

# Texas Workforce Press Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Stripes LLC Partners With Goodwill Industries of South Texas for \$379,942 Job-Training Grant**

AUSTIN — Stripes LLC, a retail chain, has partnered with Goodwill Industries of South Texas to provide job training for 235 new jobs using a \$379,942 grant from the Texas Workforce Commission's (TWC) Self-Sufficiency Fund.

The grant will be used to create new sales associates positions. Upon completion of training, workers will earn an average hourly wage of \$6.25.

“Through this grant, workers will receive the training they need to become more successful in the workplace,” state Rep. Solomon Ortiz Jr. said. “I applaud the hard work put forth by Stripes, Goodwill Industries and TWC.”

“Responding to the workforce needs of Texas’ employers is one of our top priorities, and the Self-Sufficiency Fund is one of the best methods we have for doing that,” said TWC Chair Diane Rath. “With this grant, area employers gain a custom-trained workforce, workers learn valuable skills, and the community benefits through added jobs and economic development.”

In Fiscal Year 2007, Self-Sufficiency Fund grants created or upgraded 1,540 jobs, which paid an average hourly wage of \$11.20 upon completion of the training. The grants assisted 28 Texas employers with their customized training needs. More than \$6.2 million has been appropriated for the Self-Sufficiency Fund for the 2008-09 biennium.

Employers seeking more information about the Self-Sufficiency Fund may visit the TWC Web site at [www.texasworkforce.org](http://www.texasworkforce.org).

Goodwill Industries of South Texas contact: Tess Castilleja at (361) 884-4068, ext. 127, or [tcastilleja@goodwillsouthtexas.com](mailto:tcastilleja@goodwillsouthtexas.com)

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*The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the programs it offers in unison with its network of local workforce development boards, call (512) 463-8556 or visit [www.texasworkforce.org](http://www.texasworkforce.org).*

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