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, providing hands-on training in media production to under-served youth;
- **North Lawndale Employment Network**, 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, 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, encouraging youth participation in civic and political life;
- **Refugee One**, www.refugeeone.org, resettling refugees in the Chicago area; and,
- **Storycatchers Theatre**, 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, 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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