



empowerment



2023
COMMUNITY
IMPACT REPORT



OUR MISSION

Changing lives
by providing
equitable access to
training, education,
and employment.

Dear Friends,

Palmetto Goodwill changes lives! Thanks to your continued support we will ensure that every member of our community has equitable access to training, education, and employment. 2023 kicked off our new community impact plan — a plan that will take us to our 50th anniversary of serving individuals in our community. This seven-year plan is built upon three pillars: invest in our communities, grow our own, and sustain our future. These pillars underpin our vision, mission, culture, and values, mapping our future state so we never lose track of our north star of ensuring that every person in our community has the opportunity to thrive.

We reimagined education in our state when we opened South Carolina's first no-cost-to-the-student, adult charter high school in August 2023. The Palmetto Excel Center's holistic approach includes built-in support to address barriers unique to this student group. Support services include on-site childcare, career and life coaching, and transportation assistance. We also expanded our I-CAN program, widening the pathway to prosperity and competitive employment for community members with justice-involved backgrounds. And we are proud of our continued role in the state as a leading employer of individuals with disabilities.

As you look through our report, remember that it's not just about numbers — each one of those numbers represents a person who came to Palmetto Goodwill looking for a hand-up, not a hand-out. It's about the positive impact we have made on people, their families, and the community, and the difference we've made together. None of this would be possible without the hard work of our nearly 1,400 team members, the generosity of our donors, the support of our community, and the commitment and guidance from our dedicated Board of Directors. Let's keep working together to make sure everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

I firmly believe that every individual holds immense potential. I'm honored to be part of this journey, driven by the desire to create lasting change.

In service,



Brian Itzkowitz
President & CEO, Palmetto Goodwill





PALMETTO EXCEL CENTER

In August, we proudly opened Palmetto Excel Center, a tuition-free public charter school for adults aged 21 and older. Located on the Trident Technical College Thornley Campus, Palmetto Excel Center is the first of its kind in South Carolina, offering adult students the opportunity to earn their high school diplomas, workplace certifications, and college credits.

2023 Highlights

PALMETTO GOODWILL OPEN

In October, we hosted our annual Palmetto Goodwill Open golf tournament at The Club at Pine Forest. This event featured an 18-hole captain's choice scramble format which raised awareness and funds for our programs and services. Our golfers were treated to prizes, raffles, and a delicious catered lunch.



I-CAN

Palmetto Goodwill launched the I-CAN (Individual Career Assessment and Navigation) reentry program. I-CAN offers career services tailored for individuals 18 and older with justice-involved backgrounds. This full-time, 12-week paid work program enables participants to acquire training and education to secure long-term, financially sustainable employment.



2023 Highlights

NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH ART GALLERY

NDEAM, celebrated annually in October, serves to educate about disability employment topics and honor the diverse contributions of America's workers with disabilities. In line with this, Palmetto Goodwill hosted an art gallery to showcase the talents of our team members with disabilities. Themed "The Art of Expression," the event was open to the public.



GOODWILL DAY AT THE DOME

In May, Goodwills across South Carolina collectively hosted a joint Legislative Day at the South Carolina State House. The event established connections with lawmakers and illustrated how these iconic non-profit organizations create generational impact within the state.

Lydia Brown Graduate of the Year

As a single mom of two young daughters, Lydia worked paycheck-to-paycheck but knew she wanted to provide more for her young family.

She needed a new career, but she wasn't sure what she was meant to do or how to get started.

Her parents worked in manufacturing and struggled financially, but they always inspired Lydia to seek a path forward. "My parents always encouraged us to pursue our dreams and goals and to go after our passions," she explained.

When her parents both fell ill, Lydia stepped in. Witnessing her father receive hospice care and caring for her mother throughout a lung cancer battle, Lydia realized her passion and purpose in life was caring for others.

As a referral through the SNAP 2 Work program, Lydia came to Palmetto Goodwill seeking assistance in achieving her goal of becoming a certified nursing assistant (CNA). With the help of Palmetto Goodwill, she completed her CNA training and earned the highest grade in her class.

Lydia is now a team member at Somerby Assisted Living, where she was recently honored as Employee of the Month. She provides financially for her family and set a new goal to become a licensed practical nurse within the next five years.

There is no doubt Lydia will achieve whatever she sets her mind to and that an even brighter future is ahead for her and her daughters!

“My parents always encouraged us to pursue our dreams and goals and to go after our passions.”



[WATCH FULL STORY](#)



“ Since coming to Palmetto Goodwill, I now feel I can accomplish anything I set my mind to.”

Candace Hartley

Achiever of the Year

Within six months, Candace Hartley had left her 25-year marriage and grieved the deaths of her youngest brother and her father. Understandably, she was struggling with depression and her self-confidence, and she describes this period as the lowest, darkest point of her life.

She wanted to rejoin the workforce but finding the strength or a path seemed overwhelming. Fast-forward two years and Candace was hired by Palmetto Goodwill into a food service position at the Naval Weapons Station. It didn't take long before her potential and attitude were noticed and she was selected for a position in the busy mailroom at Joint Base Charleston. In this role, Candace has not only excelled, but she has also regained her confidence through daily interactions with customers and team members.

In addition to her role at Joint Base Charleston, Candace is a national SourceAmerica Speakers Bureau member. She now shares her story with myriad audiences, including all staff members from the South Carolina Senate and congressional offices throughout the 18 counties Palmetto Goodwill serves. She has become a passionate advocate for people with disabilities and enjoys the opportunity to be a voice for others.

Candace credits Palmetto Goodwill's support network and training for her overall growth and explains, "Since coming to Palmetto Goodwill, I feel I can accomplish anything I set my mind to." She attributes the assistance she received as the catalyst for helping her restore herself as a person.

WATCH FULL STORY



Kendrick Raley

Goodwill Works!

Kendrick always knew his path to independence would look different than those around him. He was born with retinopathy of prematurity – a relatively rare condition seen in premature infants. The condition led to Kendrick braving eye surgeries from an early age in a fight to combat severe visual impairment and sometimes left him feeling isolated.

That feeling began to change one summer when Kendrick first visited Camp Leo, a summer camp in South Carolina for visually impaired children. At camp he discovered an unmistakable sense of belonging, and his confidence to take on life's challenges began to grow.

In 2018, life served up a challenge Kendrick was not expecting: he was let go from his steady job of 13 years. His primary concern was how he would provide for his young son. Kendrick recalls, "To get back out there and try to start over and try to make people accept you for the disability you have is not something you really want to do, but something you have to do."

Feeling at a low and challenged to keep his independence, Kendrick tapped into his resilience and determination. He took a bold step in a new direction when he connected with Palmetto Goodwill for employment assistance. Armed with his career navigator, a revamped resume, and training, Kendrick applied for multiple jobs – but it was hard for some employers to see him as the man he is beyond his visual impairment.

Kendrick ultimately discovered meaningful employment at Charleston's Naval Weapons Station in a role that allows him to provide for his son. Life has come full circle, and he still attends Camp Leo – only now as a camp counselor. For Kendrick, the reward of sharing his knowledge and lessons on resilience is priceless.

[WATCH FULL STORY](#)



“I believe that anybody, disability or not, can be trained to do any position.”



Mission at Work



3,291

**Individuals Placed
into Employment**



3,515

**Individuals Enrolled
in Training**



9,943

**Unique Individuals
Provided Services**



755

**Veterans Provided
Services**



541,056

**Total Pounds of Electronics
Recycled or Refurbished**

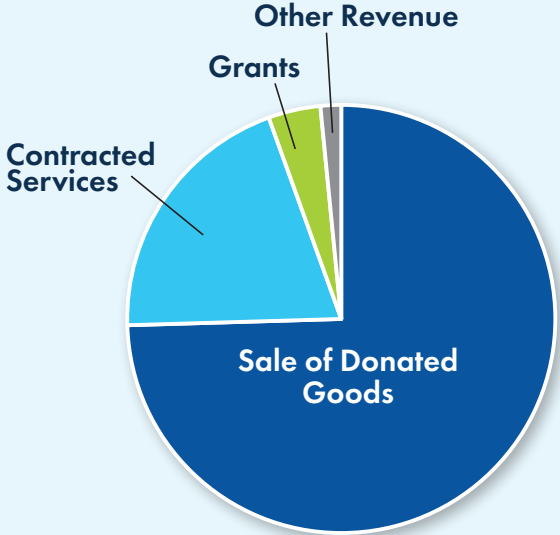


31,447,844

**Total Pounds of Items
Repurposed**

Financials

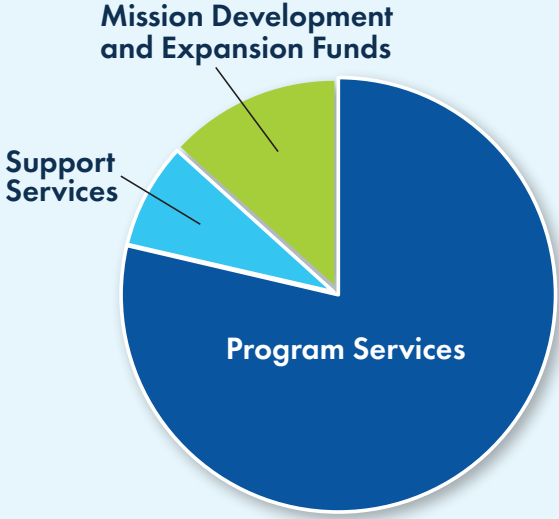
REVENUE



75% Sale of Donated Goods	\$70,101,732
20% Contracted Services	\$18,778,266
4% Grants	\$3,709,377
2% Other Revenue	\$1,465,759

TOTAL REVENUE **\$94,055,134**

EXPENSES



79% Program Services	\$73,972,279
8% Support Services	\$7,669,455
13% Mission Development and Expansion Funds	\$12,413,400

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$94,055,134**

Board of Directors



Herbert L. Drayton III, Chair
High Mark Capital



Rob Phillips, Treasurer
Retired, GrandSouth Bank



Stacy Cozad, Secretary
Ingevity



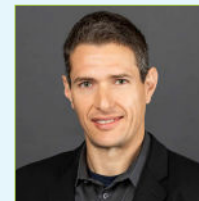
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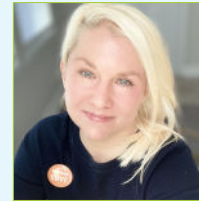
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SC Council on Competitiveness



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