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### ***Women 4 Women Announces Grant Recipients***

**LOUISVILLE, Ky. (May 16, 2014)** In a press conference today, Women 4 Women announced the recipients of \$100,000 in grants awarded to nonprofits throughout Metro Louisville. These grants were made as a result of a 2013 Champion fundraising campaign, in combination with The Fund for Women and Girls at The Community Foundation of Louisville.

In January, Women 4 Women announced a new grant program dedicated to supporting other nonprofits in Metro Louisville that are currently addressing needs of women and girls in a strategic and collaborative way. On April 21, the Champion donors who contributed to this initial grant fund, met to determine the recipients of those grants.

“This was a very difficult decision,” said Tawana Edwards, current board chair for Women 4 Women. “The Women 4 Women Grants Committee reviewed more than 40 grant applications from wonderful organizations throughout our community. The committee focused on the extent to which the request aligned with the mission of our organization, as well as, the impact the organization’s specific program or service would have in our community.”

In an effort to make a larger collaborative impact in the community, Women 4 Women made the decision in 2013 to return to its original roots as a grant making organization. Instead of developing and administering its own programs addressing needs in the community that fulfilled the organization’s mission, Women 4 Women decided to support other nonprofits in Metro Louisville currently in place and addressing the needs in our community in a strategic and collaborative way to make a more significant impact and to avoid duplication of efforts

Awarded grants focus primarily on the four areas of the Women 4 Women Economic Self-Sufficiency Model – Education & Leadership, Social Change & Single-Parent Economy, Jobs & Earnings and Health & Safety. These areas were identified in our Benchmark II Study, released in 2012, as the primary areas responsible for women achieving and maintaining economic self-sufficiency. Following the release of both Benchmark I and II Studies, Women 4 Women has continued its research and partnerships with

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organization within the community to continually monitor the changes and the impact these areas have on women. Strategic funding and partnerships with community leaders and The Fund for Women and Girls at the Community Foundation Louisville, allow the organization to continue its research and collaboration to address an ongoing need in our community.

#### GRANT RECIPIENTS

- Girls on the Run
- Legal Aid Society
- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- CASA of the River Region
- LaCasita Center
- Maryhurst
- New Directions
- Shively Area Ministries
- Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana
- 1+1=U, Inc. (Giving Youth a Chance)
- Women's Center (University of Louisville)
- Dress for Success Louisville
- Family Scholar House
- Jefferson Street Ministry Center
- Jewish Family & Career Services

The grant deadline for 2015 grants will be announced later this year. Any organizations that did not receive funding during this initial process are encouraged to apply in the future. To review 2014 grant guidelines and application, visit [w4w.org](http://w4w.org).

#### **About Women 4 Women**

Women 4 Women is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls in the Louisville community through grant making. The organization strives to empower women and girls through the Women 4 Women Economic Self-Sufficiency Model, which focuses on four key areas: Education & Leadership, Social Change & Single-Parent Economy, Jobs & Earnings and Health & Safety. By encouraging individuals to collectively pool their fundraising dollars with Women 4 Women and the Fund for Women and Girls at the Community Foundation of Louisville, we can make grants with greater impact in these crucial areas of need for women and girls in Louisville. Women 4 Women believes that by empowering women and girls we are empowering entire family units that will have a lasting impact on our community and future generations.

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