



Goodwill Industries of Northern Michigan Annual “In Unity with Community Luncheon”

Goodwill Industries of Northern Michigan’s In Unity with Community Luncheon and Honors Ceremony was held May 11, 2011 at the Hagerty Center in Traverse City. The luncheon was attended by over 160 community leaders from Northern Michigan.

Melissa Smith, Morning Anchor for TV 7&4 acted as Master of Ceremonies. Douglas R. Luciani, President & CEO, Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce delivered a heartfelt keynote address of his personal journey to overcome barriers to independence and how his journey was not taken alone.

Goodwill was pleased to take this opportunity to honor and celebrate those we serve and to show our gratitude to our many partners and community members for their dedication and support.

Goodwill is honored recognize the following honorees:

Agency Partner Honorees - These honorees were recognized for their partnership with Goodwill, exceptional leadership and commitment to changing lives.



Gaylord Area Community Meal Program. The Gaylord Area Community Meal program is a non-sectarian, cooperative project developed by several Gaylord area partner organizations. They generously welcome all walks of life to enjoy a FREE meal with no ‘eligibility criteria.’ For some people attending the meal program, it is one of the few nutritious meals they may eat during the week. They provide approximately 3,900 meals annually!



Michigan Works! Gaylord office. The Michigan Works, Gaylord office and the Gaylord Goodwill Retail Store partner to provide over 50 work opportunities annually through a variety of programs including Work Experience program candidates and Michigan Prison Reentry Program participants. Together they provide work experience opportunities to help clients build new skills and improve opportunities for permanent employment.



Nurse Triage Clinic—Traverse Health Clinic/ Munson Home Health.

Traverse Health Clinic and Munson Home Health have come together to provide the Nurse Triage Clinic for Goodwill Inn guests. The Nurse Triage Clinic staffed by volunteer nurses visit the Inn and provide guests with basic medical care. The care the nurses provide ensures that medical needs are met quickly and treated appropriately, resulting in fewer major medical problems and fewer trips to the ER. They provide outstanding care and help support the Goodwill Inn to provide high quality services to some of the most vulnerable individuals in our community.

Community Partner Honorees - These honorees were recognized for their exemplary spirit of community and collaboration.



Huntington National Bank - Huntington National Bank has long been a supporter of Goodwill. Most recently they stepped up as “sponsors” of a successful grant application to the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati Affordable Housing Program for the new Gaylord Veterans Transitional Housing Community. The \$360,000 in funds will provide gap financing and help reduce the cash match required of Goodwill in the construction of the new 24 bed project.



Dan Brady Painting and Restoration - Dan Brady Painting and Restoration for painting the interior of the Goodwill Inn. Dan and his crew fully committed to minimizing disruption of daily life for the Inn guests...Dan rallied community volunteers from every walk of life, placed them in teams based on their skill sets and experience, provided a heartfelt, touching orientation to the day’s mission before them and led throughout day, The project was completed in record time with flawless precision, professional quality and a warm, welcoming feeling that said loudly to each and every guest-- “Your community cares!”



Run for Shelter, Karl Bastian, Greenlight Marketing and Bill Lancaster, Lancaster Photography - Karl and Bill turned their running passion into a cause when they founded Traverse City’s “Run For Shelter” 5K run/walk three years ago to benefit the Goodwill Inn. Over the past three years Run for Shelter has increased awareness of the Goodwill Inn... raised \$20,000 and ultimately ensured that on the night they needed it most...800 families, men and women had shelter and a safe place to live.

Volunteer of the Year – **John Daniels** is recognized for his selfless volunteer efforts and positive impact on the people served by Goodwill.



John’s warm and engaging character and genuine belief in the worth of every human being shines through as he positively impacts guests through his volunteer work at the Goodwill Inn.

He has an amazing gift for “Relationship Building” bringing new hope to guests. Even in the most demanding arena, John can bring polar opposites together, each individual walking away a winner—feeling valued, valuable and respected. He has empowered so many and challenged them to look deep inside to identify and grow their own unique gifts. John has shepherded the development of a Home-Sweet-Homelessness game initiative and been tireless in his devotion to empowerment and esteem-building as he leads goals groups at the Inn.

Un-Sung Hero Award Honorees - These honorees were recognized because their work affects a Goodwill program or persons we serve and positively impacts lives throughout the community.



Jubilee House - The Jubilee House, is a day drop-in center for those experiencing homelessness on the streets of Traverse City. This outreach ministry through Grace Episcopal Church provides a warm, safe place for people to go during the day and the resources for many things that we might take for granted like laundry facilities, showers, snacks, telephone, and mail service. The program and the volunteers offer dignity, compassion and outstanding care for some of the most vulnerable people in our community.



Selestial Soap - Selestial Soap Co- owners Ruth Smith and Jim Legato developed a line of high quality environmentally friendly laundry and cleaning products made locally from all natural products. They have generously been providing laundry soap to the Inn and other non-profits in the area that not only do an amazing job but also extends the life of the well used laundry equipment. Their donation ultimately ensures high standards of hygiene and cleanliness, self esteem and dignity to the clients of many programs.

Mary Stanton Award - The Mary Stanton Award recognizes a special individual who personifies the spirit of Goodwill and Goodwill’s mission to help people overcome barriers to independence. This award reflects a person, who is a Goodwill ambassador to the community at large, dedicated to serving those in need and understands it is better to give than to receive.



Todd McMillen is our Mary Stanton Award winner. Todd puts his words into action not just for Goodwill but throughout the community at large and is a living example of how one person can make a significant impact on the lives of others.

Todd relates to the difficulties our homeless neighbors face and has rallied support from his constituents and contact circles and has teamed with others to generate thousands of dollars to benefit the recipients of Goodwill Inn programs and services.

Todd has for more than 6 years.... given freely of his talents, time and enthusiasm for The Party, The ReInvention Convention and embracing many other Goodwill projects along the way.

The Achiever of the Year Award recognizes a person who is in a Goodwill program and has shown significant progress and achievements.



Teresa Roggow a former Goodwill Inn resident and Housing Support Services program participant was honored for her dedication and determination to become independent. Over the past eighteen months Teresa has worked diligently to transition from the homelessness and living at the Goodwill Inn to permanent housing, secured employment and a vehicle on her journey. She continues to utilize the tools and resources she has acquired to maintain her independence.

[Watch a video of Teresa's journey](#)

The Graduate of the Year Award recognizes a person who has graduated from a Goodwill program and has achieved success and independence.



Jerry LaBreck, homeless and unemployed came to Goodwill through a workforce development training partnership with the Michigan Prisoner ReEntry program. Jerry's determination to make a good impression during his 90 day training program paid off with an offer to join the Goodwill maintenance team as a regular employee. Today Jerry is part of the Goodwill team, has housing and continues to grow more independent and confident with each passing day.

[Watch a video of Jerry's journey](#)



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Photographs courtesy of Vicente Ramos