

Goodwill opens new office in Georgetown

The Goodwill organization for Hamilton and Halton has opened four offices in Halton to meet a mandate from Service Canada, a newly renamed division of Human Resources Development Canada, to provide employment services throughout Halton Region.

Paul Chapin, president of Goodwill, said the one-year contract with Service Canada substantially expands Goodwill's role in helping people find jobs.

"Up to now our employment efforts have been principally focused on helping people with special barriers to find employment. We are now committed to providing assistance and guidance to people

within the mainstream community throughout their job search," Chapin said.

"Our mandate under this contract is to provide a client and employer matching service with the objective of securing at least 600 jobs for people in Halton."

Goodwill Director Kathy Badgley, who is responsible for Goodwill's employment activities in Halton, said the contract has led to the opening of new offices in Burlington, Oakville and Milton, together with the sharing of space at a Georgetown office at 184 Guelph Street (1-866-260-1175).

"We have hired 14 new professional and support staff to help us achieve success, both in terms of

assisting people secure jobs and in developing relationships with over 2,000 employers in Halton. Our new facilities will enable us to provide job seekers with access to job postings, computers, fax machines and photocopiers as well as job search support from staff," Badgley said.

"Although we have been operation for only about six weeks, we have already placed 65 people. We are now dealing with a steady flow of people seeking employment and we are providing assistance that ranges from helping people create resumes and craft effective cover letters to job search counselling, including ways to identify employment opportunities, interviewing skills and weekly goal setting," she said.

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