



## For Immediate Release

For more information, please contact:

Sara Turley  
Public Relations Specialist  
602.535.4041 direct line  
602.369.0672 mobile  
[sara.turley@goodwillaz.org](mailto:sara.turley@goodwillaz.org)

## Arizona Assistance to the Working Poor Tax Credit provides support for Goodwill, community support and dollar-for-dollar tax credit

### Goodwill of Central Arizona

#### Overview

Provides job skills training and career services for those with vocational disadvantages—including physical and emotional barriers, welfare dependency, illiteracy and homelessness

One of 184 independently operating Goodwill organizations worldwide

Serves Maricopa, Yuma, La Paz, Gila and portions of Pinal and Yavapai Counties

Positively impacts the community and individual lives by helping those with disadvantages obtain self-sufficiency and economic independence

#### 2008 Highlights

More than 19,000 youth and adults benefited from career and training services

Almost 2,000 employment opportunities were secured to date

39 retail stores operating throughout central Arizona

More than 900,000 donors

**PHOENIX (November 25, 2008)** — Goodwill of Central Arizona's job training and employment programs for Arizona youth and adults are needed more than ever in this time of economic uncertainty. These programs are primarily funded through Goodwill's retail thrift stores. However, Arizona taxpayers can help fund these vital community programs by paying part of their tax liability directly to Goodwill.

"Through the Arizona Assistance to the Working Poor Tax Credit, Arizonans can directly help change someone's life as well as contribute to the economic vitality of our communities," said Jim Burns, Chief Financial Officer for Goodwill of Central Arizona. "Taxpayers simply pay Goodwill what they would normally pay the state."

Similar to the well-known school tax credit, taxpayers can give up to \$200 for a single person or \$400 for a married couple to a charitable organization such as Goodwill to help the working poor become more economically independent. The Arizona Charitable Tax Credit for organizations that serve the working poor is different from the tax credit available for supporting private school tuition and public school extracurricular activities. Taxpayers are eligible to receive dollar-for-dollar tax credits for all three.

In order to take advantage of the Arizona Assistance to the Working Poor Tax Credit and help change lives, taxpayers should itemize their deductions and have deducted charitable contributions on their Arizona state income tax return at least once in order to establish a baseline year and amount. Once a baseline year is established for charitable giving (as early as 1996), taxpayers then increase their charitable giving over their baseline year amount. Checks can be made payable to Goodwill of Central Arizona.

Goodwill provides employment services to Arizona youth and adults with disadvantaging conditions and barriers to employment such as illiteracy, disabilities and economic barriers. Goodwill believes that through the power of work, individuals are empowered and families are enriched, thus improving our communities.

For more information regarding how to utilize the Arizona Assistance to the Working Poor Tax Credit, please visit [www.goodwillaz.org](http://www.goodwillaz.org).

Celebrating 60 years in the Valley, Goodwill of Central Arizona is one of the oldest and largest nonprofit agencies in Arizona. Our commitment is to "Put People to Work" throughout Arizona by providing job skills training, education and career services to those with vocational disadvantages that can include physical and emotional barriers, welfare dependency, illiteracy and age. In 2007, we served 11,000 youth and adults on their quest toward self-sufficiency and placed more than 4,600 into competitive employment. For more information on Goodwill of Central Arizona visit [www.goodwillaz.org](http://www.goodwillaz.org).