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**Goodwill SOLAC Applauds U.S. Mayors' Resolution
to Donate Goods to Divert Items from Landfills**

Long Beach, CA—July 1, 2014—Goodwill, Serving the People of Southern Los Angeles County (SOLAC), supports this year's U.S. Conference of Mayors' (USCM) Resolution #47. The resolution encourages a public awareness movement to donate goods to legitimate nonprofit organizations, such as Goodwill, to divert landfill waste. The resolution urges people to protect the environment, benefiting the local economy and supporting job training and placement. Connecticut mayors Ed O'Brien of West Haven, Toni Harp of New Haven, Harry Rillings of Norwalk, Marcia Leclerc of East Hartford, Daniel Drew of Middletown, Robert A. Mezzo of Naugatuck, Bill Finch of Bridgeport, Toni Harp of New Haven, and Scott Jackson of Hamden submitted the resolution.

The USCM resolution encourages citizens in local municipalities to support the donation of used goods to such organizations as Goodwill. By accepting donations, these organizations demonstrate a positive economic impact on the community. Often, municipalities struggle with the high costs related to the handling, hauling and disposal of goods to landfills that could be reused and repurposed. Donating such items to organizations that use donated goods to promote a local mission diverts them from landfills, saving money for the municipality and benefitting residents of the community. Through the process of donations, community residents will help the environment and, in turn, will be supporting legitimate nonprofit organizations like Goodwill, which uses donations to support community-based job training and career placement programs for people who are unemployed or underemployed and provide other important social services. Like the USMC resolution, Goodwill is committed to protecting the environment and strengthening communities.

"Since 1902, Goodwill has been an environmental pioneer of the 'reduce, reuse, repurpose' practice to better serve the environment by extracting the value of donations to support local community needs," said Janet McCarthy, president and CEO of Goodwill SOLAC. "This resolution demonstrates that mayors across the country recognize the environmental and social significance of decreasing goods to landfills."

Goodwill's donation-resale model extends the life of textiles, clothing and goods. Last year, Goodwill SOLAC placed 315 people into jobs in such fields as health care, technology, retail, banking and other high-growth fields. In addition, Goodwill SOLAC provided training services to 7,635 individuals. Goodwill's model demonstrates social and environmental leadership, creating hundreds of jobs and contributing to the economic health of communities while preserving resources and the environment, and reducing tax-paying citizens' reliance on public assistance. Last year, Goodwill SOLAC diverted more than 14 million pounds of donated goods and textiles from landfills.

“The goal of the resolution is to recover the value in people’s unwanted goods and divert them, thereby having a positive economic impact on local communities,” said Mayor Ed O’Brien. “The U.S. Conference of Mayors looks forward to hearing about the results from the nonprofit enterprises that fund their missions through the revenues from donated goods, and the communities that benefit from those missions.”

To view the resolution, visit <http://usmayors.org/82ndAnnualMeeting/media/resolutions-final.pdf> (page 91).

About Goodwill SOLAC

Goodwill SOLAC is a nonprofit organization that transforms donated goods into job training, education and placement services for individuals with barriers to employment. Goodwill SOLAC serves 22 cities and communities throughout Southern Los Angeles County. Goodwill SOLAC’s main facility—located at 800 W. Pacific Coast Highway in Long Beach—houses its administrative offices, training programs, processing operations, transportation fleet, LiNKS Sign Language & Interpreting Services, a retail store and its e-commerce operations. For more information about Goodwill SOLAC, please visit www.thinkgood.org.

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