



October 27, 2015

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**Bank of America and Goodwill Industries of San Diego Partner
To Increase Access to Jobs in San Diego County**

Neighborhood Builders® Award helps nonprofit to focus on their impact through leadership development and \$200,000 in flexible funding

San Diego, Calif- Bank of America has named Goodwill Industries of San Diego County as 2015 Neighborhood Builders. The nonprofit is being recognized for their work in job creation and assuring the employability of people with disabilities and other barriers to employment.

The Neighborhood Builders award combines leadership development resources for the nonprofit's executive director and an emerging leader within its organization, along with \$200,000 of flexible funding intended to help increase the nonprofits capacity and impact in San Diego. Since 2004, twenty San Diego nonprofits have been awarded a cumulative total of \$3.8 million in Neighborhood Builder grants. Past recipients have included: Junior Achievement, ACCION San Diego, Reality Changers, Just in Time for Foster Youth and Community HousingWorks to name a few.

This long-term investment in nonprofit leadership development and capacity building is the largest philanthropic investment of its kind.

"We recognize that nonprofits and their staff are on the frontlines as they tackle tough community issues that are vital to San Diego's economic growth," said Rick Bregman, San Diego Market President Bank of America. "Goodwill Industries of San Diego County already provide critical services that help people access resources that are essential to their long term well-being, through much needed employment services and developmental programs. With this Neighborhood Builders award, we hope to help this organization do even more for the community."

Established in 1930 here in San Diego by a group of community leaders, Goodwill Industries of San Diego's main purpose is job creation. Last year, Goodwill helped over 4,100 job seekers secure employment. Goodwill will utilize the Neighborhood Builder funds to solidify, strengthen and expand outreach programs for young adults and veterans. In addition, the Bank of America grant will support their Ticket to Work and Community Employment programs to expand their efforts with partners in both North and East counties. These initiatives are all focused on employment assistance, training and financial education.

Neighborhood Builders is just one example of our broader corporate social responsibility efforts to build vibrant communities and economies. By advancing partnerships with nonprofits addressing needs related to community development, basic human services and workforce development and education, we are working to increase financial stability and help individuals and families find the pathways out of poverty.

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