



For Immediate Release

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Goodwill of Central Arizona reports record numbers during Goodwill Industries Week

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 30, 2009) — In this tough economy, Goodwill of Central Arizona is working harder than ever to meet record demands for its job training and employment services. May 3-9 marks Goodwill Industries Week, a time to celebrate the outstanding community support received by Goodwill, thus allowing the organization to make positive changes in its clients' lives every day.

Already this year, Goodwill has seen more than 32,000 visits to its Career Centers and provided services to 11,000 individuals through Goodwill's programs. Additionally, despite the lack of available jobs, 711 clients have been placed into employment opportunities.

"When you give to Goodwill, you are helping people who lack education or work experience, those who have a physical or mental disability, and others having a hard time finding employment," said Jim Teter, President and CEO for Goodwill of Central Arizona. "We funnel 90 cents of every dollar generated in our stores into services to help people overcome challenges to employment."

Goodwill continues to try and give a "hand up" to central Arizonans who seek its services by selling donations of gently-used clothing and household goods to fund its 36 human services programs that deal with employment barriers ranging from illiteracy to disabilities. Goodwill's programs are designed to help individuals prepare for and find work. Such programs include those geared toward youth and preparing them to be successful at employment and those aimed at helping low-income seniors re-enter the workforce by placing them in paid training with community partner organizations. For more information about specific Goodwill programs, please visit www.goodwillaz.org.

As we celebrate Goodwill Industries week here locally, we want to thank central Arizonans for their generous, continued support. Through their donations – they are helping to revitalize individual lives and our local communities.

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.