

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 15, 2010

CELEBRATE THE SEASON WITH AN END-OF-YEAR TAX WRITE-OFF

PITTSFIELD - The holiday season leave your wallet a bit lighter? You can get a little money back from Uncle Sam by donating gently used clothing and other unwanted items to Goodwill Industries for an end-of-year tax deduction.

By cleaning your closets and garages, you get more than a write-off. Goodwill uses the revenue from your donations for its job training programs, employment placement services and other community based programs for people with disabilities, those who lack education and work experience and others facing challenges to finding employment.

“End the holiday season and start the New Year off right by making an investment in your local community,” says Frank Engels, CEO of Goodwill Industries of the Berkshires. “Every donation to Goodwill helps make 2011 a better year for individuals who need job training, career services and other community-based Goodwill programs.”

Goodwill accepts clothing and household items - even those holiday gifts that weren't quite right. Donations are sold in the Goodwill stores in the Berkshires and Southern Vermont to support job training for individuals in our community.

Donors interested in claiming tax deductions should keep itemized lists of their donations. Generally, an item's value should be based on fair market value – what the item would sell for in a thrift store. Goodwill provides receipts to donors at its drop-off sites, so the donor can determine each item's value per the Internal Revenue Service guidelines, which are available at www.irs.gov .

The donation center at Tyler St. in Pittsfield accepts donations Mon-Fri 8:00am - 4:00pm and Sat. 11:00am - 3:00pm. Donations can also be dropped off during operating hours at the retail stores in Pittsfield, Adams and Bennington, VT, the Berkshire Bank-Stockbridge Rd., Great Barrington Saturdays 10am – 2pm or at the Pittsfield Resource Recovery Facility.

To find the location nearest you, call 413-442-0061, or visit www.goodwill-berkshires.org.

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