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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:****Goodwill to Host 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Power of Work Award Luncheon April 21**

*Program honorees and community leader, Kelly Brough, President of the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, will receive awards at the event*

**Denver, Colo. April 7, 2015** - Goodwill Industries of Denver will celebrate the accomplishments of program participants who have overcome tremendous challenges to find success in Goodwill's career development programs at this year's 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Power of Work Award Luncheon. President of the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, and dedicated Goodwill supporter Kelly Brough, will also receive an award. The event will take place April 21, 2015, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Hyatt Regency Denver at Colorado Convention Center.

The Goodwill Power of Work Luncheon gathers hundreds of corporate and community leaders to learn about the inspiration, courage and success stories of the award winners from Goodwill's career development programs. For these award winners, the power of their work with Goodwill helped redirect their paths towards success.

**This year's honorees include:**

- Community leader and past Goodwill board member, Kelly Brough, President and CEO of the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, will receive the community leader award for her years of support as a Goodwill board member.
- Jackie Lopez – Jackie transformed her life from being a TANF client to becoming a full-time instructor for the SNAP ED Program at Colorado State University. One of Jackie's passions is training and speaking about how she overcame her challenges to find success.
- Tonya Johnson – Living with severe sight problems on a farm with her parents and brother, Tonya does not let her barriers stop her. As part of Goodwill's Community Employment program, Tonya became a full-time employee with Goodwill after demonstrating a superior work ethic.
- Leo Melgosa – Working his way up from a processor to store manager, Leo grew up in poverty and experienced chronic under employment his entire life—until Goodwill. His involvement with Goodwill helped him realize that with hard work, he can succeed. So much so that he was able to afford a plane ticket to bring his daughter home to Colorado from an orphanage in California.
- Goodwill's Student Advisory Council – This program consists of 20 students from different high schools who act as Goodwill ambassadors at their schools and in their communities. Students with few resources and additional obstacles in their lives, through the support of Goodwill's Youth Services these students demonstrate leadership and determination, driving them towards a successful future.

Tickets to the event are \$65, and can be purchased [here](#). Proceeds from this fundraising event benefit Goodwill's [community programs](#) that serve more than 21,000 at-risk students, struggling adults, and people with disabilities in our community. For more information, please contact Vanessa Clark at [vclark@goodwilldenver.org](mailto:vclark@goodwilldenver.org) or (303) 412-4211.

**About Goodwill Industries of Denver:**

Goodwill Industries of Denver seeks to reverse the cycle of poverty through career preparation and skills training for more than 21,000 at-risk youth, struggling families and individuals with disabilities. Through its thrift retail operations and community programs, Goodwill is ensuring that every individual in our community has the opportunity to live to their fullest potential and overcome barriers to success and self-sufficiency. Visit [www.goodwilldenver.org](http://www.goodwilldenver.org) to learn more.

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