



Updated: February 16, 2010

Pathways Out of Poverty

Call the Goodwill Goes Green Hotline, 404-420-1161, for more information.

Just the Facts:

Goodwill of North Georgia is excited to announce **Goodwill Goes Green**, a grant under Pathways Out of Poverty, authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act). The two-year grant will provide funds to create a green job-training program as a strategy to move individuals out of poverty and into economic self-sufficiency.

Who: This program will assist **200** unemployed individuals, dislocated workers, people with disabilities, high school dropouts, people with criminal records, and other disadvantaged residents of the Public Use Microdata Area (PUMA) 01204. Goodwill will recruit eligible residents of **Belvedere Park**, home to Goodwill's Decatur Career Center, and the adjacent **Gresham Park** neighborhood.

What: The program will provide training for General Green Construction, Weatherization and Solar Panel Installers.

Where: Training will be based at the Goodwill Decatur Career Center located at 1295 Columbia Ave, Decatur GA 30303 and at various partnering locations: DeKalb Workforce Development, DeKalb Technical College, Atlanta Technical College, Radiance Solar, Handcrafted Homes, Inc., Greater Atlanta Home Builder Association, Georgia Trade Up, Southface Energy Institute, St. Philip AME Church and Housing Authority of DeKalb County.

When: Pathways Out Of Poverty will be administered over a two-year period. While the Department of Labor has officially awarded the grant, contracts have not been executed and funding has not been released. Therefore, a start date has not been set. This notice will be updated with the latest information as it becomes available, so check back frequently.

Why: The Pathways Out of Poverty grant is a funding opportunity authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act). The grant is specifically designed to aid individuals with limited resources through job training and support services to build competitive skills in a growing industry, which will enable them to become self-sufficient while helping the environment.

Frequently Asked Questions:

How do I apply? Once funding for the program is released, orientations will be held periodically at the Goodwill Decatur Career Center. Notice of scheduled orientations will be placed on our Web site and posted in nearby Goodwill Career Centers. Applications will be available during orientation sessions. This Web site will be updated with the latest information as it becomes available, so please check back.

Who is eligible for the training? **Goodwill Goes Green** will serve unemployed

individuals, dislocated workers, people with disabilities, high school dropouts, people with criminal records, and other disadvantaged residents. of Public Use Microdata Area (PUMA) 01204. Successful candidates must live within the designated **PUMA 01204**, and meet economic eligibility criteria defined by the grant. Maps for PUMAs can be located at: <http://www.census.gov/geo/www/maps/puma5pct.htm>. We do hope to make this training available to additional communities at a future date, if we can secure funding to do so.

What will the training cover? The grant will focus on construction skills training in three areas—weatherization, installation of solar panels and general green construction. The goal of the training is to equip trainees with the knowledge to construct and adapt existing structures to environmentally friendly standards, thereby improving trainees' employment prospects in related fields. Work-based training is also a key component, and will provide invaluable experience, an opportunity to showcase skills and build resumes, and provide training wages.

Will participants be guaranteed a job? While Goodwill cannot guarantee employment, during last fiscal year we connected 4,692 people with good jobs! Our strong employment team and partnerships with local businesses, labor organizations, workforce development institutions, unions, faith and community-based organizations, and colleges and trade schools will certainly provide the competitive edge for Goodwill's green job seekers.

Who are the local partners: Goodwill of North Georgia, DeKalb Workforce Development, DeKalb Technical College, Atlanta Technical College, Radiance Solar, Handcrafted Homes, Inc., Greater Atlanta Home Builder Association, Georgia Trade Up, Southface Energy Institute, St. Philip AME Church and Housing Authority of DeKalb County will work cooperatively to leverage resources, expertise and skills to deliver an integrated program model that provides essential services to participants (i.e. skills training, classroom instruction, certification/credentialing, on-the-job training, supportive services, job development and placement).

Contact Information for Media: Elaine Armstrong, earmstrong@qing.org.

What if I have more questions: Submit questions to info@qing.org and please allow 72 hours for a return email.