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For Immediate Release

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Goodwill to Recognize Community Leaders and Individual Accomplishments

Annual awards ceremony will highlight local achievements

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana’s Annual Awards Breakfast will celebrate the successes of its employees, students, families and partners on April 28. Honorees include an Indianapolis woman who earned her high school diploma at 47 years old, an ex-offender who used his second chance to pay it forward and Indiana University Health for its successful partnership with Goodwill’s job placement services.

“We’re excited to share these inspiring stories and achievements with the community, many who donate to Goodwill,” said Kent Kramer, president and CEO of Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana. “The Annual Awards Breakfast is an opportunity for us to illustrate how support for Goodwill translates into lives changed.”

The Annual Awards Breakfast recognizes those who have made remarkable strides in overcoming challenges. Goodwill employs more than 3,500 people in central and southern Indiana, two-thirds of whom have one or more barriers to employment, including criminal history, disability or lack of a high school diploma.

Indiana ranks 9th worst in the nation for infant mortality, and 17% of Hoosiers ages 18-24 lack a high school diploma—challenges Goodwill is tackling head-on. From The Excel Center®, a high school for adults who want to earn a diploma, to Nurse-Family Partnership®, a life-changing program that pairs first-time, low-income mothers with registered nurses to ensure healthy pregnancies, Goodwill’s services are empowering people to increase their independence and reach their potential.

Since opening in 2010, nearly 2,400 students have graduated from The Excel Center’s 11 locations, more than 3,500 have earned an industry-recognized certification and 96% graduated with postsecondary credits, all at no cost to students. In addition, more than 1,400 mothers have been served as part of Nurse-Family Partnership since 2011. One study estimates a return on investment of \$6.62 for every dollar spent on the program in Indiana.

“Although we’re proud of these numbers, the impact of Goodwill’s programs is best illustrated through the individual successes we will highlight at the awards ceremony,” said Kramer. “We invite the community to join us in celebrating these achievements.”

Goodwill’s Annual Awards Breakfast is April 28, at 8 a.m. Register to attend by April 21 at goodwillindy.org/breakfast.

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About Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana

Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana changes lives every day by empowering people to increase their independence and reach their potential through education, health and employment. The organization serves 39 Indiana counties and operates more than 70 retail locations, as well as charter schools for adults and youth, a maternal-child health program, a child care center and more.