



NEWS RELEASE

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Barista Training Pathway Out of Houselessness

FORT WORTH — The Presbyterian Night Shelter announces its new barista training program called Greater Grounds opening this August. The program is a paid, employer-ready pathway for those struggling with unemployment as a barrier due to houselessness.

The program blends hands-on cafe training with supportive services to produce job ready baristas. Participants will be scheduled 15-20 hours per week for barista and professionalism training for the three-to-four-week program duration. Compensation is provided at \$10 per hour with four to six participants each cohort.

The first week will cover foundations like workplace readiness, customer service, time management, and cafe safety. The second week focuses on core barista skills like espresso preparation, drink building, sales systems, and workflow efficiency. The third and fourth week address real world practices with live shifts, customer interactions, inventory basics, and performing opening and closing tasks.

The training program supports people facing common barriers to employment such as gaps in work history, limited transportation, and lack of access to industry-specific training. The Greater Grounds initiative aims to promote professionalism and accountability, equipping participants with skills, compensation, and a pathway to employment to promote professional identity.

This program offers supportive services to increase retention like weekly case management check-ins, transportation assistance, work attire, equipment support, conflict resolution, professional coaching, and mental health services provided as needed. Additionally, entry level service jobs offer strong employment potential, but employers often struggle with turnover and insufficient skill readiness.

“This program directly addresses both of those challenges to create stability in participants and provide skilled employees to employers,” VP of Workforce and Career Development Daryl R. Davis II said.

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Each participant who completes the program receives paid work experience, industry relevant barista skills, a certificate of completion, letter of recommendation, and a guaranteed interview with Greater Grounds or a partner cafe.

“This is a workforce pipeline that will produce measurable economic and social return,” Davis said.

About The Greater Good Collective

The Greater Good Collective is a Fort Worth based organization creating various pathways out of houselessness. Launched by The Presbyterian Night Shelter, the collective’s mission is to provide employee training, community support, economic return, and build professional identity for those experiencing houselessness. The Greater Good Collective runs a thrift shop called The Greater Grab, a donation center called Greater Give opening this June, and a boutique named Greater Goods, all using different services to serve the collective’s mission. For more information, visit TheGreaterGoodCollective.org or contact at info@TheGreaterGoodCollective.org.

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