



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 13, 2025

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STRENGTH IN SECOND CHANCES: PALMETTO GOODWILL GRADUATION FOR I-CAN REENTRY PROGRAM

Honoring over 25 graduates who have overcome barriers to achieve sustainable employment.

North Charleston, SC – Palmetto Goodwill will host a graduation ceremony next Tuesday, June 17, for the nonprofit's I-CAN Reentry Program that provides justice-involved individuals aged 18+ with 12 weeks of full-time paid training and support services at no cost.

Starting at 1 p.m. in the Thomas Maeser Auditorium at Horry-Georgetown Technical College ([950 Crabtree Ln.](#)), graduates and guests will hear from Kissie Melvin, community resource coordinator at United Way of Horry County. An honored graduate, Lee McAbee, will also speak and share their journey of receiving a second chance through the program.

This inspiring event signifies a turning point for the 25+ graduates who are now equipped to gain and maintain long-term competitive employment. Through I-CAN, Palmetto Goodwill is highlighting the power of second chances and the meaningful impact that this community-driven program can foster for individuals and their families. 121 individuals in the Grand Strand region have enrolled in the program since its launch last year.

About I-CAN Reentry Program

Participants spend the first two weeks in classroom training to grow employability skills such as creating a resume, preparing job applications, and transferable soft skills. Afterwards, participants are placed at a Palmetto Goodwill worksite to gain on-the-job experience and additional coaching. Palmetto Goodwill success coaches provide personalized support by connecting participants to job opportunities and pathways to earn industry-recognized certifications aligning with career goals.

I-CAN is available in the Grand Strand, Pee Dee, Tri-County, and Beaufort areas. Community members interested in participating should apply online at palmettogoodwill.org/ican or visit their nearest [Career Opportunity Center](#) for assistance.

About Palmetto Goodwill

Founded in 1979, Palmetto Goodwill is a local, community-based, non-profit social enterprise whose mission is changing lives by providing equitable access to training, education, and employment. Our vision is that every member of the community has the opportunity to thrive. We span 18 counties in South Carolina operating 33 thrift stores and donation centers, 11 Career Opportunity Centers, 14 commercial/government contracts, and a mobile unit focused on serving rural communities. In 2024, we provided services to more than 11,000 individuals,

connected more than 4,000 people to work, and awarded \$200,000 in grants to local non-profits to support their work in the critical areas of housing, transportation, childcare, and veterans support. We are proud to be one of the state's largest employers of people with disabilities. Palmetto Goodwill earned Platinum Transparency by GuideStar and 91 cents of each dollar that comes to us goes back into programs and services. To learn more visit palmettogoodwill.org.