



Contact:

Publicity Chair: Barbara Melcher

Phone: 773-472-7212

Email: bbmelcher@yahoo.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Impact 100 Chicago Awards \$330,000 to Chicago-Area Nonprofits**  
*Women's philanthropy supports youth media, employment training and  
mental health organizations*

CHICAGO May 21, 2015 – The City Chapter of *Impact 100 Chicago*, a philanthropic women's organization, awarded three \$100,000 Impact Grants and three \$10,000 Merit Grants to Chicago-area nonprofits at their annual Grant Awards Celebration on May 19.

Winners of the \$100,000 Impact Grants, voted on by members after presentations from the six finalists included:

- **Free Spirit Media**, [www.freespiritmedia.org](http://www.freespiritmedia.org), providing hands-on training in media production to under-served youth;
- **North Lawndale Employment Network**, [www.nlen.org](http://www.nlen.org), providing job training and access to financial literacy to unemployed and underemployed in North Lawndale; and,
- **Turning Point Behavioral Health Care Center**, [www.tpoint.org](http://www.tpoint.org), providing mental services to those in need regardless of ability to pay.

Merit Grants of \$10,000 each were awarded to:

- **Mikva Challenge**, [www.mikvachallenge.org](http://www.mikvachallenge.org), encouraging youth participation in civic and political life;
- **Refugee One**, [www.refugeeone.org](http://www.refugeeone.org), resettling refugees in the Chicago area; and,
- **Storycatchers Theatre**, [www.storycatcherstheatre.org](http://www.storycatcherstheatre.org), providing writing, producing and performing opportunities for youth.

“With state and city budgets stressed, Chicagoland nonprofits need us now more than ever” said Chicago Chapter President Allison Bacon. The *Impact 100 Chicago* grants this year bring to **\$1.3 million** the total amount granted since 2010. More than **355** people attended the annual Awards Celebration dinner held at Galleria Marchetti. The *Suburban Chapter of Impact 100* will hold its Grant Awards

Celebration on June 2 at Arlington Park in Arlington Heights. A \$100,000 Impact grant will be awarded plus four \$18,000 Merit Grants.

**About Impact 100 Chicago:** *Impact 100 Chicago*, [www.impact100chicago.org](http://www.impact100chicago.org), is a 501 (c)(3) women's philanthropic nonprofit with members from all over the Chicago area comprising two chapters, the City Chapter and the Suburban Chapter. To date, it has awarded over \$1.3 million in transformational grants to worthy Chicago nonprofits. Women join by making a donation of \$1,000 for the grant year. Each chapter pools its funds to award Impact Grants of \$100,000 to nonprofit organizations in the Chicagoland area. In the fall, nonprofits submit a letter of inquiry. The applications are thoroughly reviewed by members, and the finalists are selected.

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