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www.goodwillni.org



June 8, 2009
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**DELL and GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS
PARTNER ON FREE COMPUTER RECYCLING PROGRAM**
Consumers Can Drop Off Computers for Recycling at Six Regional Goodwill Stores

Goodwill Industries of Northern Illinois announced today that it is part of a seven state expansion of Dell Reconnect, a free drop-off program for consumers who want to responsibly recycle any brand of unwanted computer equipment. The seven new states include Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma and West Virginia. They're also expanding the program in Wisconsin to the Southeastern and South Central parts of the state. Reconnect is now available in 18 states, plus the District of Columbia.

Reconnect offers consumers a free, convenient and responsible way to recycle used computer equipment. Consumers can drop off any brand of used equipment at participating Goodwill donation centers in their area and request a donation receipt for tax purposes. Goodwill stores in Rockford, Freeport, Sterling, IL and Beloit, WI will accept the used computer equipment including monitors free of charge. The DeKalb, IL store, scheduled to open in August 2009 will also participate in the program. For store addresses please visit www.goodwillni.org.

With today's announcement, Goodwill Industries of Northern Illinois will expand their already robust recycling program that diverted over two million pounds of materials from local landfills in 2008. It is anticipated the Dell Reconnect program will divert an additional 400,000 pounds at full participation.

Dell makes it even easier for customers to responsibly recycle unwanted electronics. Through its extensive recycling options for consumers, small and medium businesses, large enterprises and governments worldwide, Dell reached its goal to recycle 275 million pounds of equipment ahead of schedule. The company was the first IT vendor to set product recovery goals in 2004, completed the rollout of its global recycling program in 2006 and now offers a free worldwide recycling program for consumers.

Today's announcement brings the number of Goodwill stores participating in Reconnect to more than 1,400 nationwide. Goodwill, focused on creating job opportunities for individuals with disabilities or others having a hard time finding employment, plans to hire additional staff to oversee the expanded recycling program.

Quotes:

- Mike Watson, senior manager of Dell Global Recycling Services: "We believe it should be as easy to recycle a computer as it is to purchase one. Our partnership with Goodwill makes recycling incredibly convenient for consumers. That it helps create jobs and preserve our planet at the same time makes the program a win all the way around."

*We provide jobs, training, and placement services
for people with barriers to achieve meaningful employment*





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- Sam Schmitz, president of Goodwill Industries of Northern Illinois: “The partnership created by Goodwill Industries International and Dell-Reconnect presents a three-part win for us locally. We are able to create jobs around the service, the revenue from Dell allows us to enhance job training opportunities and we save space in our local landfills. Everyone wins.”
- Jim Gibbons, president and CEO for Goodwill Industries International: “The Dell-Reconnect partnership with Goodwill is a great model for the technology industry. The partnership has not only allowed us to responsibly recycle and divert more than 50 million pounds of electronic equipment from the landfills, but also create green-collar jobs and skills training at a time when both are very much needed.”

About Goodwill Industries of Northern Illinois

Goodwill Industries of Northern Illinois is a community-based not-for-profit organization that provides jobs, training, and placement services for people with barriers to achieve meaningful employment. Goodwill’s retail operations sell donated, gently-used products as well as new items such as overstocks and close-outs from some of the best-known stores in the state. Goodwill stores in northern Illinois (Rockford, Machesney Park, Freeport, Sterling) and Beloit, Wisconsin employ more than 170 people. Visit our website at www.goodwillni.org.

About Goodwill Industries International

Goodwill Industries International is a network of 184 community-based, independent member agencies in the United States, Canada, and 14 other countries. Goodwill Industries trains people for careers in fields such as financial services, computer programming, banking, and health care. To pay for its programs, Goodwill sells donated clothes and other household items in more than 2,200 retail stores and online at www.shopgoodwill.com, the first and only Internet nonprofit auction site. The organization also builds revenues, and creates jobs, by contracting with businesses and government to provide a wide range of commercial services, including janitorial work, packing and assembly, food service preparation, and document imaging and shredding.

About Dell

Dell sources more than 25 percent of its electricity needs from renewable power sources.

For more information on the Dell/Goodwill Reconnect Computer Recycling Program contact Craig Grugel (815) 987-6219.

For more information on Goodwill Northern Illinois contact Sam Schmitz (815) 987-6215.

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