



Goodwill Industries of the Valleys Brings New Jobs to the Communities It Serves in Virginia

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Roanoke, VA. Goodwill Industries of the Valleys will be opening the new Forest Goodwill store, this Thursday, March 16th, the Pearisburg store next Thursday, March 23rd and a second store in Charlottesville on Route 29 South this summer. When a Goodwill Store opens in the community it provides more than a great place to shop. It also provides a place to work for those in the community, and a place to recycle thus helping the environment. Goodwill is an economic development and recycling engine for the communities it serves in Virginia.

With the addition of the three new retail locations, Goodwill will operate 23 stores throughout its Virginia service area. With an average of 20 employees per store, Goodwill will employ approximately 460 employees in its retail operations alone, by the end of the summer. Last fiscal year, more than \$14 million in revenue was generated from retail sales. The new stores will provide increased revenue to support the mission of helping people go to work.

Additionally, through the collection and sale of donated goods, last year seven million pounds of refuse was kept out of the landfills in our communities. The additional stores mean even more will be recycled in the future.

“We are proud of the economic and environmental impact that we are able to provide to the community when a store opens,” stated Bruce Phipps, President and CEO. “Our stores provide jobs in the community, give neighbors a great place to shop for a great value, and provide recycling opportunities to help protect the environment.”

Goodwill Industries of the Valleys, headquartered in Roanoke, serves 15 cities and 31 counties in central and southwest Virginia. Its mission is to help people with disabilities and disadvantages overcome barriers to employment and to provide comprehensive services for achieving and sustaining independence. Last year, Goodwill served over 1,800 individuals.

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