



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

### **CELEBRATE THE SEASON WITH AN END-OF-THE-YEAR TAX WRITE-OFF**

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December 23, 2015 – Did the holiday season leave your wallet a bit lighter? You may be able to get a little money back from Uncle Sam by donating gently used clothing and other items to Goodwill Southern California (GSC) for an end-of-year tax deduction.

By cleaning out your closets and garages, you get more than a write-off. Goodwill uses the proceeds from your donations for its job training programs and employment services for individuals with disabilities, veterans, at-risk youth and community members who lack education and work experience and are facing challenges in finding employment.

“End the holiday season and start the New Year off right by making an investment in your local community,” said Craig Smith, President and CEO of Goodwill Southern California. “Every donation to Goodwill Southern California will help make 2016 a better year for thousands of individuals who need job training, career services and other community-based employment programs.”

GSC accepts clothing, household items and E-waste (anything with a cord or battery - working or not) – even those holiday gifts that weren’t quite right! Donations are collected in 80 retail stores and over 40 donation centers throughout Los Angeles (N. of Rosecrans), Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. To find the nearest Goodwill Southern California location, donors may visit [www.goodwillsocal.org/donate/donation-center-locator](http://www.goodwillsocal.org/donate/donation-center-locator).

Donations are tax deductible, to the extent the law permits. Donors interested in claiming tax deductions should keep itemized lists of their donations. Donors determine each item’s value. Generally, an item’s value should be based on fair market value – what the item would sell for in a thrift store. Goodwill provides receipts to donors at its drop-off sites. For general guidelines, visit Goodwill Industries International’s valuation guide at [http://www.goodwill.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/12/Donation\\_Valuation\\_Guide.pdf](http://www.goodwill.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/12/Donation_Valuation_Guide.pdf) and [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). Consult with your tax preparer for additional details.

To schedule filming at a Goodwill Southern California Retail Store or Donation Center, please contact Marla Eby at [meby@goodwillsocal.org](mailto:meby@goodwillsocal.org).

**About Goodwill Southern California**

*Transforming lives through the power of work, Goodwill Southern California (GSC) serves people with disabilities or other vocational challenges, as well as businesses, by providing education, training, work experience and job placement services. Each year, GSC prepares and places thousands of individuals into sustainable employment through programs and services offered at three campuses, Career Resource Centers, WorkSource Centers, Deaf, Youth and Veteran Employment Programs throughout Los Angeles (north of Rosecrans Ave.), Riverside and San Bernardino counties. GSC supports its mission with proceeds generated from 80 retail stores and 44 attended donation centers. Charity Navigator, an independent charity evaluator has awarded GSC its highest four-star ranking for 13 consecutive years; largely due to the fact GSC spends 93 percent of its budget on programs and services. Committed to caring for the earth, in 2014 GSC diverted 100 million pounds of reusable or recyclable goods from landfills, Goodwill is Good For Everyone! For more information about Goodwill Southern California, please call (888) 4-GOODWILL or visit [www.GoodwillSoCal.org](http://www.GoodwillSoCal.org).*

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