Get to Know Goodwill-Easter Seals
Eliminating barriers to work and independence for 100 years

Nonprofit Serving Our Community

• Goodwill-Easter Seals is one of Minnesota’s longest operating 501(c)(3) nonprofits, founded in 1919 to help people experience the power of work.

• The average unemployment duration in the U.S. is over 25 weeks and the unemployment rate is 60% higher for people with disabilities. The poverty rate for families of color is up to triple the rate of white families. Our 1-1 employment services help narrow these gaps.

A Greener Minnesota

• Minnesotans generate over 3 million tons of waste for landfills every year.

• Our “donate-shop-reuse-educate-employ” model diverts over 65 million pounds from landfills annually, the equivalent to 150 blue whales (the heaviest animal on Earth)!

• In 2019, our stores handled over 2.5 million donations, using proceeds to fund our services.


• Donating and shopping at our stores helps us connect four people with jobs every day.

• “Why do you sell things that you get for free?” Donations stock stores to support our mission, but there are many costs to get that lamp from your trunk onto a shelf.

• We employ over 2,000 people and everyone earns more than the MN minimum wage.

• We serve people in 73 of Minnesota’s 87 counties.

Leading by Example

• Your aunt’s Facebook feed is great, but her facts on Goodwill might only be so-so. We have nine 4-star ratings from Charity Navigator and meet all Charities Review Council standards.

• CEO Michael Wirth-Davis, DPA has led the organization for 29 years. He teaches and volunteers his time speaking to various groups (he doesn't have a yacht or get paid millions of dollars).

Visit gesmn.org/facts