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### Goodwill Closures - COVID-19

Goodwill Training & Retail [community@goodwillsp.org]

Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2020 9:48 PM  
To: Steve Johnston

The latest blog post from Goodwill SP [View this email in your browser](#)



This is the official blog of Goodwill Industries of the Southern Piedmont. Here is a message from President & CEO Chris Jackson regarding COVID-19.

Hello,

Yesterday, Mecklenburg County issued a Stay At Home Order effective Thursday, March 26 at 8 a.m. for three weeks through April 16. In the best interest of all of our team members and community we have decided to temporarily cease all non-essential operations, including all of our retail stores and donation centers, for the next three weeks across our entire territory, including North and South Carolina.

#### Taking Care of Our Team

- Team members who are able to work from home will continue to do so.
- Team members who are not able to work from home will be temporarily laid off and paid for three weeks with benefits.

#### Taking Care of Job Seekers

- Our client services are being offered exclusively online and by phone. Request services online at [goodwillsp.org](http://goodwillsp.org) or by calling (704) 916-1608; for services in Gastonia and Concord, call (704) 916-1610.
- Our staffing company, [GoodWork Staffing](#), is open and continues to actively recruit and place employees in essential businesses at this time. Job seekers can also call (704) 332-0278.

The decision to close does not come lightly, as our stores provide the majority of funding for our workforce services and training, while also providing the income to pay our 1,000+ team members who make our mission possible.

We are fully aware that the impacts of COVID-19 will disproportionately impact those with limited resources, options and access. However long it takes, we will continue to do everything possible to serve the people of this community as we have for more than 50 years, by helping people get access to resources, coaching and skills training to access careers and sustain their families. While we have temporarily ceased our in-person job training, our team members continue to provide support services and training online and by phone. Anyone can request services on our website at [goodwillsp.org](http://goodwillsp.org).

The need for our mission doesn't stop. We understand your desire to donate at this time, however, we will ask you to hold your donations until the Stay at Home Order is lifted. As people in our community are losing their jobs by the thousands, your [financial gifts](#) are more important than ever. Your support helps us to continue to offer free job training and employment services which are especially vital at this time.

We are all in this together. At a safe and appropriate time, we will resume our normal activities and work together to rebuild stronger, more resilient communities. We will share updates with our community as often as we can. Stay informed by following us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and on [goodwillsp.org](http://goodwillsp.org). As our community strives to move through this together, you have our promise that we will continue doing everything we can to be there for those who need us.

Stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Chris M. Jackson  
President & CEO, Goodwill Industries of the Southern Piedmont

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