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Goodwill Industries of Arkansas Adds Two to Board of Directors

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (October 1, 2024) — Goodwill Industries of Arkansas (GIA) has appointed two new members to its Board of Directors. Jeff Byers and Mike Poore will utilize their experience and expertise to contribute to the organization’s mission of changing lives through education, training and employment.

Jeff Byers is vice president of software solutions for Mainstream Technologies, Inc. where he ensures associates have the essentials needed to provide a vast array of client solutions. Prior to joining Mainstream Technologies, Byers served as a software developer for ALLTEL Information Services (Fidelity Information Systems) and Dillard’s Inc.’s supply chain system team. He will bring a wealth of experience to all facets of GIA’s operations.

Mike Poore currently serves as the executive vice president of Education Partners, an organization that aims to build a community of collaborative partners who share a common mission and vision for excellence in education. This role allows him to continue his commitment to educational advancement in Arkansas and community development, ensuring that every individual has the chance to succeed. Having recently completed an illustrious 38-year career that spans teaching, coaching, and administration, Poore now serves as a leading voice on educational issues. His extensive experience in various educational roles has equipped him with a unique perspective on the challenges and opportunities within the education system. He understands the importance of fostering an environment where students can thrive, and educators can innovate. He was instrumental in the launch of The Excel Center® at Goodwill in 2017.

“We are thrilled to have Jeff and Mike join our board,” said GIA President and CEO Brian Marsh. “These leaders both have deep relationships with GIA and other leaders across the state, and we can draw from their respective backgrounds as we continue to expand the positive impact our mission is making across the state.”

Both directors will begin their board duties in January 2025.

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, GIA provided services to 6,345 Arkansans. Since opening in 2017, 190 adults in Arkansas have graduated high school and earned their diplomas through The Excel Center[®], Goodwill's high school for adults 19 years or older. The Academy at Goodwill, licensed by the Arkansas State Board of Private Career Education, is a trade school that provided training and certifications to 2,524 individuals in FY23 to secure new employment and advance careers. Goodwill also offers reentry services for those coming out of justice-involved situations to help train and find employment. Visit GoodwillAR.org for more information.