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OFFICIAL NEWS RELEASE

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Sheriff Teams with Goodwill on "Transitioning into the Workplace" Pilot Program for Local Inmates

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[Reidsville, N.C.]— On February 7th 2017, the Rockingham County Sheriff's Office, in collaboration with Triad Goodwill's Eden Community Resource Center, began their Detention Facility pilot program "**TRANSITIONING INTO THE WORKFORCE**".

The program was opened up to interested inmates who were serving a sentence of in the Rockingham County Detention Facility and focuses on teaching individuals how to search out job opportunities, properly fill out job applications, interview techniques, and other skills to help them secure employment after their release.

Triad Goodwill's Eden Community Resource Center Coordinator, Laurie Suthard, met with students in the Detention Facility twice a week for four weeks. Participation in the program is voluntary. Six inmates who signed up for the program graduated last week. For confidentiality purposes, the names and photos of the participants are not being provided. The graduates each received a certificate they can share with potential employers and each seemed very pleased with their accomplishment. The graduates are encouraged to contact Ms. Suthard upon their release from the Detention Facility for follow-up assistance with job placement and resources through Goodwill Industries.

There was no cost to taxpayers associated with implementing this program, and the hope is that individuals that graduate from the program will use the techniques taught to enter the workforce and become productive members of the community and NOT end up back in the care of the Detention Facility. The program will be offered at regular intervals throughout the year for new inmates wishing to take advantage of the program.

"One at the time", said Sheriff Sam Page, "that's how we reach people. That's how we make a difference. I'm very excited about what we are doing here and our partnership with Ms. Suthard and Goodwill. I believe we can make a difference in the lives of those who are entrusted into our Detention's Center's care and I believe it is our obligation to try."



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