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For Immediate Release

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Indiana High School For Adults Continues to Expand The Excel Center receives a \$300,000 grant to scale across additional states

INDIANAPOLIS – Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana has received a \$300,000 grant from Lumina Foundation. These funds will enable The Excel Center®, Goodwill's high school for adults, to strategically scale in at least six states.

In 2010, Goodwill opened The Excel Center at one campus in Indianapolis. Today, the school has demonstrated measurable success across the state, operating 17 Indiana locations and helping over 4,000 adults graduate with a Core 40 high school diploma. The Excel Center allows students to pick up right where they left off in high school, providing support and resources to meet their goals. Students are also offered dual-credit courses and industry-recognized certification opportunities — all at no cost.

“The Excel Center continues to help individuals increase their independence and reach their potential by providing the support and tools necessary to earn a high school diploma and unlocking new career opportunities,” said Goodwill president & CEO Kent A. Kramer. “With this grant, our Indiana national office can empower adult students across the country to increase their postsecondary educational attainment and competitiveness in the marketplace.”

In 2013, The Excel Center expanded nationally with schools currently in Arkansas, Missouri, Tennessee, Texas and Washington D.C. With this grant funding, the national

office plans to strategically scale additional adult high schools in those states. The partnership between Goodwill and Lumina Foundation will allow The Excel Center to bring national advocates of adult education together, improve opportunities for high school dropouts and enhance Indiana's role as a leader in adult education.

"More than 30 million working-age adults lack a high school diploma in an economy where much more education is required to earn and sustain a living-wage," explained Dakota Pawlicki, Strategy Officer for Community Mobilization at Lumina Foundation. "Goodwill Excel Centers have demonstrated their positive impact on communities in five states and the district, supporting thousands of adults on their path to success. Every community in every state needs an Excel Center, and we are proud to support the next phase of scaling centers across the country."

To date, The Excel Center has positioned graduates for careers that offer better-than-average wages. Nearly 100% of Excel Center graduates earn a college or career credential, and 80% of graduates report being employed or enrolled in college one year after earning their diploma.

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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.

About Lumina Foundation

Lumina Foundation is an independent, private foundation in Indianapolis committed to making opportunities for learning beyond high school available to all. We envision a system that is easy to navigate, delivers fair results, and meets the nation's need for talent through a broad range of credentials. The Foundation's goal is to prepare people for informed citizenship and for success in a global economy.