FOX TECH HIGH SCHOOL and GOODWILL Partner to Provide Certfied Nurse's Aide Program

Through an exciting partnership between Fox Tech High School (San Antonio Independent School District's Magnet school for Health and Law professions) and Goodwill San Antonio, 17 Fox Tech Seniors in the health pathway will head to college this fall with more than a high school diploma. Graduates will have also earned a valuable Nurse's Aide vocational certification.

At the beginning of the year, Jennifer Benavides, Fox Tech High School Principal, reached out to Goodwill San Antonio to discuss what would become an impactful partnership. Her goal was to have seniors gain a Nurse's Aide certification knowing fully in her heart that such training would set her students up for future stability and professional success.

The program commenced this past March with students attending the accredited Nurse's Aide certification program at Goodwill San Antonio's <u>Good Careers Academy</u> downtown location following their daily course studies at Fox Tech. Students received both classroom instruction as well as hands-on experience through clinical rotations. The curriculum was designed to give students the skills they need to work in a nursing home or a skilled nursing facility.

Participating seniors graduated from Fox Tech High School on June 6, and then continued their training with Good Careers Academy in preparation to sit for the state Certified Nurse's Aide exam mid-June. Following successful completion of the state certification exam, Goodwill provided job placement support for employment.

This collaborative partnership truly changes the trajectory of these students' lives. With high-school diploma and a marketable skill in hand, students will be able to work in a position earning above minimum wage, enabling them to pay for their postsecondary education while also gaining experience that places them at a competitive advantage over their peers.



Mark Milton, Director of Workforce Development for Goodwill San Antonio and Jennifer Benavides, Fox Tech High School principal.

These dedicated, committed students worked diligently to earn a certification recognized in their field of study that will advance their future educational and professional opportunities.

Goodwill has been proud to partner with Fox Tech High School to provide education and training programs that prepare students to either enter the workforce or pursue post-secondary education. Through the support of dona ons and purchases made in store, Goodwill San Antonio and Good Careers Academy is able to provide such training opportunities to empower more than 550 adults and youth in our community to reach their maximum potential.