



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AWARDS GOODWILL® \$906,702 FOR GREEN JOBS *Goodwill to Train People with Disadvantaging Conditions to Work in Energy Efficient Industries*

Austin, TX - Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis recently announced that Goodwill Industries Of Central Texas (GICT) will receive a \$906,702 grant as part of "Pathways Out of Poverty," a funding opportunity authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act). The grant will provide funds to create green job training programs as a strategy to move individuals out of poverty and into economic self-sufficiency. The funding is part of a \$150 million grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor to 38 entities. Goodwill Industries International was awarded a \$7.3 million dollar grant overall.

"Goodwill has a history of providing job training and placement services to people with disadvantages and disabilities," said Jerry Davis, President and CEO of Goodwill. "The funding from the U.S. Department of Labor will enable us to provide pre-employment training, occupational skills training and intensive individual assessment for our job seekers so that they can obtain and retain well-paying jobs in the rapidly growing green industry of their choice."

Goodwill Industries International will divide the funds among six Goodwill agencies that have established partnerships with local business, labor organizations, workforce development institutions, unions, faith- and community-based organizations, and colleges and trade schools to help Goodwill's green job seekers advance.

The five other Goodwill agencies include: Goodwill of North Georgia (Atlanta), Goodwill Industries of Southern Piedmont (Charlotte, NC), Goodwill Industries of Central Arizona (Phoenix), Goodwill of Greater Washington (DC), and Goodwill Industries of Greater Grand Rapids (MI). Their focus will be on training people in a variety of green industry-related jobs, including Energy Efficiency/Renewable Energy industries of energy-efficient building construction and retrofit, renewable electric power, and energy efficiency assessment.

For more than 50 years, GICT has worked with consumers and communities to reduce, reuse and recycle. The organization's commitment to going green is demonstrated by its participation in Goodwill Industries International's Going Green Initiative, which includes a long-standing national electronics recycling program with Dell. This partnership has helped to divert more than 230 tons of electronic waste from area landfills per month.

For a full listing of the grants and project descriptions, visit www.doleta.gov/pdf/Pathways_Poverty_grants.pdf. To view a video by Secretary Solis, visit www.dol.gov/dol/media/webcast/pathways.

About Goodwill Industries of Central Texas:

Goodwill Industries of Central Texas is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization dedicated to the mission of providing job-related services for people with barriers to employment. Revenue generated through the sale of donated goods is used to fund job training and employment programs for Central Texans. For more information about Goodwill Industries of Central Texas, go to www.austingoodwill.org.

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