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GOODWILL SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS TO HOLD 2nd ANNUAL VETERAN STAND DOWN EVENT IN LOS ANGELES

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Los Angeles, CA, May 30, 2014 - Goodwill Southern California (GSC), in partnership with Mayor Eric Garcetti, will hold their second annual Veteran Stand Down from 8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. on Friday, June 6 and Saturday, June 7 at Goodwill's Los Angeles Campus (342 N. San Fernando Road, Los Angeles 90031).

A Stand Down is a military term designating that a combat unit is temporarily moved out of the field and back to base camp for rest and rehabilitation. It is now also used to describe organized community events for at-risk and homeless veterans and their families. The Stand Down will offer a variety of free services including meals, clothing, haircuts and makeovers, health screenings, VA and Social Security benefits counseling, and referrals to other services such as housing, employment and substance abuse treatment for some 500 attendees. The event will also offer services and support for homeless female veterans and veterans with families.

"The 2014 Veteran Stand Down is an opportunity for us to serve our veterans who have done so much to serve us," said Mayor Eric Garcetti. "I'm proud to partner with Southern California Goodwill to provide these essential services to our veteran community."

More than three dozen community partners will participate, including the Veterans Administration, the Employment Development Department, the Department of Public Social Services, Clinica Romero, People Assisting The Homeless (PATH), The Salvation Army – Bell Shelter, Operation Gratitude, Veterans and Loved Ones Recovery (VALOR), Midnight Mission, Legal Aid Foundation L.A., New Directions for Veterans, UCLA FOCUS Reintegration Services and Marinello Schools of Beauty. Other unique services will include yoga, tai chi, children's activities, a pet area, a community collaborative *Wishing Wall* where veterans and partners can express their hopes and wishes for themselves and other veterans, and a communications tent where homeless veterans can call or e-mail family and friends.

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, seven Career Resource Centers, three 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 79 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 2013 GSC diverted 67.4 million pounds of reusable or recyclable goods from landfills. Goodwill is Good For Everyone! 888-4-GOODWILL
www.GoodwillSoCal.org.

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