



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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GOODWILL URGES SPRING CLEANERS TO THINK BEFORE YOU DONATE

GOODWILL OVERVIEW

One of 205 independent, community-based organizations in the U.S., Canada and 22 other countries.

Provides job training and employment services, job placement opportunities and post-employment support.

Strengthens communities and families by helping to develop independent, tax-paying members of our society.

HIGHLIGHTS

17,513 people benefited from Goodwill services in the Central Virginia and Hampton Roads areas in 2008.

Over 85% of revenues fund programs and services.

20 retail stores and two warehouse outlets.

RICHMOND, VA – Goodwill Industries is recommending donors carefully consider where they donate used clothing and other household goods as they clean out their closets. Remember to set aside clothing and other household items in *good used condition* to donate to a reputable organization.

"We want donors to give as much thought to where they donate their clothes and other household items as they would to where they donate their money," says Charles Layman, President and CEO of Goodwill. "At Goodwill, we sell the things you no longer need to fund job training programs for some of the most vulnerable job seekers in our community."

When someone is having a hard time finding a job, either because of a disability, poverty, or lack of education and work experience, Goodwill Industries is there to help. The organization does that by selling donations of clothing and household items in Goodwill stores and using the revenue to fund job training programs that benefitted over 17,000 people in central and eastern Virginia last year alone.

"Don't drop the things you no longer need at the first collection box you see. Be sure to donate to a charity that will benefit from your donations," says Bill Carlson, Vice-President of Donated Goods for Goodwill. "Every donation of money or goods is an investment in your community."

To make donating even easier this spring, Goodwill is partnering with area schools, colleges, and organizations to provide additional donation truck locations. These community donation drives will be happening throughout April and May. To find the Goodwill donation site or community drive near you, visit www.goodwillvirginia.org.

For more information, contact Ellen Thornhill, Communications Manager for Goodwill. In Central Virginia: 804-521-4976 and in Hampton Roads: 757-248-9405. Cell phone: 804-690-6175.