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Redstone Highlands Introduces Culinary Program for Students with Disabilities
Redstone partners with Goodwill to provide employment to students

GREENSBURG, Pa. (July 8, 2013) – Redstone Highlands and Goodwill of Southwestern PA have partnered to provide culinary training and employment opportunities for students with disabilities.

The Culinary Pathways program teaches students skills for a future career in dining services. Each student is trained in safety, sanitation, cooking and ServSafe, a food handler program sponsored by the National Restaurant Association.

The program is divided into six-week segments, which may take up to a year to complete. At its conclusion, all students will have the opportunity to take the ServSafe certification test and are then eligible to apply for an open position at Redstone Highlands in its dining services department.

To be eligible for Culinary Pathways, the student must be a participant in the Transition WORKS! program. Transition WORKS! is designed to provide occupational skills training for youth (ages 16-21) who are experiencing barriers to employment due to disabilities. As a sponsoring employer, Redstone has provided a variety of job opportunities and skills training in its dietary aid and nursing and rehabilitation departments, among others.

“We are seeing great success with the Transition WORKS! program on our campuses,” said Jim Hodge, vice president of human resources at Redstone Highlands. “Some of the participants have shown a keen interest in a particular department. So we wanted to

extend the program and make it more specialized, allowing students to delve deeper in their training.”

In Westmoreland County, students from Norwin, Hempfield, Yough, Penn Trafford, Latrobe and Greensburg-Salem school districts are involved with the Transition WORKS! program.

About Redstone Highlands Senior Living Communities

Redstone Highlands is a Christian, non-profit continuing care retirement community (CCRC) with campuses in Greensburg, Murrysville, and North Huntingdon, including Colonial Villa estates at its North Huntingdon community. Redstone Highlands is dedicated to providing living alternatives and high-quality services that help to meet the changing needs of the community. Serving more than 600 residents annually, Redstone Highlands is the region’s largest Continuing Care Retirement Community, offering services ranging from independent living to skilled nursing assistance. For more information, please visit www.redstonehighlands.org.

About Goodwill SWPA

(www.goodwillswpa.org; [facebook.com/goodwillswpa](https://www.facebook.com/goodwillswpa); twitter.com/gwswpa)
Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania is a diversified human service agency that is supported, in part, by its network of retail stores and other not-for-profit businesses. It serves all of southwestern Pennsylvania and manages several affiliate units and special-purpose entities, including Goodwill of Fayette County; Goodwill of North Central West Virginia; Goodwill Commercial Services, Inc.; and Goodwill Housing. Goodwill Pittsburgh operates 30 retail stores and several other businesses to help fund programs and to provide job training and related services to help clients overcome various barriers to employment. It has over 1,000 employees and in 2012 provided services to nearly 66,000 individuals.

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