



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **GOODWILL SOCAL TO HOST FORUM BRINGING ORGANIZATIONS TOGETHER TO ADDRESS EMPLOYMENT CHALLENGES IN THE INLAND EMPIRE**

**Los Angeles, CA**, December 3, 2019 – On Wednesday, December 4, Goodwill Southern California will host a workforce forum in Ontario, CA to bring together organizations committed to helping address employment issues in the Inland Empire. The event will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Ontario Airport 222 N. Vineyard Ave., Ontario 91764.

The workforce forum speakers will provide insights, testimonials and panel discussions on the employment movement in the Inland Empire. More than 300 guests are expected to attend the breakfast including, employers, government agencies, non profit organizations, educational institutions and other community leaders. The day will include morning and afternoon breakout sessions and networking opportunities.

Richard Montanez, Executive Vice President Multicultural Marketing, Pepsi North American division, will be the keynote speaker. Montanez has held various senior roles through the Pepsi and Frito-Lay divisions. He started his career at Frito-Lay in 1976 as a janitor and is recognized as the creator of the Flamin' Hot line of products, which have become a billion dollar business and cultural phenomemon.

Simon Lopez, Vice President Workforce Development at Goodwill Southern California, stated "The Forum is designed to bring people together to exchange ideas, share resources, and establish partnerships that improve employment opportunities and build an inclusive economy that works for everyone."

Media who wish to film at the workforce forum may contact Marla Eby, Director of Marketing & Media Relations, at [meby@goodwillsocal.org](mailto:meby@goodwillsocal.org).

### ***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 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, each year GSC diverts over 100 million pounds of reusable or recyclable goods from landfills. Goodwill is Good for Everyone!

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