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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# MacKenzie Scott donates \$5M to local Goodwill

*Largest single, cash donation in 92-year history*

**Long Beach, CA** – Goodwill Serving the People of Southern Los Angeles County (Goodwill SOLAC) recently received an unsolicited \$5 million donation from Mom, writer, advocate, and philanthropist MacKenzie Scott, that will be used to support its mission to transform donated goods into job training, education, and placement services for those with barriers to employment.



The donation from Scott [announced December 15, 2020](#) is part of the \$4.1 billion that she has donated over the past several months to 384 organizations. Scott detailed how she and her team began earlier last year looking into nearly 6,500 charities, seeking industry experts to determine which of the those on the list had strong leadership teams, showed results, paid special attention to those operating in communities facing high projected food insecurity, high measure of racial inequity, high local poverty rates, and low access to philanthropic capital.

Goodwill Serving the People of Southern Los Angeles County's (Goodwill SOLAC) President & CEO, Janet McCarthy, stated, "this \$5 million gift to Goodwill SOLAC is the largest single donation the 92-year-old nonprofit organization has ever received."

"Goodwill is incredibly grateful and deeply touched by this unbelievably kind gesture from MacKenzie Scott," said McCarthy. "When I first heard of this news, I was barely able to control my joy-filled tears. As you can imagine, any year to have received such a gift would have brought the same joy, however coming to us after the past year made this so much more meaningful to all of us at Goodwill SOLAC. We are especially excited about the ability this gift gives us to serve even more individuals in deep and meaningful ways".

Billionaire philanthropist McKenzie Scott.  
Photo courtesy Associated Press

Because the \$5 million donation from Scott was not solicited, Board Chair, Anitra Dempsey stated, "We have not yet determined specifically how to utilize the funds. However, our organization is broadly committed to using the entire gift to help those we serve experience the dignity and independence that comes from earning a paycheck and achieving economic self-sufficiency."

Goodwill SOLAC was established in 1929 in response to the Great Depression, which brought an increased focus to the thousands of people out of work and to people with disabilities. In 1945, Goodwill SOLAC responded to GI's returning from World War II to train, find jobs, and assimilate back into a peacetime economy.

Today Goodwill SOLAC serves individuals with barriers to employment and is proud to be known (unofficially) as the College of Good Hope. They recently received another CARF International, three-year accreditation, and were honored with the designation as a Center of Excellence, by Goodwill Industries International and a third-party panel. Goodwill SOLAC's Workforce Development programs consider the quality-of-life factors for each person served, backed by the belief that all individuals should be empowered to find and keep meaningful employment and inclusion into their community. Goodwill SOLAC's programs emphasize a commitment to matching well suited employees with great jobs. Job Coaches work closely with each individual employer to understand the employer's unique business challenges and tailor training, job placement and post-employment services to meet the specific needs of the employer, assist employers in determining eligibility for tax credits, as well as the provision of on-going support to both the employer and the new employee to assure long-term success. Goodwill SOLAC also provides five (5) year follow along services for all students in their certified training programs.

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. To learn more about Goodwill career services, visit [www.ThinkGood.org](http://www.ThinkGood.org).

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