

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**GOODWILL OF NORTH FLORIDA SEEKS APPLICANTS FOR
THE MAYOR'S YOUTH AT WORK PARTNERSHIP
-Interested Students and Employers Please Apply**

JACKSONVILLE, FL (August 25, 2021) – Goodwill of North Florida, Inc. (Goodwill) is partnering with the City of Jacksonville to facilitate the Mayor's Youth at Work Partnership (MYAWP). The program is seeking students to participate in the upcoming fall session of the program, which provides work-related experiences to help prepare them for successful employment.

The Mayor's Youth at Work Partnership is accepting student applications for 14-week work sessions now through November 12th.

The MYAWP program partners with local businesses who employ and train students. Each student and employer work with a Job Coach who assists in the employment process, provides support, and acts as a liaison between the student and employer.

In addition to employment, students develop social skills, learn about work norms and culture, understand career pathways, build professional networks, and learn to manage money.

The community-based model is open to eligible youth between 16 and 21 years of age who are enrolled in a Duval County High School, GED program, high school equivalency program, technical school, or college and have a 2.0 grade point average or higher. Those chosen are paid for experiences that help build essential work-readiness skills and much more.

Eligible individuals may apply for the program here <https://goodwilljax.org/myawp>.

Employers interested in participating must provide students with 15 hours of work experience weekly after school, on weekends, or virtually; as well as on-the-job training and mentorship. Those interested in becoming a potential business partner please visit, <https://goodwilljax.org/myawp-partner>.

The MYAWP aligns businesses, nonprofit and philanthropic entities to develop an integrated youth employment career pathway system.

"I am proud of the amazing growth of the Mayor's Youth at Work Partnership," said Mayor Lenny Curry. "Early in my administration, my team and I worked to expand our summer jobs program to become a year-round initiative focused on developing career pathways for at-risk youth. Now, in partnership with Goodwill, we are expanding our reach to help more young people in Jacksonville prepare for life and career success."

Goodwill of North Florida was selected to manage the program via Kid's Hope Alliance earlier in the year. "The aim of the program is to strengthen Jacksonville's workforce and help young people gain the support, educational credentials, and skills needed in the current and future economy, and this dovetails perfectly with our mission at Goodwill to help citizens overcome barriers to employment," said President and CEO David Rey. "Young people are the future, and we believe when given the right tools and guidance they can excel in the workforce. Goodwill is well positioned to partner with local businesses to provide employment opportunities and to prepare Jacksonville youth for future career success."

In 2020, through GoodCareers centers, nearly 4,000 jobs were filled and over 30,000 individuals were served through use of computers for resume prep and job searches, on-site interviews, career fairs, current job leads, soft skills workshops, on-site interviews, career fairs, at no cost.

For more information please visit, <https://goodwilljax.org/>.

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About Goodwill Industries of North Florida, Inc.

Goodwill Industries of North Florida, Inc. is the area's largest not-for-profit organization that removes barriers to employment through training, education and career opportunities for the communities we serve. 92 cents of every dollar generated is directly invested in our programs and services.