



## **Goodwill Industries of the Valleys No Longer Able to Accept Computer Donations**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**Roanoke, VA.** Citing security and environmental concerns, Goodwill Industries of the Valleys (GIV) is no longer able to accept computer and computer related hardware at its stores and Attended Donation Centers. The change is effective December 1, 2005.

“Donors who leave computers for Goodwill to sell in our retail stores may be leaving some sensitive and personal information on hard drives,” says Bruce Phipps, Goodwill Industries of the Valleys president and CEO. “We are not equipped to clean the hard drives and we do not want to run the risk of compromising the security of people who support Goodwill through their contributions to us.”

Phipps says the computers are becoming increasingly difficult to recycle. “Goodwill Industries of the Valley is a major recycler in the communities we serve. Last year we kept more than 7,000,000 pounds of refuse out of the landfills in our service area. We do not want to continue to collect items that we would have to pass directly to the local landfill.”

Computer related hardware that is no longer accepted by Goodwill includes the CPU, monitor, mouse, printer, keyboard, external drives, and any other computer related hardware.

Goodwill accepts gently used clothing and household items for sale in its retail stores. Goodwill is unable to accept badly soiled or damaged clothing or furniture, garbage, tires, paint, fuel or fuel containers, chemicals, mattresses and box springs, major appliances including hot water heaters, ranges, and refrigerators and computers.

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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