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GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF CENTRAL FLORIDA APPOINTS NIMA HODAEI AS PRESIDENT AND CEO

ORLANDO, Fla. (July 26, 2018) – After a nationwide search, [Goodwill Industries of Central Florida](#) has appointed a new president and CEO. Nima Hodaei took the helm of the nonprofit organization in mid-July, replacing Bill Oakley, who retired June 30 after a 44-year career with Goodwill, including eight years as CEO of Goodwill Industries of Central Florida.

Bringing more than two decades of retail and nonprofit leadership experience, Hodaei previously served as vice president of donated goods retail for Goodwill of Delaware and Delaware County. Prior to that, he held leadership roles with discount chains National Stores, Inc. and Forman Mills, as well as Burlington Stores and Macy's. Hodaei earned a bachelor's degree in communication and journalism from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

"In addition to his significant experience, Nima wholeheartedly champions Goodwill's mission and vision," said Michael Hsu, chair of the Goodwill board and CFO/COO of Central Florida Kidney Centers. "Bill Oakley has positioned Goodwill to sustain its mission into the future, and under Nima's leadership we will carry on this legacy of providing people with the tools to transform their lives through meaningful work."

Hodaei plans to continue furthering Goodwill's mission of assisting job-seekers with barriers to employment across the organization's service area, which comprises Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Lake, Brevard and Volusia counties.

"What I love most about Goodwill is the chance to impact the community in a tangible way and to know that our team is changing lives," Hodaei said. "The scope and breadth of Goodwill's work in Central Florida, including efforts to help train and open doors for individuals with barriers to employment, made this an appealing opportunity. I am eager to lead our team in broadening our impact and reaching even more individuals in need."

Bill Oakley added, "It was the highlight of my career to serve the Central Florida market, and I'm pleased to pass the torch to Nima. I believe he will provide sterling leadership to take the organization to new heights."

About Goodwill Industries of Central Florida, Inc.

Since 1959, Goodwill Industries of Central Florida has provided vocational and job placement services to hundreds of thousands of people with disabilities and other barriers to employment. With 28 retail stores, 24 Donation Xpress locations and 11 Job Connection Centers in Orange, Seminole, Osceola, Brevard, Lake and Volusia counties, Goodwill directly channels more than 90 percent of its annual revenue into programs that enable individuals to secure long-term employment and become self-sufficient. For more information, visit www.goodwillcfl.org, "like" Goodwill Industries of Central Florida on Facebook or follow @goodwillcfl on Twitter.