - Lorain	2 years
Kelly Gierlach - Center	2 years
Megan Thurman - Elyria	2 years
Thomas LaVolpe - Lakeside	5 years

GOODWILL CONNECT

Facing Our Future Together in a Changing Landscape

Christmas Tree Contest

In December, we had our first ever Christmas tree decorating contest. We challenged each store/department to decorate a thrifted tree with all thrifted items/decorations.

DEC



1st - Avon 2nd - Oberlin 3rd - Missions 4th - Center

GoodStart Graduation



Congratulations to our North Ridgeville GoodStart graduates!
GoodStart is a 12-week soft skills program for high school students.



December's Celebrations

Birthdays

Mya Mandat - Lorain	12/1
Angel Alvarez - Corporate	12/2
Douglas Teed - Oberlin	12/2
Tonya Simmons - Elyria	12/3
Anthony Sisto - Elyria	12/3
Elizabeth Norton - Oberlin	12/8
Dawn Herron - Oberlin	12/9
Tammy Emmert - Center	12/11
Morgan Thorne - Corporate	12/12
Douglas Miller - Center	12/13
Star Pooley - Avon	12/13
Clint Parker - Avon	12/17
Gray Knight - Sheffield	12/21
Sara Deel - Lakeside	12/22
Maria Haught - Center	12/26
Rosemary Reyes - Avon	12/26
Sandra Ross - Elyria	12/27
Jared Dunford - Elyria	12/29
Ruth Bruck - Elyria	12/30
Sarah Salah - Avon	12/30

Anniversaries

Maya Lopez - Lorain	1 year
Chelsea Trainer - Sheffield	1 year

Do you know about our Medical Equipment Loaner Program?

Each piece is \$5 to rent. If you return the equipment by the due date, you will get your \$5 back or you can exchange it for a different piece.

Including but not limited to:

- Wheelchairs
- Walkers
- Canes
- Bedside commodes
- Crutches
- Rollators



This program is **only available at our corporate office** by appointment. To schedule a pickup call 440-244-3174.

OUR MEDICAL EQUIPMENT LOANER PROGRAM IS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH LOCAL DONATIONS.

Employee Spotlights

OCT

Zoe Hahn



Zoe has worked at our Lorain store as a store associate since April 2023. Zoe has a golden retriever named Oliver and a tabby cat named Waffles. Outside of work, Zoe really enjoys customizing dolls.

NOV

Linda Whitaker



Linda has worked at our corporate location as a production associate since March 1992 (over 30 years!) Linda's favorite sandwich is a #9 Italian from Jimmy John's. Her favorite holidays are Thanksgiving and Christmas.

DEC

Alonzo Vance



Alonzo has been at Goodwill since 2017 and is our current President/CEO. One of his favorite memories working here is pitching the food pantry, getting it approved, and beginning service in September 2019.

GWLCO in 2025...

Our Mission:

Goodwill helps people create a path to maximize their potential through training, support, and employment.

Our Vision:

Goodwill empowers and equips individuals with support and services necessary to transform their lives and their communities for generations to come.

Our Values:

Multiple Viewpoints

Inclusive Environment

Supportive

Security and Independence

Integrity, Loyalty, and Honesty

Openness

New Ideas

Our Pillars:

Culture, Purpose, and Sustainability

Our 2025 Acronym:

It's all about PEOPLE.

People

Empowering

Other

People's

Lives

Everyday

Updated Store Locations & Contact

Avon

825 Center Road
Avon, 44011
440-937-3305

Center

33797 Center Ridge Rd
North Ridgeville, 44039
440-327-9944

Elyria

502 N Abbe Rd
Elyria, 44035
440-365-7772

Lorain

1996 Cooper Foster Park Rd
Lorain, 44053
440-960-5610

Oberlin

14910 SR 58, Suite 5
Oberlin, 44074
440-774-4919

Sheffield

4136 E Lake Rd
Sheffield Lake, 44054
440-242-0764

Lakeside

4437 Liberty Ave
Vermilion, 44089
440-963-7073

Corporate

145 Keep Court
Elyria, 44035
440-244-3174

"IT IS TIME
TO FORGET
THE PAST AND
CELEBRATE
A NEW START.
HAPPY
NEW YEAR!"

www.gwlco.org

www.shopgoodwill.com/lorain

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