



## **Goodwill Industries of the Valleys Receives Grant to Serve the Senior Population**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

August 7, 2006

**Roanoke, VA.** Goodwill Industries of the Valleys, Inc. will be increasing the scope of its services to provide employment, training and job placement for disadvantaged workers age 55 and over.

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) awarded a portion of the 2006-2007 Senior Community Service Employment Program grant to Goodwill Industries International and six Goodwill member organizations on August 1, 2006. This grant will provide Goodwill Industries of the Valleys nearly \$1.6 million to assist over 300 older workers. These workers will receive the training and support needed to secure competitive employment and attain self-sufficiency. This program will be managed and operated through the Workforce Development Division of Goodwill.

“Our Workforce Development Division already serves eligible youth and adult workers through our comprehensive training and employment programs. We are excited about this new venture because it supports our mission and vision of strengthening our community. Through the diversity of our services we are able to serve a broader population of people in need,” stated Bruce Phipps, President and CEO. “Our entire territory will be positively impacted by the additional services we can now provide.”

This is the first time that DOL selected Goodwill Industries International to be among the 18 national organizations to operate the Senior Community Service Employment Program. In addition to Goodwill Industries of the Valleys, Goodwills in New Mexico, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Arizona and Washington are also grant recipients.

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 in our community achieve a better life through work and independence. Last year, Goodwill served over 2,300 individuals.

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