

Learn About...

Whitehall Retail Partnership Program

What is the Program?

Consumers in the Whitehall Retail Partnership learn the skills needed to work a retail operation. They hang clothing, stock the sales floor, learn to display clothing or wares and how to rotate product from the sales floor, and help customers with donations, along with the daily housekeeping needs for the restroom and lunchroom. The desired outcome is for them to eventually get a job in the retail industry. Currently five of the consumers have been hired by the store as employees.

Who Does the Program Serve?

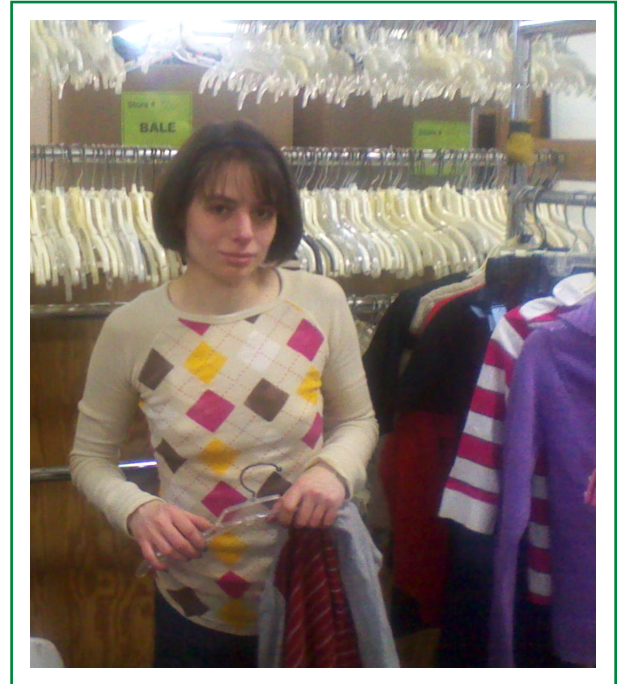
The Partnership serves adult individuals with disabilities and in need of transition services. There are now five supported employees, four trainees and the partnership is also open to other populations interested in retail.

How Does the Program Benefit Participants and the Community?

The participants learn the skills needed to work in the retail industry, along with the most important aspect, which is customer service. The consumers at this store all live in the South Hills area, Mt. Lebanon, West Mifflin and surrounding communities, and most have worked here from 9-25 years.

A Personal Story:

Marla has been with Goodwill since she started as a student in 2002. She then moved to adult services in the Whitehall Retail Partnership as a trainee. She worked three summers for the Blackberry Meadows Farm partnership and returned to Whitehall to continue her training. Marla can hang anywhere from 500-700 garments daily depending on the supply. When clothing donations are low, she contacts her friends and family from Pittsburgh to New York and urges them to donate, so that she has something to hang.



Special Program Accomplishments:

Two of the Whitehall Retail Partnership trainees are graduates from Goodwill's Transition Services Program and one supported employee has been with Goodwill for 25 years.