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For Immediate Release

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**Award-Winning Hostess Overcomes Daily Challenges**  
*Goodwill and Scotty's Brewhouse Empower Hoosiers Through Employment*

**Indianapolis, Ind.** - In acknowledgement of [National Disability Employment Awareness Month](#), Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana and Scotty's Brewhouse are recognizing the contributions of our employees who overcome daily barriers. Kelly Kaser, who has Down Syndrome, has been employed at Scotty's Brewhouse for two years as a hostess, cheerfully welcoming customers with high fives and hugs.

"I love working at Scotty's Brewhouse," Kelly said. "My job coach helped me with what I'm supposed to do. My coworkers help, too."

In March, Kelly was honored by Visit Indy with a ROSE award for consistently providing excellent service.

"Every day that Kelly is on the schedule, you know it's going to be a happy day," said Jeff Troyer, General Manager at Scotty's Brewhouse, 96th Street. "Her energy and positive outlook are contagious."

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, individuals with disabilities are twice as likely to be unemployed as individuals without disabilities. Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana partnered with Scotty's Brewhouse to place 12 people into jobs last year.

"Goodwill is grateful for employers like Scotty's who share our mindset on providing job opportunities to individuals with disabilities," said Kent A. Kramer, president and CEO of Goodwill. "Our partnership has resulted in excellent employment matches for people like Kelly."

Scotty's Brewhouse was recently honored by the Indianapolis Office of Disability Affairs with the 2017 Employer Award for their commitment to hiring Hoosiers with disabilities, who comprise 5% of their workforce. Goodwill has more than 3,500 employees – 35% of whom have a disability.

National Disability Employment Awareness Month's (NDEAM) roots go back to 1945, when Congress enacted a law declaring the first week in October National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week. In 1988, Congress expanded the week to a month and changed the name to National Disability Employment Awareness Month. Upon its establishment in 2001, the Office

of Disability Employment Policy assumed responsibility for NDEAM and has worked to expand its reach and scope ever since.

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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.