

May 19th, 2008

The New York Women's Foundation Honors Trailblazers, Awards More Than \$2.75 Million in Grants at 21st Annual Celebrating Women® Breakfast

New York, May 1—On Thursday, May 15, more than 2,100 individuals joined The New York Women's Foundation® (NYWF®) in honoring the work of exemplary women and its grantee partners--the community-based, women led grantee partner organizations serving women and girls throughout New York City's five boroughs. The Foundation has announced that it will grant more than \$2.75 million to these organizations in 2008—its highest funding level to date.

The Foundation awarded this year's Vision Award to The Women of Meeting Point International (MPI) in Uganda for their collective giving on behalf of families impacted by Hurricane Katrina. Four representatives of MPI travelled to New York to attend the Breakfast, and upon accepting the award, spoke to the packed Grand Ballroom a song about the interconnectedness among people and their thoughts on democratic giving.

Receiving the Celebrating Women Award this year were CNN's Chief International Correspondent Christiane Amanpour, and President and founder of The White House Project, Marie C. Wilson. Taking the stage to accept their awards, Wilson spoke of her commitment to preparing women for the political arena at all levels, Amanpour spoke of her duty as a journalist to raise awareness so that people around the world will stand united against poverty and oppression.

"Investing in women is a wise investment," Amanpour stated, "It is not [just] a 'feel good' investment. It is an investment that uplifts families, neighborhoods, communities, and eventually, countries."

The Celebrating Women® Breakfast is the signature event of the NYWF® and each year draws over 2000 individuals of conscience to honor women while raising money to eradicate poverty in New York City.

The New York Women's Foundation (NYWF) was established in 1987 as a public philanthropy to be a voice for women and a force for change. We are a cross-cultural alliance of women helping low-income women and girls in the five boroughs to achieve sustained economic security through expanded opportunities. We work

together to transform the conditions of poverty and to create an equal and just future for low-income women and girls.