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Boston University and Goodwill Team Up to Go Green

'Goodwill, Not Landfill' will provide alternative for students

Boston (April 9, 2010) – Boston University students who may once have tossed usable items during summer move out now have a sustainable option: donating them to Goodwill.

From April 24 to May 19, sustainability@BU and Morgan Memorial Goodwill Industries will work together to collect gently used clothing and other working items that might otherwise have ended up in a landfill. The University and Goodwill will be diverting these items to Goodwill stores where they'll maintain value. Pick up of these items will start April 26 and continue on an as needed basis.

"Many reusable items are tossed out at the end of the year, including working lamps, usable carpets, good linens, those sorts of things," said Dennis Carlberg, Sustainability Director at Boston University. "We hope this 3 ½ week program will encourage students to donate and recycle for the sake of the environment and the programs at Goodwill that help people lead better lives."

Students are encouraged to donate items such as usable clothes, shoes, accessories, working house & kitchen wares, lamps, rugs, linens, CDs and DVDs at Goodwill bins that will be located at campus dormitories. Things that should not be donated there include textbooks, food, plants, toiletries, large appliances, furniture, mattresses, computers, televisions, and items that are at the end of their useful life.

"Moving out will take on a whole new meaning at Boston University this year," said Terry Fitzpatrick, vice president of retail operations at Goodwill. "By merely putting their good clothes in the Goodwill bin instead of the trash can, students make a social and environmental statement."

Thanks to donations, Goodwill annually diverts 18-20 million pounds worth of items from local landfills. These items are sold in one of the 11 Goodwill stores in eastern and central Massachusetts. Goodwill's mission is to provide job training and related services for individuals with disabilities and other barriers to employment.

Goodwill will also be collecting donations at Boston University's Earth Day festival on April 22 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at GSU Plaza.

ABOUT MORGAN MEMORIAL GOODWILL INDUSTRIES

For more than a century, Goodwill has provided job training programs and partnered with the business community to provide meaningful work opportunities for individuals with disabilities and other barriers to self-sufficiency. In addition, Goodwill operates Boston Career Link, a one-stop career center, which offers universal access to a broad range of services for job seekers, individuals who are looking to advance or change careers, and employers seeking good job candidates. Goodwill also offers programs that foster academic achievement and career aspirations among urban youth. The Goodwill Stores in eastern and central Massachusetts provide jobs and on-the-job training opportunities, offer quality, low-cost goods to individuals and families looking for value and support other programs and services fulfilling Goodwill's charitable mission. Goodwill annually serves more than 8,000 people. www.goodwillmass.org