



**BANK
OF THE
SIERRA**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: April 27, 2011
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**Sierra Grant Supports
Goodwill Industries of South Central California**

Porterville, CA —Bank of the Sierra is pleased to announce a Sierra Grant in the amount of \$3,000 has been awarded to Goodwill Industries of South Central California. This organization provides work skills assessment, vocational training, micro enterprise development assistance, job readiness, and job placement services for people indentified as having barriers to employment. These barriers include socioeconomic hardships, lack of education, career change, welfare, military service, those diagnosed with developmental disabilities, or those who have experienced disabilities later in life due to illness or accident. The funds awarded will support efforts to provide job training and skills development to approximately 40 disadvantaged individuals, allowing them to become self-sustainable and not as reliant on state and federal funding.

About The Sierra Grant Program

The Sierra Grant Program is designed to improve the quality of life for the families, especially the children, who reflect the diversity within Bank of the Sierra branch communities. The Sierra Grant Program is focused on three areas: community services, park preservation, and education. Anyone involved in a non-profit program that is interested in a Sierra Grant can pick up an instructional brochure at any Bank of the Sierra branch, or visit the bank web site at www.bankofthesierra.com.

About Bank of the Sierra

With over \$1.3 billion in assets and strong performance ratios, Bank of the Sierra is the largest independently owned community bank headquartered in Southern San Joaquin Valley's Heartland. The bank serves 15 different communities with 25 branches, two Ag Centers and one SBA Center. For more information visit the web site at www.bankofthesierra.com or call (888) 454-BANK.

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