

## **Thrift Store Grand Opening Speech for Dr. John Coli**

Thank you for being with us today. I appreciate your willingness to join us in the grand opening of this new endeavor by Sisters of Mercy Services in Western North Carolina.

The Sisters of Mercy Thrift Store was started because we saw a need in our community that we wanted to fill. We wanted to provide quality, reasonably priced merchandise to the people of Buncombe County. And we wanted to provide a place for people to donate their belongings that they no longer needed. But most of all, we wanted to support the primary mission of the Sisters of Mercy in Western North Carolina—to provide cost-effective, quality healthcare to the people of our community, regardless of their ability to pay.

The proceeds from sales at the Thrift Store will be channeled into our local foundation, the McAuley Foundation. A large portion of that money will find its way to the Sisters of Mercy Urgent Care Centers so that we can continue to serve the healthcare needs of the needy and underprivileged in our community.

This is a challenging time in healthcare. And through the efforts of the Sisters of Mercy Thrift Store and its sister organizations, we will be able to provide treatment for injuries and illnesses to everyone who enters our doors.

Thank you.