‘Always Do the Right Thing’
Professor Herbert Lemelman was Deeply Committed to Goodwill

Professor Herbert Lemelman had a passion for the law, for teaching, for helping others, and for supporting Goodwill. He was a member of Goodwill’s Board of Directors for more than 20 years, including serving as its Chair from 1996 to 1998. Professor Lemelman passed away in May.

As a Board member, he was committed to supporting community members with barriers to employment, especially those with developmental disabilities. He brought to the Board exceptional legal expertise. He served as a law professor at Suffolk University for more than 50 years, including time as an Associate Dean. Professor Lemelman taught and mentored thousands of law students. He loved Boston and was dedicated to the community. Goodwill benefited from that dedication through his invaluable service.

Gene Colangelo, Chairman of Julli Enterprises, who served on the Goodwill Board with Professor Lemelman, recalled, “I will never forget what he used to tell me, ‘Always do the right thing, never take shortcuts, and always be up front.’” Gene commented on Professor Lemelman’s relentless energy and zeal for Goodwill’s work, “He believed in the Goodwill mission and was committed to helping others.”

Professor Lemelman generously donated to Goodwill for many years. He enjoyed attending The Good Party and seeing so many community leaders come together in support of Goodwill. His wife Lois, who also volunteered at Goodwill, said Herb was dedicated to Goodwill. She made a point of donating his clothes to Goodwill, including his signature bow ties. “Herb would have loved that,” she said.

Everyone at Goodwill is deeply appreciative of Professor Lemelman’s contributions to our work and the people we serve.
Goodwill's Statement on Racial Justice

Together, we bear witness to the senseless and violent killing of George Floyd and so many others. In the face of this evidence of longstanding, systemic racism, we must stand as allies to our Black colleagues and neighbors.

Racism is insidious. People who are Black or Brown are more likely to be poor. More likely to be unemployed. More likely to be underpaid. And, more likely to contract and die from COVID-19.

At Goodwill, we are committed to helping people find jobs that are right for them. We do this for everyone who comes through our doors, most are people of color. We intend to redouble our efforts. To work to make more opportunities available to individuals who are Black and Brown. To evaluate our own operations through the lens of race and determine what more we can do.

Goodwill has been serving the local community for 125 years and has a deep and abiding commitment to social justice. As we work together to respond to the combined effects of COVID-19 and unemployment, we will keep the need to address the underlying issue of racism at the forefront of our efforts.

Goodwill Supporters Remain Committed in Unprecedented Times

Every year, The Good Party raises much-needed funds to support Goodwill’s programs. This is our signature event at which we celebrate all that those in our programs have accomplished during the year. It is truly heartwarming to hear program participants share stories of how they overcame significant challenges and have improved their situations.

When we had to cancel this year’s event, many sponsors renewed their support nonetheless. This was a heartwarming display of generosity and commitment to Goodwill’s work.

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to all of the Good Partners of The Good Party this year. In particular, we appreciate the generous support received from Bank of America. The bank has been the Title Sponsor of the event for multiple years, and their continuing support this year is helping Goodwill be there for the community when it’s needed most.

Additionally, the following sponsors contributed $10,000 or more:

- Acadian Wipers
- Bank of America
- Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts
- The TJX Companies

Goodwill President and CEO Co-Chairs Impact Study on Women’s Leadership Development

Joanne K. Hilferty, President and CEO of Morgan Memorial Goodwill Industries, is one of four Co-Chairs of The Commonwealth Institute’s annual Impact Study on Women’s Leadership Development in Massachusetts. The impact study looks at how companies retain and advance women employees. As part of her role as a Co-Chair, Joanne has been encouraging via social media businesses and organizations to participate in the study. The findings will be released in December.

Goodwill for a Career

Estiven is inquisitive, eager to please, and a hard worker. Now, he is getting a chance to put those attributes to work.

Estiven is one of ten young adults who graduated in June from Project SEARCH, Goodwill’s school-year program that prepares high school students with developmental disabilities for competitive employment. In July, he started working in food services at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital, where he completed his Project SEARCH internships. He loves his new job.

“He was a joy to have in class,” said Lola Hamilton, a Project SEARCH instructor from the Boston Public Schools. “I’m so proud of him and not surprised that he is doing well.”

Project SEARCH is an evidence-based model that Goodwill operates in conjunction with the public schools and employer partners. The students are typically in their last year of high school and have the opportunity to learn about the world of work and to participate in a number of internships where they develop important job skills. In March, the program transitioned to a remote learning model and the participants did not skip a beat.

This year, graduation was held via Zoom but had all the important elements of a traditional graduation: excited graduates, proud parents, speeches and the presentation of certificates. Dignitaries in attendance included Boston City Councilor At-Large Anissa Essaibi George, New England Baptist Hospital President David Passafaro and Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital President David Storto.

“You showed dedication and determination by coming every day to learn new skills,” said Goodwill President and CEO Joanne K. Hilferty, in her remarks to the graduates. “You are all now part of the working world. You will have the opportunity to continue to develop and Goodwill will be there to support you along the way,” she declared.

Congratulations to Estiven and all the Project SEARCH graduates!