

October 16, 2007 Goodwill Industries of the Conemaugh Valley Receives \$512,000 Federal Grant

For Immediate Release

October 16, 2007

Goodwill Industries of the Conemaugh Valley Receives \$512,856 Federal Grant

Washington D.C. - Congressman John P. Murtha, Chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, announced today that the U.S. Department of Labor has awarded Goodwill Industries of the Conemaugh Valley, Inc. a \$512,856 grant through the department's Youthbuild competition program.

The Youthbuild program provides job training and educational opportunities for at-risk youth. Students ages 16-24 will receive education and job training while constructing or repairing housing for low-income families in their own neighborhoods. Participants will split their time between the construction site and the classroom, where they will earn their high school diploma or GED, learn to be community leaders, and prepare for college and other postsecondary training opportunities.

The Johnstown Youthbuild program will enroll a total of 36 students from throughout Cambria County. Partners in the program include the Southern Alleghenies Workforce Investment Board, Johnstown Housing Authority, Greater Johnstown Career and Technology Center, PA Highlands Community College, Greater Johnstown School District, Home Builders Association of the Alleghenies, Chamber of Commerce of Greater Johnstown/Cambria County, Juvenile Court-Cambria County, Cambria County Assistance Office, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Greater Johnstown Community YMCA, and the Greater Johnstown YWCA.

"This program is a first of its kind for Johnstown," commented Murtha. "By combining learning skills and community service, our young people are developing career expertise that they can use for the rest of their lives."