



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Goodwill SoCal Activates Temporary Closure of Stores & Donation Centers In Response To Threat Of COVID-19

Los Angeles, CA, March 18, 2020 – In light of the evolving COVID-19 pandemic, non-profit and social enterprise Goodwill Southern California has decided to temporarily close our stores and donation centers, effective Wednesday, March 18 through Friday, April 3.

This closure includes all retail stores, outlet stores, donation centers and bookstores/boutiques in our territory, which includes Los Angeles (N. of Rosecrans), Riverside and San Bernardino counties. Goodwill SoCal's online store will also temporarily close.

Donations will no longer be accepted at Goodwill SoCal stores and freestanding donation centers. We encourage the public to visit us once we reopen - as shoppers and donors are crucial in helping fund our employment programs for individuals with barriers to employment, including individuals with disabilities, veterans, youth, the reentry community, and individuals experiencing homelessness.

At the request of our funders, including the city and county of Los Angeles, Goodwill Southern California's employment centers will remain open and continue to serve people in need in our local community. Based on the recommendation of state and local officials to limit large gatherings, we have postponed all hiring events at our employment centers, and are assisting job seekers through virtual services or on an individual basis.

Our three main offices - in Los Angeles, the San Fernando Valley, and San Bernardino - will remain open, where we are taking special precautions to ensure the safety of our staff, including increased frequency of janitorial and cleaning processes, social distancing, hand washing, and encouraging employees who are ill to stay home.

“Our social enterprise of stores provides resources and opportunities for job counseling, training, placement and coaching for thousands of people with barriers to employment in our communities. This makes our decision to close our stores all the more difficult, but necessary to protect the health of our associates, our donors, our customers and our community at this

unprecedented time.” said Patrick McClenahan, President and CEO of Goodwill Southern California.

Goodwill SoCal will provide ongoing updates to shoppers and donors about reopening dates for our stores and donation centers via our website at www.goodwillso-cal.org and our social media channels (@GoodwillSoCal on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram).

We encourage those who wish to help people in need in our community, particularly during this uniquely challenging time, to visit our website at www.goodwillso-cal.org, where we will gratefully accept your financial support.

About Goodwill Southern California

Transforming lives through the power of work, Goodwill Southern California (GSC) serves individuals with disabilities or other vocational challenges by providing education, training, work experience and job placement services. Each year, GSC prepares and places thousands of individuals into sustainable employment through programs and services offered at three campuses, Career Resource Centers, WorkSource Centers, Deaf, Youth and Veteran Employment Programs throughout Los Angeles (north of Rosecrans Ave.), Riverside and San Bernardino counties. GSC supports its mission with proceeds generated from more than 80 stores and over 40 attended donation centers. GSC spends 95 percent of its budget on programs and services. Committed to caring for the earth, last year GSC diverted over 100 million pounds of reusable or recyclable goods from landfills. Goodwill is GOOD for Everyone!

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