



**Remarks of Gregory W. Powell
Harold Alfond Foundation**

Grand Opening of the Renovated and Expanded Charles E. Moody School

**Good Will-Hinckley
Hinckley, Maine
September 30, 2015**

Good afternoon. On behalf of the Harold Alfond Foundation, fellow trustees Bill and Peter Alfond, Travis Cummings and I are pleased to join you on this terrific occasion. What a beautiful school! What wonderful changes!

Harold Alfond believed in teamwork, and teamwork is on display everywhere here this afternoon, as it has been many times in Good Will's history. Today, our thanks go to many teammates and, at the risk of leaving some out, let me send special thanks to Chairman Jack Moore and the entire Board of Good Will for their hard work and leadership; to Bill Brown and the members of the MeANS board; to President Rob Moody and past leaders Rich Abramson and Glenn Cummings; to the faculty and staff here at Good Will for their fine efforts; to Good Will's students and their parents; to Capital Campaign leaders Governor Baldacci and Senator Snowe, and the many donors to the campaign; to Larry Sterrs of the Unity Foundation; and, of course, to Harriman Architects and general contractor, Landry/French. Our thanks to you all for a job well done. Harold Alfond loved team work, and this has been a great team effort.

I am honored to share a few words with you this afternoon. My mother-in-law is visiting, and when she heard that I would be asked to speak, she had some advice. (Doesn't she always.) Keep it short, Greg, she said. You may think you're a genius and have great words of wisdom for all of those nice folks at Good Will, but you're no Socrates.... and don't forget what happened to him....

So no philosophy today. Instead, let's simply stick to the facts: the 126-year history of Good Will; the vision and compassionate leadership of Reverend Hinckley; the grief-driven generosity of Charles Moody's sisters, who donated his estate to build the

Moody school whose expansion we celebrate today; the more than 6,000 young people whose lives have been saved and shaped by the great work done here.

In Good Will's 126-year history, there have been ups and downs, but Good Will's leaders and supporters—a great mission their focus—have always found a way forward. So, in 2009, when Good Will closed the doors of its school for lack of funding and the pressures of our stressed economy took their toll, you went to work.

Harold Alfond loved to say, “Don't tell me, show me.”

And today, as we mark and celebrate the opening of the expanded Moody School, there is much to show for the great work you have done. So let's take a few moments and reflect on just some of the accomplishments.

- The MeANS school at Good Will has earned its place in our state's history as the very first Charter High School;
- Caring and talented faculty and staff have been hired;
- The budget is balanced;
- Your boards and their leadership continue to strengthen, bolstered by committed and hardworking volunteers;
- Student enrollment has grown more than 100% to over 150 young people, and in the future will grow to over 200;
- The Cottages are once again home to students;
- The natural science curriculum is robust and growing, attracting more and more students from across the state;
- The Glenn Stratton Learning Center has continued its excellent service to students with diverse needs and backgrounds;
- The College Step-Up Program is up and running to help students transition from high school to college;
- The unique partnership with your neighbor, the Kennebec Valley Community College, is growing stronger, as high school students here can see and feel that higher education is part of this place and within their grasp;
- A strategic plan is in place and, with it, exciting new partnerships and opportunities in the making;
- And last, but not least, is this fabulous expansion of the Moody School—an expansion that will serve more students this year and still more in the years ahead.

These great strides did not come easily. But along the way, the Harold Alfond Foundation has been honored to support each step with funding as goals and conditions

designed to move the institution forward in a financially-responsible way are met. All in service of Good Will's great mission.

So if Harold Alfond were with us here today, he would be tipping his cap and saying "well done". But if he were here today, he would *also* be thinking. He would be thinking: "This is a great team on a great mission and we ain't seen nothing yet."

For 126 years, Good Will-Hinckley has provided a home and educational opportunity to Maine youth who needed a fresh start, a different way of learning. It has saved, enriched, improved, and inspired more than 6,000 young lives. And it has done so with the support and leadership of people like you. And it is because of you—the members of this great team—that we are here today, re-opening a new and improved Moody School.

So from the Harold Alfond Foundation, let me close and say thank you. And to all here today at this ribbon cutting, congratulations!