



Goodwill Staffing Services Help Encourage Financial Strengthening Participants Save More Than \$19,000

Austin, TX - Goodwill Staffing Services (GSS) encourages financial strengthening for all temporary employees. Last year, this free program helped participants save more than \$19,000 collectively by encouraging effective financial management techniques—an important skill in the current economy.

“We are delighted about this program, which helps our temporary employees gain valuable financial planning skills to help them manage their newly-earned incomes,” said Rudy Herrera, Director of Goodwill Staffing Services. “These financial skills complement Goodwill’s job training programs that help Central Texans find jobs in the community.”

Open to any GSS employee, this program requires participants to save a portion of their paycheck in a savings account. Participants that save a total of \$500 within six months will receive a 100 percent match in savings from GSS. To further encourage financial literacy, participants are also required to meet one-on-one with a financial coach for three financial counseling sessions.

Through counseling sessions, participants in the program will gain financial independence and knowledge. Each session with the financial coach is tailored to meet the specific needs of the participant and will include setting financial goals and providing the participants with necessary tools to make smart financial decisions. Participants can meet one-on-one with Goodwill staff to learn a variety of skills, including household budgeting, help with taking out loans, learning about banking, reading credit ratings, asset building strategies, protecting against identity theft and predatory lending practices, and more.

Finances can be a very private and intricate topic. Through this program in the past, Goodwill Staffing Services has been able to effectively educate participants on the importance of financial strength.

“I’m not afraid to manage money anymore, my account never goes negative, and I can realistically plan for the future,” said one participant.

In the past, Goodwill Staffing Services has successfully supported its temporary employees in setting and achieving financial goals, educated members of the Central Texas community on many financial topics and provided them with education resources within the community. In 2010, GSS will be able to help encourage many more participants in the program to improve their financial knowledge and strengthen their financial skills.

About Goodwill Industries of Central Texas:

Goodwill Industries of Central Texas is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization dedicated to the mission of providing job-related services for people with barriers to employment. Revenue generated through the sale of donated goods is used to fund job training and employment programs for Central Texans. For more information about Goodwill Industries of Central Texas, go to www.austingoodwill.org.

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