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*For Immediate Release*

## **NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR EVENING OF GOODWILL'S 'CORPORATE CLASS' AWARD**

**PHOENIX, Ariz. (May 8, 2006)** – Goodwill of Central Arizona invites members of the public to nominate Valley companies for its Corporate Class award, which will be presented at the organization's sixth annual Evening of Goodwill gala, held in October.

The Corporate Class award honors a business entity for its commitment to create hope, jobs and futures for individuals with barriers (emotional or physical) to employment. To nominate a Valley company, please visit [www.goodwillaz.org](http://www.goodwillaz.org) and click on the "Corporate Class Award" link under "what's new." Nominations must be received by Goodwill of Central Arizona no later than 5 p.m. June 15, 2006. The criteria are as follows:

- Nominee promotes hiring and training practices that support opportunities for individuals with barriers to employment.
- Nominee supports (with volunteers or contributions) Goodwill or other community initiatives to provide opportunities for successful employment of those with barriers.
- Nominee can provide three or more examples of internal or external support for his/her commitment to creating hope, job and futures for individuals with barriers to employment over the past five years.

"This is the first year that we have opened the Corporate Class award nominations to the public, and we are thrilled to expand our reach beyond our board and the planning committee," said Keith Mason, president and CEO, Goodwill of Central Arizona. "Evening of Goodwill is a very significant night for Goodwill of Central Arizona, not only because of the funds raised, but because it's an opportunity for us to celebrate and share the success we have had in the community during the past year."

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## **2-2-2, Nominations Open for Goodwill's 'Corporate Class' Award**

Past honorees include The Room Store, APS, Intel Corporation, The Boeing Company, Bank of America and SRP.

In addition, Goodwill of Central Arizona is currently seeking participants for the Planning Committee, volunteers to support the evening's activities and sponsors. For information on any of these opportunities, please contact Louann Phillips at (602) 416-6145 or [louann.phillips@goodwillaz.org](mailto:louann.phillips@goodwillaz.org).

### **About 2006 Evening of Goodwill**

The 2006 Evening of Goodwill will take place Saturday, Oct. 7, at 6 p.m. at The Phoenician Resort, 6000 E. Camelback Road, Scottsdale. All proceeds from the sixth annual *Evening of Goodwill* will support Goodwill's Postsecondary Scholarship Fund. This fund will make it possible for Goodwill's adult and youth program participants to build upon their basic education and secure the training and skills needed for a lifetime of self-sufficiency through continued education at an Arizona university, community college or vocational institution.

### **About Goodwill of Central Arizona**

Goodwill of Central Arizona is one of the oldest and largest nonprofit agencies in Arizona and is a nationally recognized leader in empowering people to achieve their highest level of personal and economic independence. Their philosophy is simple: provide an environment for people to believe they can succeed, achieve goals, develop skills and change the barriers they face every day. For more information on Goodwill of Central Arizona, visit [goodwillaz.org](http://goodwillaz.org).

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