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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

**GOODWILL-EASTER SEALS NAMES MARY JONES CHIEF PHILANTHROPY OFFICER**  
*Jones brings 30 years of leadership in the nonprofit sector to the organization*

**St. Paul, MN – May 18, 2017** – Goodwill-Easter Seals Minnesota (GESMN) selected Mary Jones as its Chief Philanthropy Officer. Jones most recently served as Chief Advancement Officer at YWCA Minneapolis since 2009 and joins GESMN on Monday, June 19, 2017.

Jones brings 30 years of nonprofit leadership, with past roles as Senior Development Director at the Abbott Northwestern Hospital Foundation, where she successfully tripled the foundation’s annual revenue over seven years. Her experience includes positions in the arts, human services and health care organizations.

Jones is a former Board Chair of the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits, the largest state association of nonprofits in the United States. She joins Goodwill-Easter Seals Minnesota as it approaches its 100th anniversary in 2019.

“We’re thrilled to welcome Mary to Goodwill-Easter Seals Minnesota,” said President and CEO Michael-Wirth Davis. “Her breadth of nonprofit leadership experience and philanthropic acumen will help position us to serve the community for the next hundred years.”

The Chief Philanthropy Officer sets the strategic vision of the Goodwill-Easter Seals Foundation, established in 2014 to raise and steward funds to advance the mission of GESMN. Jones will also oversee all fundraising activities, including developing individual support and a major gifts program.

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**About Goodwill-Easter Seals Minnesota**

Serving Minnesota for nearly 100 years as a leader in employment services, Goodwill-Easter Seals Minnesota provides education, job training and placement services to eliminate barriers to work and independence. Revenue from 45+ retail stores, grants and fees, along with other financial contributions, supports programs throughout MN. Our “donate-shop-reuse-educate-employ” model diverts over 50M pounds from landfills annually and brings us one step closer to a world where everyone experiences the power of work. Visit [goodwilleasterseals.org](http://goodwilleasterseals.org).

**About Goodwill-Easter Seals Foundation**

In 2014, the Goodwill-Easter Seals Foundation was formed to raise and steward funds to advance the mission of GESMN. The Foundation is a separate nonprofit that exists for the sole benefit of Goodwill-Easter Seals Minnesota. It offers donors a special opportunity to invest generously in the future of GESMN and create lasting legacies that will help people become economically self-sufficient.