



For Immediate Release

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As unemployment rises, Goodwill helps people find jobs

Goodwill of Central Arizona

Overview

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

One of 184 independently operating Goodwill organizations worldwide

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

90 cents of every dollar goes to our Commitment

Positively impacts the community and individual lives by helping those with disadvantages obtain self-sufficiency through education and the power of work

2008 Highlights

More than 23,000 youth and adults benefited from employment and training services

More than 5,100 employment opportunities were secured

39 retail stores operating throughout central Arizona

More than 900,000 donors

PHOENIX (April 3, 2009) — The Bureau of Labor Statistics announced today that the nation's unemployment rate rose to 8.5 percent. Amidst a difficult economic outlook, Goodwill of Central Arizona remains committed to helping people gain employment. As Arizona's leading nonprofit provider of employment training and job placement services, Goodwill knows that it takes a comprehensive approach to help people find and keep good jobs.

"Goodwill is trending toward another record breaking year as far as individuals coming through our doors looking for employment assistance," says Jim Teter, President and CEO for Goodwill of Central Arizona. "During these tough economic times, Goodwill can help people obtain new skills and gain the self-confidence and sense of dignity that work can give."

In central Arizona, Goodwill helps youth and adults with disabilities, those who lack education or work experience and other job seekers earn paychecks to support themselves and their families. Goodwill's workforce development staff provides individuals with the necessary job training and support so that he or she can be successful in their careers. Goodwill helps people find jobs in a variety of fields including administrative positions, retail and healthcare.

"When people donate and shop at Goodwill, they make an economic investment in their communities," says Teter. "Ninety cents of every dollar we generate through our stores fund programs to help workers become productive, taxpaying citizens."

Goodwill of Central Arizona is ready to support the nation's unemployed and continue its 62-year tradition of helping people who are having a hard time finding meaningful work.

With more than 60 years of serving the community, 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 training and employment services to those with vocational disadvantages that can include physical and emotional barriers, welfare dependency, illiteracy and age. In 2008, we served almost 23,000 youth and adults on their quest toward self-sufficiency and secured more than 5,100 employment opportunities. For more information on Goodwill of Central Arizona, visit www.goodwillaz.org.