

# OUTLOOK

The Official Newsletter for Supporters of Morgan Memorial Goodwill Industries

Fall 2021

## *The Good Party 2021 Celebrates* the Resilience of the Goodwill Community

On June 10th, Morgan Memorial Goodwill Industries was proud to host *The Good Party 2021*, its annual gala that celebrates the Goodwill mission to help individuals with barriers to self-sufficiency to achieve independence and dignity through work.

This year's party was held virtually, allowing guests to gather at virtual tables to "Celebrate Our Community" and the men and women who come to Goodwill to work toward better lives even in the most challenging of times.

Honorary chairs included Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker, Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey, Acting Mayor of Boston Kim Janey, Congressman Richard Neal, CEO of the New England Patriots Robert Kraft, UMass Boston Chancellor Emeritus Keith Motley, and WCVB TV's Karen Holmes Ward. Donors and corporate sponsors rallied for the cause and the event exceeded its fundraising goal, providing crucial support for Goodwill's mission!

The resilience of the wonderful Goodwill community during the pandemic was showcased throughout the evening. Guests listened to engaging conversations between local restaurant owners and community leaders involved in direct care, discussing how they got through the pandemic and what Goodwill's work in the community means to them.

Attendees also heard the inspiring stories of Goodwill participants Kyndra James, Shadir Kemp, and Samantha Neill—each of whom was enrolled in a Goodwill program and went to work during the pandemic.

Samantha was working in the food service industry when the pandemic hit. The restaurant where she was



working closed suddenly and she was without a job.

"I found out on a Sunday that by Tuesday I'd have no job," recalls Samantha.

The Human Services Employment Ladder Program (HELP) at Goodwill was the

launchpad for a new job and the career she had always dreamed of.

"The HELP program was life-changing for me," said Samantha. "I received work-readiness training, I learned new skills, and the mock interviews were tremendously helpful."

Today Samantha works at the Pine Street Inn as a residential counselor and has a bright future helping people in the human services field.

Success stories like these demonstrate the life-changing impact of Goodwill's mission and the continued effectiveness of Goodwill programs that are helping over 6,300 people overcome barriers to self-sufficiency and achieve independence each year.

**Thank you to our friends, supporters and sponsors for making our virtual *Good Party 2021* a resounding success!**



Samantha was one of the many Goodwill participants helped by your support.



A great, big **THANK YOU** to our sponsors for making *The Good Party 2021* a success!

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## Happy to be Back at Work

### *Goodwill Programs Graduate Continues to Succeed*

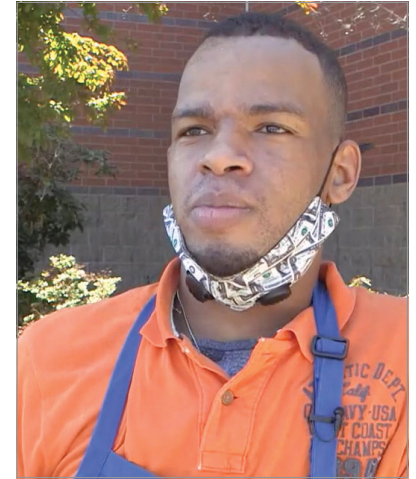
Shadir Kemp was featured at *The Good Party 2021* and his involvement with Goodwill goes back to 2015 when he was part of Project SEARCH, a program for Boston public high school students with developmental disabilities.

Shadir participated in a school-year long internship at Charlestown High School and Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital. After graduating from Project SEARCH, he participated in Goodwill's Employment Supports program, working in housekeeping at Marshalls through a mobile work crew.

That program helped Shadir in many ways, including travel training. "You learn how to do things on your own," he says proudly. "You learn how to be independent."

For several years, he has worked at the flagship Goodwill store located at the Roxbury headquarters. When the store had to close briefly during the pandemic, Shadir couldn't wait to get back to work. "That's what I was waiting for..." he says, "to come back to work. Working makes me feel happy. It keeps me active and teaches me new things."

Today, Shadir is on the job and is a valued member of the Goodwill team. One of the things he enjoys most about his job is meeting new people. "Goodwill teaches you how to get along with people and how to interact. Sometimes you just say 'hello' and you make their day."



Shadir Kemp is thrilled to be back at work in the Goodwill store.

## Goodwill Supports Good Party Restaurants

The pandemic impacted so many Boston restaurants. In *The Good Party* video, Goodwill proudly featured local restaurants that have generously supported *The Good Party* over the years.

**Flour Bakery + Cafe**

**Haley House**

**Merengue**

**Darryl's Corner Bar and Kitchen**



JOANNE CHANG  
Pastry Chef / Owner, Flour Bakery + Cafe

Joanne Chang, Pastry Chef/  
Owner, Flour Bakery + Cafe

## The First Step She Needed

*Goodwill Program Empowers Mom to Find Work*



Kyndra had lost her mother at the age of 18 and she became a mother herself while in her 20s. Balancing the challenges of parenthood was difficult for her, especially when faced with finding a job during the pandemic.

“Nobody was there to tell me how to balance everything and still be a mom,” says Kyndra.

Just when Kyndra had begun to lose hope, she enrolled in First Step,

a Goodwill job readiness program designed to help participants enter or re-enter the workforce, advance in their careers, strengthen their families, and achieve financial independence.

After completing key First Step components—creating a resume, participating in mock interviews, learning to search for jobs online—and working closely with her case manager, who encouraged her, Kyndra felt more confident and ready to work. She graduated from the program and was excited to find a job.

“I had someone believe in me,” recalls Kyndra. “My job specialist told me, ‘You got this! You can do it!’”

Then, in November 2020, this determined mom was hired as a Personal Care Assistant at First Light Home Care. Kyndra credits the Goodwill program with helping her turn her life around.

“The First Step program gave me the help I needed so I could get a job and support my daughter. It changed my life.”

Every day, Goodwill empowers motivated individuals like Kyndra on their journeys to independence, giving them the tools and the skills to enter the workforce to support themselves and their families.

**Your support is critical to our success, especially during this time of increased demand for our services. Thank you for helping Kyndra and so many other men and women to achieve independence and dignity through work.**

## Goodwill Volunteers Make a Difference

In response to the pandemic, Goodwill pivoted to deliver mission services remotely. Goodwill aligned its volunteer program with remote services, and First Republic Bank has been a key partner in providing engaging online workshops for job seekers.

First Republic Bank and Goodwill staff together developed a workshop on entry-level banking jobs and delivered it over Zoom to program participants. Following the workshop, First Republic Bank gave Goodwill a grant in support of its programs for people with developmental disabilities.



Since then, 26 First Republic Bank volunteers have delivered three technology workshops for Goodwill job training programs. The workshops include one-on-one support and are a valuable experience for program participants. The volunteers have helped Goodwill’s participants prepare for jobs, and Goodwill is grateful for all the volunteers who have made the virtual volunteer program a success.



## Join the Edgar J. Helms Society

The Helms Society is named in honor of Reverend Edgar J. Helms who founded Goodwill in Boston's South End. Goodwill remains committed to his vision of helping individuals with barriers to self-sufficiency to achieve independence and dignity through work.

Membership in the Helms Society begins at \$500. There are multiple levels of benefits based on your giving level.

For more information, please call 617-541-1404 or visit [www.goodwillmass.org/helms-society](http://www.goodwillmass.org/helms-society).

## Donating Securities to Goodwill

Making a gift of stock, bonds or mutual funds to Goodwill is a great way to support Goodwill's mission. And, you may be able to gain significant tax savings on appreciated assets and even save on brokerage fees because you are transferring ownership rather than selling the stock.

Consult your personal financial advisor for information specific to your situation.

Please contact the Philanthropy Department for more information on how to make a gift at 617-541-1404 or [giving@goodwillmass.org](mailto:giving@goodwillmass.org).

## Goodwill's Boston Marathon Team

*Running to Help Youth Successfully Bridge to Adulthood*

For the first time ever, the Boston Marathon will take place on Columbus Day and Morgan Memorial Goodwill will be a part of it.

Pushed to a later date because of the pandemic, the Boston Marathon will be held Oct. 11; it will be the first Boston Marathon since 2019.

Over the years, Goodwill has had 17 Marathon teams and a common thread has united all: to support young people and help them transition successfully to adulthood. Donations support Goodwill's Peter Morrissey Youth Fund, named in memory of a longtime board member of both Goodwill and the Boston Athletic Association which operates the marathon. Peter was passionate about supporting youth. To date, Goodwill marathon teams have raised over \$1 million.

Two runners who exemplify the tradition are Terrie Walker and Dave Cator. Terrie, a schoolteacher, came from Georgia in 2018, inspired by Goodwill's mission.

"I had always wanted to run the Boston Marathon and I also wanted to run for an organization with a mission I believed in," she said. "It was a perfect fit, and I had a great time – despite the cold rain!"

Dave Cator's 2015 marathon was also run in the rain, and he had an additional challenge that would have stopped most people: he broke his shoulder a month earlier and ran the course with his arm in a sling. Dave was running to honor the memory of his dear friend Peter Morrissey, who had passed away in 2012, so he was determined to finish.

"Finishing that marathon was the most difficult thing I ever did," Dave said. "But I wanted to finish for my supporters and for Peter."

Goodwill is grateful to Terrie and Dave, and all who have contributed their special talents to help men, women, and young adults to achieve independence and dignity through work.

*To read more about this year's team please visit [www.goodwillmass.org/marathon](http://www.goodwillmass.org/marathon).*



Dave Cator



Terrie Walker



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