

Pathways Out Poverty

Just the Facts: This fact sheet was updated in April. Please visit our Website at www.goodwillng.org and click on the Goodwill Goes Green link, or call the Goodwill Goes Green Hotline: 404-420-1161 or e-mail greenconstruction@ging.org for more information.

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 Public Use Microdata Area (PUMA) **01204**. Goodwill will recruit eligible residents of **Belvedere Park**, home to the Goodwill 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 Dr., Decatur GA 30032 and at various partnering locations: Atlanta Technical College, DeKalb Technical College, DeKalb Workforce Development, Georgia Trade Up, Greater Atlanta Home Builder Association, Handcrafted Homes, Inc., Housing Authority of DeKalb County, Radiance Solar, Southface Energy Institute and St. Philip AME Church.

When: Pathways Out Of Poverty will be administered over a two-year period that began March 15, 2010, and will end January 28, 2012.

Why: The Pathways Out of Poverty grant is a funding opportunity authorized by the 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? All individuals interested in applying for the green construction training offered through the grant **are required to attend an orientation session. These sessions will be held on a weekly basis at the Goodwill Decatur Career Center** located at 1295 Columbia Dr., Decatur GA 30032. The first orientations will be held on April 23 at 10 am and 2 pm. Notice of subsequent orientations will be placed on the Goodwill Website and posted in nearby Goodwill Career Centers. Applications for participation in the program will only be available during orientation sessions. This Website and telephone hotline will be updated with the latest information as it becomes available. **Call the Goodwill Goes Green Hotline: 404-420-1161 to sign up for a specific orientation session.**

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>. Additional funding will be sought to make this training available to other communities at a future date.

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 4,169 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?: Atlanta Technical College, DeKalb Technical College, DeKalb Workforce Development, Georgia Trade Up, Greater Atlanta Home Builder Association, Handcrafted Homes, Inc., Housing Authority of DeKalb County, Radiance Solar, Southface Energy Institute and St. Philip AME Church 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).

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

If you are a member of the media and have questions about this program, please contact Elaine Armstrong at earmstrong@ging.org.