

2019 Employee of the Year – Peri Schmerbeck

Peri Schmerbeck is a key member of the Palmetto Goodwill (PGS) team, serving as an Employment Specialist who provides support, case management and career guidance to over 120 AbilityOne program participants.

Additionally, GSA National has been an amazing supporter. In the last year alone, Peri was able to graduate 5 people from the AbilityOne program, while at the same time facilitating the hiring of 23 individuals at the Naval Weapons Station Galley, which makes up over 40% of all hires for her division.

Peri's former supervisor commented; "This award provides recognition of which she is so deserving. It is rare to find someone who is as humble, intelligent, hard-working and compassionate, as she is. Peri represents the very best of Goodwill."

GSA National's comprehensive support of Palmetto Goodwill. Peri Schmerbeck is truly committed to the Goodwill mission and is a great asset to those she serves. Peri is most deserving of being named the 2019 Employee of the Year.

Barbara Banks Customer Service Award- LaTonya Salley

As an Assistant Store Manager in Walterboro, LaTonya Salley has the tall task of running the store when needed, while filling all other roles in case of absence or staffing shortages. Thankfully, LaTonya enjoys coming to work and taking on all challenges. This, in turn, has created a positive environment for customers and her fellow employees.

LaTonya's attitude and leadership has helped turn a store that was viewed as a diamond in the rough into a shining star. The store's backroom operation has been rated the best in her district and she has played a pivotal role in growing a store that barely made budget to one making 135% of their goal.

District Manager Jarvis Eaddy describes LaTonya in flattering terms, saying, "She is a leader who sets an example for all to follow without fear of failure. LaTonya has all the great qualities that upper management look for-solid judgement, unwavering dependability and complete

honesty.”

For her excellent customer service and positive influence on those around her, Palmetto Goodwill is proud to recognize LaTonya Salley at the Barbara Banks Customer Service Award recipient for 2019.

2019 Volunteer of the Year- Shakeya Newkirk

Shakeya Newkirk is an active Goodwill volunteer and extremely valued member of the Sangaree team. Shakeya, who began volunteering at the Sangaree retail store in 2017, lives in Goose Creek with her mother, Phyllis Miller. Shakeya’s desire to give back to the community and maintain an active life are the two main motivators for volunteering at Goodwill.

Shakeya has logged an amazing 2,347 hours of volunteer service since first enrolling in Goodwill’s volunteer program. Seven hundred eighty-eight of those hours were completed in 2019.

It is obvious to everyone she encounters that Shakeya enjoys volunteering at the store and the social engagement that it brings. Store employees and volunteers all love working with Shakeya because of her eagerness to help and pleasant attitude. Her shy nature, bright smile and gentle disposition make working alongside her a pleasure.

The Goodwill family is excited to have such a dedicated volunteer and is pleased to acknowledge her contributions to our mission with the Palmetto Goodwill Volunteer of the Year Award.