



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Media Contact:**

Marla Eby – Director, Marketing & Media Relations

(323) 539-2104

[meby@goodwillsocal.org](mailto:meby@goodwillsocal.org)

GOODWILL SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CELEBRATES ANNUAL GOODWILL AWARENESS WEEK  
**When You Shop at Goodwill, You Are Helping Build a Future for People in your  
Community**

**Los Angeles, CA, May 7, 2018** — From May 7–13, Goodwill Southern California will celebrate Goodwill Industries Week and the mission impact its work has provided in Los Angeles County, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties. For over 100 years, Goodwill Southern California has provided skills training, access to credentials and certifications, employment placement and job training, and community-based services for individuals facing challenges to finding employment, including individuals with disabilities and disadvantages, veterans and military families, older job seekers, and young adults.

This year's theme for the commemoration is Celebrating Our Communities, and Goodwill will focus on showing its appreciation for the communities who support its mission through donating, shopping, volunteering, financially or other means, and the impact they have on Goodwill's programs and services to Transform Lives Through the Power of Work for those in the community.

Thanks to generous shoppers and donors, Goodwill Southern California is able to offer no cost employment services and programs to the communities we serve. Last year, Goodwill Southern California served more than 27,000 individuals with disabilities and disadvantages.

Goodwill is made up of 162 autonomous, community-based nonprofit organizations that provide individuals and families with opportunities for economic self-sufficiency and improved quality of life. Last year, local Goodwill organizations collectively placed more than 288,000 people in employment in the United States and Canada. In addition, more than 65 million people nationwide used computers and mobile devices to access Goodwill education, training, mentoring and online learning services to strengthen their skills, and more than 2 million people received in person services.

“Goodwill Industries Week is always a great opportunity to celebrate and spread awareness about our mission and its tremendous impact in communities,” said Patrick McClenahan, president and CEO of Goodwill Southern California. “It’s great to have a week where we invite people across the United States and Canada to celebrate with us by donating items that are no longer used and shop for new favorites, so that we can continue to serve the millions of people who are looking to improve their lives through the power of work.”

Goodwill Industries Week has been observed by local Goodwill organizations for more than 60 years, and it serves as an opportunity to celebrate the communities who support it and raise awareness about the Goodwill mission.

Visit [www.goodwillsocal.org](http://www.goodwillsocal.org) to find the nearest Goodwill Southern California location, job fair or event, and learn how you can build a better future for someone in your community: <http://www.goodwill.org/week>.

### **About Goodwill Southern California**

*Transforming lives through the power of work, Goodwill Southern California (GSC) serves individuals with disabilities or other vocational challenges 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 GSC 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 85 stores and 46 attended donation centers. GSC spends 95 percent of its budget on programs and services. Committed to caring for the earth, last year GSC diverted over 100 million pounds of reusable or recyclable goods from landfills. Goodwill is GOOD for Everyone!*

###