



**Proclamation Declaring September 26, 2025 as “Goodwill of North Georgia Day”
In Recognition of Their 100th Year of Service**

Whereas, *Goodwill of North Georgia* has proudly served the citizens of Georgia for 100 years, fostering hope, opportunity and community strength through its mission to put people to work; and

Whereas, in 1925, a group of civic-minded Atlantans founded Goodwill Industries of Atlanta. From its humble beginnings in a small house with only a horse and wagon, the organization experienced steady growth and resilience. Today, Goodwill of North Georgia proudly operates one retail location and career center in Habersham County, continuing its century-long tradition of service and unwavering commitment to the local community; and

Whereas, the organization currently operates 70 retail stores, 14 career centers, a mobile career center, and more than 40 attended donation centers throughout North Georgia. It employs more than 3,600 team members, diverts over 40 million pounds of material from landfills each year, welcomes more than 7 million guests annually, and has served more than 50 million donors throughout its century of service; and

Whereas, through its strategic approach of “*A Job, A Better Job, A Career*,” Goodwill of North Georgia established the Cornelia Career Center in 2015 at 308 Habersham Hills Circle, where for the past decade it has served as a cornerstone of workforce development. The center has helped more than 6,500 Habersham County residents secure meaningful employment in industries such as forklift operations, welding, customer service management, and phlebotomy, while also equipping more than 13,000 jobseekers with critical skills including résumé building, interview preparation, computer literacy, and soft-skills development. The Cornelia Career Center continues to be a vital contributor to the economic growth and prosperity of Habersham County; and

Whereas, throughout its 100 years of service, Goodwill of North Georgia has remained committed to innovation and forward-thinking workforce development. With tailored programs for entrepreneurs, high school students, veterans, and individuals with disabilities, the organization continues to meet the evolving needs of the modern workforce. Its strategic goals include serving an additional 155,000 job seekers by 2030, expanding its retail footprint, and deepening its sustainability efforts to further its positive impact on Georgia’s economy and environment; and

Now, Therefore, I, Jimmy Tench, Chairman, do hereby proclaim **Friday, September 26, 2025** as “**Goodwill of North Georgia Day**” in recognition of the organization’s years of unwavering dedication to enhancing lives and fostering prosperity in Habersham County and 100 years of service to the state of Georgia.

Let us honor and celebrate this remarkable legacy and look forward to a future filled with promise and opportunity for all.

Jimmy Tench, Commission Chairman

Brandalin Carnes, County Clerk