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Impact 100 Awards \$100,000 to the Achievement Centers for Children & Families

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(Boca Raton, FL – April 14, 2014): On Thursday April 10th, three hundred and twenty women gathered at Lynn University’s Wold Performing Arts Center in Boca Raton to award \$320,000 to five non-profit charitable organizations in southern Palm Beach County. The grant total is the largest ever raised by the group, and will make an enormous impact in our community. The Achievement Centers for Children & Families was awarded \$100,000 for afterschool and summer programs at Pine Grove Elementary School in Delray Beach.

The Achievement Centers has a long history of providing childcare and academic opportunities to low-income children in southern Palm Beach County. The services meet critical needs: affordable toddler, preschool, afterschool and summer programs to families living below the poverty line. They will now serve nearly 1,000 children, ages 1 to 18, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 7AM to 7PM on three campuses. Stephanie Seibel, CEO of the Achievement Centers said, “We are so thrilled and honored to receive this incredible support; without it, the programs at Pine Grove would not be able to be launched to this degree.”

Rose Blackett, the Achievement Centers’ Director of Afterschool and Summer Programming at Pine Grove, gave a stirring speech to the group of 320 women, outlining the enormous impact this project will have on hundreds of children’s lives in one of the county’s lowest performing schools. As a former student of Pine Grove, Ms. Blackett said, “Never in a million years would I have imagined my life coming full circle within the City of Delray Beach. I count it all as a great joy!” The new programs will provide affordable aftercare and summer programs to more than 250 children from low income families, improving reading standards, closing the achievement gap, and preventing dropout. Principal Peccia stated, “This honor will now and may forever improve the lives of our students.”

Fellow \$100,000 grant recipients were The Florence Fuller Child Development Centers for its Family Preservation Program and the Creative City Collaborative (CCC), also known as the Arts Garage, for Music and Theatre Education. The remaining finalists, The Coastal Conservation Association and the United Cerebral Palsy of Palm Beach and Mid Coastal Counties, each received \$10,000.

Impact 100 Palm Beach County is a charitable women’s organization celebrating “The Power of Women Giving as One.” Their goal is to make it possible for a visionary idea to become a reality in a way that impacts the community. In its three year history, the group has given a total of \$688,000 to organizations serving southern Palm Beach County. Lisa Mulhall, past president and founding member said, “Next year we’re aiming for 400 members and \$400,000 in high impact grants.” Their motto for efficient philanthropy is “One Woman, One Meeting, One Vote.”

Impact 100 is operated as a charitable fund at the Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties. All women who would like to be a part of this powerful “giving circle” are warmly welcomed. To join, or to learn more about Impact 100 Palm Beach County visit: www.impact100pbc.com

To learn more about the Achievement Centers for Children & Families visit:
www.AchievementCentersFL.org or to schedule a tour call 561-266-0003.