

Goodwill Appoints Director of Southwest Florida MicroEnterprise project

By Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida, Inc.

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A. Elliott Rittenhouse, Jr. has joined the Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida team as the agency's new Director of MicroEnterprise. Rittenhouse will be responsible for overseeing the new Southwest Florida MicroEnterprise Project.

Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida recently named A. Elliott Rittenhouse, Jr. Director of MicroEnterprise, a newly created position within Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida.

Rittenhouse will be responsible for the administration and coordination of the Southwest Florida MicroEnterprise Project, a partnership of several local organizations. He will provide leadership to direct reports, clients, program participants, and volunteers associated with the program.

The program will provide training and some funding for individuals with low-to-moderate-incomes and other disadvantages who plan to start a small business. The program will require an entrance examination and accepted participants will undergo a rigorous 12 week training curriculum.

The SWFL MicroEnterprise Project is administered by Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida, Inc (<http://www.goodwillswfl.org>), and funded through the Southwest Florida Community Foundation. Other program partners include the Southwest Florida Enterprise Center, SCORE, and ACCION USA.

Rittenhouse brings more than 20 years of experience in business development in both the public and private sector. He was the founding director of the State of Maryland's Small Business Development Center Network and served as vice president of Perfectiv, Inc., an international organizational development and performance management technology consulting firm. Rittenhouse is also the founder of Rittenhouse & Associates, a consulting firm focusing on performance improvement and human resource development.

Rittenhouse earned a Bachelor of Science from Widener University and a Master of Science from the University of Pennsylvania. He has also pursued doctorate level post-graduate studies in Organizational Leadership at Nova Southeastern University.

Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida, Inc. (<http://www.goodwillswfl.org>) serves Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Hendry and Glades counties, and helps people with disabilities and other disadvantages overcome their barriers to employment and independence. Programs supported by Goodwill include Job-Link, career training and placement, the L.I.F.E. Academy Charter School, income-subsidized housing for senior citizens and people with disabilities, and others. More information is available at <http://www.goodwillswfl.org/microenterprise.htm>

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About Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida: Goodwill operates 24 thrift stores in SW Florida to support its mission of removing barriers to independence. Programs include income-sensitive housing, career placement assistance, the L.I.F.E. Academy Charter School, Four Wheels for Work, and others.

Category Business, Non-profit, Loans

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