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NEWS RELEASE

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ECONOMIC-FOCUSED KEYNOTE FROM AKRON MAYOR PLUSQUELLIC ON AGENDA FOR GOODWILL'S ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2009, AT THE CIVIC THEATRE

AKRON, Ohio—March 5, 2009— Goodwill Industries serving Summit, Portage, Medina, Ashland and Richland Counties will celebrate yet another record-setting service year at its 2009 Annual Meeting to be held on Wednesday, March 25, 2009, beginning at 4:30 p.m. at The Civic Theatre in Downtown Akron (182 South Main Street). A keynote presentation will be given by City of Akron Mayor Donald L. Plusquellic.

The event will feature a networking reception beginning at 4:30 p.m., followed by a program beginning at 5:15 p.m., when the agency will celebrate service delivery to over 9,600 individuals and thank its long-time volunteers, including retiring Board Members Becky Babcox; Doug Klein, EA, CPA; Robert Labbe; John Myers; Emeka Ofobike PhD, CPA; and Ron Sloan.

The keynote address by Mayor Plusquellic will follow remarks from Howard Parr, Executive Director of The Civic Theatre, Nancy Ellis McClenaghan, President & CEO, and William Glaeser, Chairman of the Board of Directors. The Mayor's speech will focus on the role that Goodwill and the nonprofit community can play, locally, in implementing the American Recovery Act enacted by Congress and signed by the President. The theme for this year's Annual Meeting is economic development and reusing resources, as demonstrated by the location of the meeting – The Civic Theatre – a true jewel of Akron in the heart of the city.

"One of Goodwill's key operations is reusing the resources of our community as donated goods are sold in our retail stores to fund programs that help individuals prepare for, find, and retain employment. The Civic Theatre is a perfect venue for us to share our story of turning old into new again during our agency's 82-year history," said McClenaghan.

Annual Meeting Details

Wednesday, March 25, 2009, at The Civic Theatre, 182 South Main Street, Downtown Akron, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres, cash bar, and networking. Program begins at 5:15 p.m. Tickets are \$25 each (\$5 donative value). Contact Brenda Baum at 330-724-6995, ext. 101 or bbaum@goodwillakron.org for tickets or more information. RSVPs are requested by March 13.

Goodwill would like to thank its annual and event sponsors, which include: **Silver-level** – National City and OMNOVA Solutions, Inc. / **Bronze-level** – Bober, Markey, Fedorovich & Company; Brockman, Coats, Gedelian & Co.; Fifth Third Bank; Roetzel & Andress; and Welty Building Company, Ltd / **In-kind** – The Civic Theatre and Shulan's Jewelers / **Media Partner** – Rubber City Radio Group.

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About Goodwill Industries

Goodwill Industries of Akron is a not-for-profit corporation that helps individuals prepare for, find, and retain employment. Operating in the five-county region of Summit, Portage, Medina, Ashland, and Richland, the Akron-based agency was established in 1927. It is a private, independent organization, operating as an affiliate member of Goodwill Industries International, and a United Way agency in Summit and Medina Counties. Goodwill helps to directly strengthen the region's workforce through its employment programs and indirectly through the net proceeds from its retail outlets and contract services division. For more information about Goodwill, visit www.goodwillakron.org or call 800-989-8428. ###