Goodwill of Central Arizona is one of 169 autonomous Goodwill organizations serving North America. Each organization is governed by a local, volunteer Board of Directors and is dedicated to serving individuals with disabilities and other work-related barriers with the opportunity to achieve their highest levels of personal and economic independence. We are headquartered in Phoenix, Arizona and serve Maricopa, Yuma, La Paz, Gila, and portions of Pinal and Yavapai Counties and rank 10th in North America in total operating revenue.

Our human services programs provide job skills training, education, life skills and employment services, as well as job placement opportunities and post-employment support services. Additionally, as an extension of our Education Mission, we opened Escademe charter high school, one of seven charter schools within the Goodwill network. In 2007, we served almost 11,000 individuals and placed more than 4,600 in competitive employment through these services.

Goodwill of Central Arizona’s Commercial Services division provided services to businesses and government institutions in the Valley and statewide. While this division earned more than $2 million in revenue to support our mission, our primary goal for operating Commercial Services is to provide employment opportunities to persons with documented disabilities who might not otherwise have an opportunity at competitive employment and independence.

The revenue from our retail operations is our primary fundraising mechanism in support of our mission. A total of 39 retail store locations generated approximately $50 million in revenue in 2007. Our retail operations ranked 5th out of all Goodwill organizations in the United States.
Innovate to Succeed

For individuals seeking self-sufficiency through the power of work, Goodwill has long been an organization to provide resources and hope. In light of those seeking help navigating the challenges in their life comes from a variety of sources. For one Valley mother, inspiration has come from her daughter. Estrella Lopez was first referred to Goodwill of Central Arizona in 2001 by Home Base Youth Services. Through our efforts—135 million pounds of goods are kept from entering landfills in Arizona; 250 students at our Career Centers assisted more than 39,000 individuals into jobs. Our Mission is to help individuals in need understand what our Mission is, how we achieve our Mission and how it changes lives everyday. Our community partners, friends and neighbors always ask if we are a retail store with a service component or a service agency with a retail store function? Well, we are both. Our Mission is realized through Retail and Services. Our Retail stores not only employ thousands of Arizonans, they also serve as a training ground for our program participants to learn real-life work skills. Our Services Mission is realized through our education and training outreach to Arizona which need our help to navigate the challenges in their lives while becoming self-sufficient through the power of work. So, Goodwill is not only a great philosophy, it’s becoming a way of life as we work together with our local communities to make them stronger while helping the residents become more independent and the economic foundation more vibrant.

We are especially grateful for our customers, community partners and friends. Your generous material donations and overall support of our Mission helps individuals in need and helps us achieve our Mission to Put People to Work by eliminating their barriers to success; barriers such as literacy, basic skills deficiencies or a disability.

We pride ourselves in the transparency of our operations and the positive impact of our services on local communities. We are proud to present our Annual Report and through its message, we hope to strengthen community awareness of the Goodwill way.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to positively impacting central Arizona for years to come!

Sincerely,

Sara Gordon, Board Chair

Jennifer, President & CEO

Our Mission

At Goodwill of Central Arizona, our mission is simple: We Put People to Work. Donations from the community provide our stores with products to sell. Retail revenue then supports workforce programs that offer job training, education and career services to youth and adults seeking self-sufficiency. Through our efforts—approximately 4,600 individual employment services and we enrolled 250 students at our charter high school, Academie, which was our highest enrollment yet!...