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Good to Go drop-off donation event set for Feb. 23

Fort Myers, FL, Feb. 15, 2018 – Lee County government is collaborating with Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida for Good to Go, a drive-up, drop-off and drive-away donation event from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 23, at the Fort Myers Regional Library, 2450 First St., Fort Myers. The event is open to the public; donations are welcome.

Donations of new or gently used clothing and household goods can be brought to the downtown Fort Myers library drop-off point; enter at Richmond Street on the south side of the library between Lee Street and Royal Palm Avenue.

In addition to household donations, Goodwill will provide a secure document drop-off bin for those who need documents shredded. A prescription drug drop-off has also been added to the event. Individuals can get rid of unused, unwanted or expired prescriptions and over-the-counter medications at the same location for proper disposal. When medications are washed down a drain, they inevitably end up in a nearby water source. The medication drop-off is an easy way to deliver them to a monitored location.

Good to Go is designed to make it easy for people to donate by offering a drive-thru experience. Drivers will not need to get out of their vehicle.

This one-day event is part of Lee County's commitment to United Way and its partnering agencies. Donations go toward helping people with economic disadvantages who are veterans and residents of Lee County. Each donation is turned into vouchers, based on weight, to benefit the clients of Human & Veteran Services. The donations also help Goodwill with its mission to help people with disabilities and disadvantages by offering employment opportunities.

In 2017, employees of the Lee Board of County Commissioners exceeded their goal of raising \$95,800 by raising more than \$102,000 to support United Way and its partner agencies.

Although all household goods and gently used clothing will be accepted, some items will not be taken, including mattresses and box springs, televisions, which can be left at home for curbside pickup. Household supplies that constitute hazardous materials, such as paint, can be taken to another Lee County site: Solid Waste's Household Chemical Waste Collection Facility, 6441 Topaz Court, Fort Myers. Call 239-533-8000.

About the event partners:

The Lee County Department of Human and Veteran Services serves as a hub for government, private and nonprofit resources designated to aid individuals and families. Specific program areas are Family Self-Sufficiency, Housing Services, Neighborhood Building, Contract Management and Veteran Services. For more information, call 239-533-7930 or visit www.leegov.com/dhs.

The Lee County Library System has 13 branches including six regional libraries, two mid-sized libraries, and five community libraries as well as a bookmobile and a Talking Books library. The library currently has a collection of almost 2 million items in a variety of formats, circulates around 7 million items per year and provides a variety of programs for all ages and interests throughout Lee County. Visit www.leelibrary.net or call 239-479-4636.

Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that serves Collier, Lee, Charlotte, Hendry and Glades Counties. The agency's mission is to help people with disabilities and disadvantages by offering life-changing opportunities to achieve independence. Goodwill's programs in Southwest Florida include Pathways to Opportunity and Pathways to Work, Job-Link resource centers, MicroEnterprise Institute small business training classes, High School High Tech career exploration, veterans' services, disability-accessible housing, and more. For more information about Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida, please visit www.goodwillswfl.org or call 239-995-2106.

The United Way of Lee, Hendry, Glades, and Okeechobee has raised and distributed more than \$157 million since it was established in 1957. Within Lee County, there are 76 United Way Partner Agencies. In addition to raising funds for human service organizations in the community, the United Way promotes partnerships and collaborations among agencies and initiatives, helping them to work together focusing on issues and solutions that continue to improve lives. Call 239-433-2000 or visit www.UnitedWayLee.org.