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## Goodwill Industries of Arkansas Names Darrick Williams Vice President of Education and Training

**LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (July 5, 2023)** — Goodwill Industries of Arkansas (GIA) is pleased to announce Darrick Williams as the organization’s new vice president of education and training. Williams will be responsible for overseeing the strategic and operational aspects of The Excel Center® and The Academy at Goodwill, both of which fall under the umbrella of Goodwill Training and Education Centers (GTEC) across the state. He will develop and implement recruitment and retention strategies that will have a significant positive impact on the communities served by GIA through education, training, and employment.

“I’m thrilled to have Darrick join our team,” said Sr. Vice President and Chief Mission Officer Edie Stewart. “He will be a valuable addition to GIA and the leadership team due to his vast experience and knowledge of education in Arkansas. Darrick will be instrumental in expanding our educational services across the state beginning with the upcoming opening of GTEC - Springdale.”

“Darrick will not only be a valuable addition to our leadership team but will also have a significant impact on the lives of Arkansans through his role in leading our educational services,” said GIA President and CEO Brian Marsh. “His expertise will be crucial as we expand GIA's presence in Northwest Arkansas with the launch of the Goodwill Training and Education Center (GTEC) in Springdale.”

Prior to joining GIA, Williams served as director of licensure for the Arkansas Department of Education where he led a team of licensure and background check specialists which facilitated all Arkansas teacher licensure. He also assisted in writing policies, definitions and statutes for Arkansas education laws regarding licensure and background checks.

Darrick began his career as a classroom teacher in grades three through six in the Little Rock School District before becoming an elementary assistant principal then principal in the Pulaski County Special School District.

He received both his Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education and his Master of Education in Educational Administration from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

### **About Goodwill Industries of Arkansas**

Goodwill Industries of Arkansas is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to changing lives through education, training and employment. In the last fiscal year, our career services team helped 498 people find work at companies around the state. Through our various education, training and employment programs, GIA provided services to 6,027 Arkansans. Since opening in 2017, 127 adults in Arkansas have graduated high school and earned their diplomas through The Excel Center®, Goodwill's high school for adults 19 years or older. The Academy at Goodwill, licensed by the Arkansas State Board of Private Career Education, is a trade school that provided training and certifications to 624 individuals in FY22 to secure new employment and advance careers. Goodwill also offers reentry services for those coming out of incarceration to help train and find employment. Visit [GoodwillAR.org](http://GoodwillAR.org) for more information.

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