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## Goodwill Industries of Arkansas Names Edie Stewart Senior Vice President and Chief Mission Officer

**LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (April 13, 2023)** — Goodwill Industries of Arkansas (GIA) is pleased to announce Edie Stewart as the organization’s new Senior Vice President and Chief Mission Officer. In her role, Stewart will focus on leading Goodwill’s mission services components and aligning those services with GIA’s guiding mission to change lives through education, training and employment.

“Edie’s background with Goodwill and The Excel Center, along with her proven track record working on state-wide educational initiatives will benefit the entire scope of our expanding mission service programs,” said Goodwill Industries of Arkansas President and CEO Brian Marsh. “She has a passion for service, and we are excited to welcome her to Team Blue.”

“The mission of Goodwill Industries of Arkansas is similar to the mission I have had throughout my career in education. Education and training will change the trajectory of not only individual lives, but also of entire families and thus communities,” said Stewart. “Our family has donated goods to Goodwill for years, but I never really knew the impact of what we donated. I am excited to help expand our services and reach even more individuals across the state.”

Before joining Goodwill Industries of Arkansas, Stewart served as the Director of Educator Preparation for Arkansas’ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). In that role she led the teacher recruitment and retention team, oversaw both traditional and alternative routes to licensure efforts, and served as a liaison between the DESE and Arkansas’ educator preparation programs. Additionally, Stewart served on the board of directors for The Excel Center for the last three years.

Stewart began her career in education more than 30 years ago as an elementary and special education teacher in classrooms in Arkansas, Connecticut, Tennessee, and Ohio. She eventually

joined the University of Cincinnati's educator preparation program and led the teacher preparation program and taught a variety of upper-level undergraduate education courses.

Stewart moved back to her home state of Arkansas in 2018 and served as assistant vice chancellor for enrollment management at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She led eight departments and co-authored the campus' Recruitment and Retention Strategic Plan.

Stewart serves on the Arkansas Geographical Minority Scholarship Committee and volunteers with the Arkansas Single Parent Scholarship Fund and Our House.

### **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, Goodwill Industries of Arkansas provided services to 6,027 Arkansans. Since opening in 2017, 103 adults in Arkansas have graduated high school and earned their diplomas through The Excel Center®, Goodwill's high school for adults. Visit [GoodwillAR.org](http://GoodwillAR.org) for more information.

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