



**For the San Antonio Current
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For more information, contact:
Cary Corbin (830) 609-1932
Rebecca Helterbrand (210) 924-8581

Donating to Goodwill: an easy way to make the world a better place

Your closet holds untapped potential. The contents of your garage have the power to change lives.

Supporting one of San Antonio's leading non-profit organizations is as easy as packing up things you no longer need and taking them to your nearest Goodwill donation center.

It all starts with a bag of stuff. When you donate unwanted items to Goodwill, you are setting into motion a chain reaction of positive events that make San Antonio a better place to live. You help Goodwill fulfill its mission to help change lives through the power of work.

Here are just a few of the good things that happen when you donate to Goodwill.

1. **Job seekers get free help.** Goodwill operates 12 Job Help Centers in San Antonio, New Braunfels, Seguin and Laredo. Here, job seekers can research opportunities, develop a resume, sharpen their interview skills and get connected to other resources that can help them land a job.
2. **Careers get launched at the Good Careers Academy.** One of Goodwill's newest offerings, the Good Careers Academy provides training and certifications in high-demand fields including information technology and health care. With support from the community, Goodwill helps keep tuition affordable to allow more people to get the training they need to embark on a solid career path.
3. **Those who want to work get the skills to do so.** Goodwill provides on-the-job training for those who are ready to work but lack experience. Programs such as Job Readiness Training and Learn While You Earn teach people the basic skills they

need to find success in the workplace. It's an important first step on the path to independence.

4. **Individuals with disabilities find jobs.** Working is a source of independence, self-sufficiency, pride and dignity. A disability shouldn't stand in the way of achieving these goals. Goodwill finds ways to put people to work regardless of the obstacles they face, because everyone deserves the chance to reach their potential.
5. **Recycling reaches new heights.** Last year, more than 6.4 million pounds of items were recycled by San Antonians who donated unwanted items to Goodwill.
6. **It's charitable giving on a budget.** You want to support a worthwhile cause, but money is tight. Take heart: charitable giving takes many forms, and donating items to Goodwill is a very affordable way to help those in need in our community.
7. **You just might get a break at tax time.** Goodwill issues tax receipts for all donations, whether it's goods or monetary contributions. Which means your donation could translate into tax savings.
8. **You make it easy on yourself.** It's just plain convenient to donate to Goodwill. With roughly two dozen donation centers in San Antonio – and more in the works – there's a convenient drop-off site near you. It's easy to drop a bag off any time you're out.
9. **Your load gets lightened.** There's nothing like the feeling of creating space in your home by getting rid of things that still have life in them, but that you simply don't need anymore. Gently used furniture, housewares, clothing, toys, even unwanted computer equipment can all take on new life at Goodwill.
10. **Good deeds lead to great feelings.** When you donate to Goodwill, you enjoy knowing that you're getting rid of unwanted items in an environmentally friendly way. You also get the satisfaction of knowing that your donation is going to help local families improve their lives. Goodwill helped nearly 38,000 people experience the power of work last year alone, and donations like yours made it possible. And on top of that, you get the amazing feeling that comes from a tidy closet.

So donate today. Because by dropping off unwanted stuff, you have amazing powers to do lasting good.

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