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NEWS RELEASE

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GOODWILL TO HOST PUBLIC EVENTS TO CELEBRATE GOODWILL INDUSTRIES WEEK MAY 2 - 8

CELEBRATION OF CHAMPIONS PRESENTATION AND PUBLIC OPEN HOUSES ON THE SCHEDULE

AKRON, Ohio—April 14, 2010— Goodwill Industries, serving Summit, Portage, Medina, Ashland and Richland Counties, will host a "Celebration of Champions" presentation and three public open houses during Goodwill Industries Week in May.

On Friday, May 7, 2010, beginning at 12:30 p.m., Goodwill will honor successful program participants as well as employers from across the region and community partners at a "Celebration of Champions" recognition ceremony at the Goodwill Service Center in Akron, 570 E. Waterloo Rd. President & CEO Nancy Ellis McClenaghan will be the featured speaker, and information about Goodwill and services that the agency provides to residents of its five-county region will be highlighted.

Goodwill is also partnering with the Ashland Evening Lions to host an additional celebration, which occur on May 6th during the club's regular meeting.

In all, 18 honorees will be celebrated, including the following:

Summit County Program Participants, Employers & Community Partners

• Lora McPherson, Cuyahoga Falls • Hiram Parks, Akron • David Welfley, Akron • Giant Eagle, Barberton
• GOJO Industries, Inc., Akron • PlusOne Communications, LLC, Akron • Senior Employment Center, a Division of Mature Services, Akron

Medina County Program Participants & Employers

• Nancy Eisenhart, Medina • Southwest General, Brunswick

Portage County Program Participant & Employer

• Charles Dawes, Mogadore • Proto Machine & Manufacturing, Kent

Ashland County Program Participant, Employer & Community Partner

• Angel Seamon, Ashland • Ashland Evening Lions Club, Ashland • Country Pointe & Subacute Center, Ashland

Richland County Program Participant & Employer

• Kristina Gorsuch, Mansfield • AVI Foodsystems, Inc., Mansfield

Two youth participants will also be honored for their significant accomplishments.

In addition to the Champions presentations, donors, shoppers, volunteers, members of the media, and anyone interested in a behind-the-scenes tour of local Goodwill operations is invited to 570 E. Waterloo Rd. in Akron on Thursday, May 6, 2010, from 3-6pm; Friday, May 7, 2010, from 1:30-3:30pm; and Saturday, May 8, 2009, from 11am-2pm, to see how Goodwill turns jeans into jobs.

Guests will visit Goodwill's main warehouse where they will see first-hand the process for accepting, sorting, selling, salvaging and recycling donations. Goodwill staff members will be on hand to answer questions about the process and about Goodwill's mission of helping people prepare for, find and retain employment.

Tours will begin every 15 minutes. No RSVP is required to attend either the Celebration of Champions presentation or an open house. Questions can be directed to Beth Galambos, Marketing & Public Relations Manager, at 330-786-2567 or bgalambos@goodwillakron.org.

Goodwill operates 11 stores in its five-county region encompassing Summit, Portage, Medina, Ashland, and Richland Counties. Net proceeds from the sale of items donated to the stores are used in assisting the agency in fulfilling its mission of helping individuals prepare for, find and retain employment.

Event Details

Celebration of Champions honoring participants, employers and community partners – Friday, May 7, 2010, beginning at 12:30pm. Goodwill Service Center, 570 E. Waterloo Rd. in Akron. Dessert will be served. No RSVP is required.

Goodwill Public Open Houses – Thursday, May 6, 2010, from 3-6pm; Friday, May 7, 2010, from 1:30-3:30pm; and Saturday, May 8, 2010, from 11am-2pm. Goodwill Retail Store, 570 E. Waterloo Rd. in Akron. No RSVP is required.

About Goodwill Industries Week

Starting on the first Sunday of every May, Goodwill Industries International marks Goodwill Industries Week, a time for local Goodwills to celebrate their successes and educate their communities about their mission—helping people with disabilities and disadvantages find good work.

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. ###