

## Goodwill Industries of Central Indiana, Inc.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **First-Time Lake County Moms, Families to Receive In-Home Nurse Visits through Goodwill's Nurse-Family Partnership**

First-time moms and families in Lake County will receive in-home nurse visits through Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP), a nationally recognized, home-visitation program that increases health care access and improves health outcomes for first-time mothers and their babies. NFP will serve 400 families in Lake County, after notification that Goodwill's NFP received \$2 million in funding from the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) to complement services in the area. Goodwill Industries of Central Indiana will implement NFP in Lake County with support of Goodwill Industries of Michiana.

"Goodwill is thrilled to extend NFP to more Indiana families," said Kent A. Kramer, CEO and president, Goodwill Industries of Central Indiana. "Access to a wide variety of services and opportunities are needed as families work to become healthier and more economically independent."

In Indiana, NFP began in Marion County in 2011. Goodwill Industries of Central Indiana began exploring funding to expand NFP and increase capacity as the state's high rate of infant mortality brought increased attention on programs to reduce it and related factors. Earlier this year, ISDH launched a public awareness campaign, Labor of Love, which emphasizes prenatal care, smoking cessation, breastfeeding and safe sleep practices. Goodwill supports Labor of Love and emphasizes the same factors, as well as others, through NFP.

"Goodwill Industries has operated an evidenced-based model for home visitation with Nurse-Family Partnership in Marion County," said State Health Commissioner Jerome Adams, MD, MPH. "This program encompasses all types of healthy assistance for first-time expectant mothers like prenatal care, which is a big part of the state's strategy of lowering infant mortality. The Indiana State Department of Health looks forward to this next step in our partnership with Goodwill."

Each newly enrolled NFP participant is paired with a registered nurse who will visit the home regularly until the child's second birthday. Visits focus on having a healthy pregnancy and achieving child development milestones. NFP families will have access to resource advisors through Goodwill.

"We're grateful to have received the funding that allows us to bring NFP to Lake County with the support of Goodwill Industries of Michiana to implement this successful, beneficial program," Kramer said.

Based in South Bend, Goodwill Industries of Michiana serves the northern region of Indiana, extending into Illinois and Michigan. Each Goodwill belongs to a local network serving a specified geographic area, offering customized training and services.

# News Release

“Goodwill Industries of Michiana supports NFP’s focus on healthy pregnancies and child health and development, and we’re encouraged by the success of the Indianapolis implementation,” said Debie Coble, president and CEO. “We look forward to NFP contributing to improving the lives of families in Lake County.”

NFP has been collaborating with community partners about resource and referral coordination and other details needed for an implementation plan.

“The health care community in northwest Indiana welcomes Nurse-Family Partnership to help address preventable infant deaths,” said Craig Bolda, chief operating officer, St. Catherine Hospital in East Chicago. “We are pleased to work in partnership with Goodwill Industries to launch and support NFP in our area, building and strengthening community-based systems of care to meet the needs of first-time moms and babies.”

One of the largest implementations in the country, NFP in Indianapolis began with funding to serve 600 and has since received funding to expand to serve 800 families in Marion County as well as hundreds of others in surrounding counties. In 2014, Indiana’s first group of NFP moms completed their participation and graduated. Graduates have the ability to participate in a graduate program through Goodwill for ongoing support and resources focused on child development, school readiness, economic stability and self-sufficiency.

To be eligible for NFP, a woman must be pregnant with her first baby, at less than 28 weeks in her pregnancy, and be at 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL) or below (equivalent to the Medicaid eligibility requirement; for a two-person household, i.e. for a pregnant woman living alone, this would be \$31,460 or less).

Participation in NFP is free and voluntary. Health care and other service providers may refer qualifying mothers, who may also self refer. Self-referrals can be made and more information is available via email at [nfp@goodwillindy.org](mailto:nfp@goodwillindy.org) or phone at 317-524-3999. Service providers can make a referral by calling or completing a form at [goodwillindy.org/nfp](http://goodwillindy.org/nfp).

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**Goodwill Industries of Central Indiana** is a social enterprise serving 29 central Indiana counties and employing more than 3,000 Hoosiers. Goodwill’s approach links value-added resources that include access to education, employment and health services that many families need in order to become more economically self-sufficient. More information at [goodwillindy.org](http://goodwillindy.org).

**Goodwill Industries of Michiana** is a social enterprise serving residents of north central, northwest Indiana, east Illinois and Niles, Michigan. Annually, more than 8,000 individuals utilize the many resources at Goodwill including, but not limited to, work-readiness training, skills training, job placement assistance and retention services, all designed to assist individuals in elevating their economic status so that they are better able to care for their families. More information at [goodwill-ni.org](http://goodwill-ni.org).

**Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP)** currently serves more than 29,600 low-income moms in 43 states, the U.S. Virgin Islands and six Tribal communities. Three decades of research show that NFP is successful in improving maternal health and birth outcomes, preventing child abuse, increasing children’s school readiness and reducing juvenile crime. More information at [nursefamilypartnership.org](http://nursefamilypartnership.org).

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