

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MERS Goodwill and Goodwill MOKAN Announce Merger to Strengthen Mission and Expand Services

St. Louis, MO – September 2, 2025 — MERS Missouri Goodwill and Goodwill of Western Missouri and Eastern Kansas announced today that their boards of directors have voted to merge the two organizations into a single entity under the name **MERS Goodwill**. This merger will unite the strengths and resources of both organizations to expand services, enhance programs, and create greater impact across the communities they serve.

“Our mission has always been to change lives through the power of work,” said Mark Arens, CEO of MERS Goodwill. “This merger is exciting because by joining forces, we are combining resources to reach more people, offer more opportunities, and ensure long-term sustainability for the critical programs our communities depend on. This is truly a moment to be celebrated.”

The merger will allow MERS Goodwill to:

- Strengthen its mission by increasing the effectiveness of employment, training, and community services.
- Expand reach and improve access to programs throughout Missouri and Kansas.
- Streamline operations and stabilize funding, ensuring that front-line services remain strong and resilient.

The consolidation process will take place in phases over the coming months, but one thing is clear from the start: the missions of both organizations are not only aligned but actively working together to expand opportunities. One example of this collaboration is the planned opening of a **seventh Excel Adult High School in the Kansas City region**, providing adults a second chance to earn their high school diploma and pursue brighter futures.

“While this is a significant step forward, the heart of our mission remains unchanged,” added Mike Sinnett, CEO of Goodwill MOKAN. “This merger is about creating more opportunities for individuals and families while building a stronger, more sustainable future for our organization.”

The newly merged MERS Goodwill will continue to operate retail stores, donation centers, and a wide range of mission-based programs. With increased resources and a broader network, the organization is poised to expand career development opportunities, strengthen community partnerships, and impact even more lives throughout the region.

About MERS Goodwill

MERS Goodwill is a nonprofit organization dedicated to changing lives through the power of work. With services that include employment training, career counseling, education support, and community programs, MERS Goodwill empowers individuals and strengthens communities across Missouri and beyond.

About Goodwill of Western Missouri and Eastern Kansas

MoKan Goodwill is a nonprofit organization that serves the Greater Kansas City community and surrounding areas. The organization's mission is to empower people to discover their potential and adapt for the future through the power of work. All of MoKan Goodwill's programs and services are available to clients at no cost.

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