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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

As Unemployment Rises, Goodwill Helps People Find Jobs
Job Placement Services Are Needed Now More than Ever

Rockford, IL – The Bureau of Labor Statistics announced today that the nation’s unemployment rate rose to 8.1 percent. At Goodwill Northern Illinois we remain committed to our mission of helping people gain employment. As North America’s leading nonprofit provider of employment training and career services, Goodwill knows that it takes a comprehensive approach to help people find and keep good jobs.

“Goodwill helps place someone in a good job every 53 seconds of every business day,” says Sam Schmitz, President of Goodwill Northern Illinois. “During these tough economic times, Goodwill can help retrain people with new skills and gain the self confidence and sense of dignity that work can give.”

In northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin Goodwill helps people with disabilities, those who lack education or work experience and other job seekers earn paychecks to support themselves and their families. Goodwill workforce development experts customize a plan for each individual, based on his or her skills and interest. They provide the person with the necessary job training and support so he or she can be successful in their careers. Goodwill helps people find jobs in a variety of fields including health care, retail, customer service, and janitorial services.

“When people donate and shop at Goodwill, they make an economic investment in their communities,” says Schmitz. “Revenue generated from donated goods provides funding for programs to help workers become productive, taxpaying citizens.”

Throughout the nation, Goodwill Industries is ready to support the unemployed and continue its more than 106-year tradition of helping people who are having a hard time finding meaningful work.

Goodwill Northern Illinois has stores in northern Illinois (Rockford, Machesney Park, Freeport, Sterling) and Beloit, Wisconsin that employ more than 170 people. For more information on Goodwill Northern Illinois, please contact Sam Schmitz at (815) 965-3795.

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