FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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HELP OF SOUTHERN NEVADA AND MEN’S WEARHOUSE TEAM UP FOR 2ND ANNUAL NATIONAL SUIT DRIVE

Local Non-Profit And Leading Men’s Retailer Work Together To Collect Professional Work Attire For Those In Need

Suit Drive Aims To Provide Work-Appropriate Wardrobes To Those Looking To Re-Enter the Workforce

(Las Vegas, Nevada. Sept 1, 2009) – HELP of Southern Nevada, the premiere community resource in the Las Vegas Valley, announced today the launch of the 2nd Annual National Suite Drive with Men’s Wearhouse. Concerned that thousands of men are unable to secure employment because they lack the initial, yet vital, step of looking presentable for a job interview, HELP of Southern Nevada and Men’s Wearhouse are working together to collect thousands of articles of professional attire as part of the 2nd Annual National Suit Drive, September 1-30.

HELP of Southern Nevada has partnered with Men’s Wearhouse, the nation’s leading retailer of men’s tailored clothing, to help empower unemployed men by providing the necessary work attire that will build their self-esteem and help make a lasting impression during job interviews. As a thank you to donors, Men’s Wearhouse is offering a 10% in-store discount on any new purchase to those who donate a gently used or new suite to the drive.
Denise Gee, w.o.r.c director, work opportunities readiness center said, “We are very excited to work with Men’s Wearhouse on the National Suit Drive campaign. Proper professional attire really makes a difference in our clients’ lives. With these donations, men will have the opportunity to walk into an interview with confidence – an essential step toward economic stability.”

Last year, the inaugural suit drive garnered 125,000 professional items nationally. Locally, HELP of Southern Nevada was the recipient of 863 gently used suits and suiting pieces, along with 300 dress shirts thanks to the local support and donors from Southern Nevada. This year, HELP of Southern Nevada and Men’s Wearhouse have set a goal of not only gathering as many items as possible, but also increasing awareness about the importance clothing has on clients’ success as they work to overcome barriers to gainful employment.

“It became apparent many years ago that there was a long-standing need to help men who are striving for self-sufficiency,” said George Zimmer, CEO and Chairman of Men’s Wearhouse. “We started a Merchandise Donation program to provide professional clothing to nonprofit organizations serving these men. However, our program could not meet the demand, so we implemented the National Suit Drive to assist us in our efforts to help less fortunate men by giving them a renewed sense of dignity and respect. Philanthropy is a major part of our corporate fabric and given the economic climate, this year’s National Suit Drive is more important than ever.”

To demonstrate its commitment, Men’s Wearhouse will add a new tie to help complete the outfit for every suit donated.

All 1,065 Men’s Wearhouse and Men’s Wearhouse & Tux locations will serve as drop-off sites for gently used suits, dress shirts, sport coats, slacks, ties, belts and shoes that will be used to benefit men in need of these items to transition into the workforce. Men’s Wearhouse will accept donations for HELP of Southern Nevada, which in turn will provide them to individuals who utilize their services. For a complete list of local Men’s Wearhouse drop-off locations, please visit www.helpsonv.org or for national locations visit www.nationalsuitdrive.com.

About HELP of Southern Nevada
HELP of Southern Nevada assists low-income families and individuals to become more self-sufficient through direct services, trainings and referrals. Direct services available; social services, weatherization, community alternative sentencing, work opportunities readiness center, holiday programs, Nevada 2-1-1 call center, and homeless and youth services. For more information, call HELP of Southern Nevada at 702-369-4357 or visit us at www.helpsonv.org

About Men’s Wearhouse
Founded in 1973, Men's Wearhouse is one of North America's largest specialty retailers of men's apparel with 1,284 stores. The Men's Wearhouse, Moores and K&G stores carry a full selection of designer, brand name and private label suits, sport coats, furnishings and accessories.

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If you’d like more information, or to schedule an interview, please contact Gina Gavan at 702-275-2624 or ggavan@HELPSONV.org