

Goodwill Industries of Central Indiana, Inc.

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Note: Members of the media are invited to preview the new Goodwill store, by appointment only. Goodwill store employees can be made available for interviews. Contact Cindy Graham (details above) to schedule an appointment.

Goodwill to Open New, Larger Noblesville Store February 10

Goodwill will open its new Noblesville store at 16650 Mercantile Blvd. on Tuesday, February 10 at 7 a.m. Goodwill's current Noblesville store at 585 Noble Creek Drive, which opened in 2005, will close on Saturday, February 7 at 9 p.m., the day of the monthly 50% off storewide sale.

"We're thrilled to welcome our Noblesville shoppers and donors to a great new store," said Eric Schlegel, vice president of retail operations. "A Goodwill grand opening is worth experiencing," Schlegel said. "We spend a week getting the merchandise set up just right. One hundred thousand items will be on the shelves with new ones coming out all day. Shoppers who enjoy the thrill of the hunt really shouldn't miss this."

The new, 19,000-square-foot store features six checkout registers, larger customer restrooms, a larger parking lot and a new donation drive-through for faster, easier access when dropping off donations. "We set out to provide a better experience for our customers, and we've done just that," Schlegel said. The new store has 41 employees, 27 are Noblesville residents.

Longtime Goodwill employees Constance McClure and Chris Berg are looking forward to the new store. Each has worked for Goodwill in Noblesville for more than a decade.

"It's exciting to have a new store, a bigger store," said McClure, who prides herself on customer service. "My favorite part of my job is greeting customers and trying to help them. It makes my day better."

McClure's responsibilities also include purging unsold clothing from the sales floor and maintaining the dressing rooms. She faces some challenges with her motor skills, and these tasks suit her abilities.

"Goodwill has treated me really well. I feel wanted here because they know I can do my job," she said. "It's a good place to meet new friends. Everyone needs to have friendships with their co-workers!"

Like McClure, Chris Berg feels right at home at Goodwill.

"It's better than anywhere else I've worked," he said.

Berg, who was born with spina bifida – a condition that affects the spinal cord, came to Goodwill through a referral from the state's Vocational Rehabilitation Services program. Some physical tasks present challenges due to his disability, but Berg defines himself by what he *can* do, not what he can't.

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“Goodwill has been helpful, and I appreciate that. Some of my previous employers weren’t always so supportive,” he said. “It’s a good fit because it’s a job that I can do, and people don’t treat me bad or differently.”

Disabilities are among the barriers faced by two-thirds of Goodwill’s 2,100 retail employees throughout central Indiana. Donations of gently used clothes and other goods provide support for those jobs and other services.

“I feel good about working for a company with a mission,” said Berg. “This is one of the best places anyone could work. If anyone wants a job, I recommend Goodwill.”

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Revenue generated from the sale of donated goods helps fund education and employment in central Indiana. For more information, go to goodwillindy.org or call 317-524-4313.