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For Immediate Release

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Indiana Board Member Honored by Goodwill®

Laura Pickett Receives Volunteer Board Leader of the Year Award

Indianapolis, Ind. — Laura Pickett, a member of the Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana Young Leaders Board of Directors, is the 2017 recipient of Goodwill Industries International's Volunteer Board Leader of the Year award. In announcing the award, the organization recognized Pickett for her skills in project management, fundraising, public speaking and strategic planning.

"The Greek derivation of philanthropy is love of humanity," said Pickett. "The opportunity to volunteer for Goodwill's mission is an honor — a simple, individual act to build momentum in humanitarianism."

Pickett chairs the Mission Committee of the Young Leaders Board. In this role, she spreads the mission of Goodwill through internal and external engagement. Her volunteer work with graduating high school students from Goodwill's Excel Center has been especially meaningful. She has reviewed résumés that have led to job placements and worked one-on-one with students conducting mock interviews. She also led the board in developing a new grant process, called the Innovation Grant, which surpassed its fundraising goal in 2016, its first year.

"Laura Pickett's leadership and innovative contributions to our organization have surpassed what I could expect from any of our young leader board members," said Kent Kramer, president and CEO of Goodwill of Central and Southern Indiana. "She is a pleasure to work with, and I am proud to have such a talented, compassionate advocate in our community."

In addition to serving on Goodwill's Young Leaders Board, Pickett was recently named executive director of Philanthropic Operations, a new role within the Office of Mission & Values at Indiana University Health. In this role, Pickett creates and leads integrated philanthropic operations for the state, working with colleagues at more than a dozen IU Health foundations and offices of gift development to evolve and unify funding priorities for the IU Health system.

"This award highlights the important work Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana is doing in our communities," said Crystal Hinson Miller, IU Health chief philanthropy officer. "Goodwill has involved smart people on its Young Leaders Board to inform outreach and engagement. It is this type of collaborative decision-making that powers visionary thinking, and we couldn't be more thrilled that Laura Pickett is being recognized for her leadership, civic engagement and innovation as the recipient of this prestigious award."

The award, which recognizes superior service to a local Goodwill organization by a volunteer member of its board of directors, was presented to Laura at Goodwill Industries International's annual Delegate Assembly in Louisville, KY, on June 26.

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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.