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IMPACT 100 NYC LAUNCHES “THE FOUNDERS FELLOWSHIP” TO CREATE PATHS TO PHILANTHROPY FOR ASPIRING CHANGE-MAKERS

In its second year, women’s philanthropic giving circle expands its efforts to harness the power of collective giving and collaborative action with new initiatives

NEW YORK, NY – December 2, 2021 – Impact 100 NYC, an all-women, all-volunteer membership organization dedicated to transforming New York City communities through lasting impact, announced the formation of **The Founders Fellowship** to encourage and enable young women of diverse backgrounds and lived experiences to become involved in philanthropy.

On a mission to harness the power of collective giving and collaborative action, Impact 100 NYC annually bestows an Innovation Grant of \$100,000 to at least one nonprofit operating within the five boroughs of NYC for the benefit of city residents and communities. Founders Fellows receive full Impact 100 NYC membership benefits, including participation in the organization’s annual Grant Review and Selection cycle, whereby individual donations are aggregated into high-impact grants to help NYC, its people and communities thrive. Through this process, Fellows will learn how to evaluate grant proposals, select finalists and award grants and understand the work of a cross-section of New York City nonprofits, the challenges they face and the impact they make. Additionally, Founders Fellows are able to network with and be mentored by a diverse group of women with a wide range of backgrounds and areas of professional expertise.

“Impact 100 NYC’s Founders Fellowship aims to bring vital perspectives to our organization, membership and nonprofit partners,” said Autumn Figueroa, chair of The Founders Fellowship committee. “Each fellowship opens a door for an aspiring change-maker to experience the power of collective giving, understand the social issues that affect New York City, and become part of a world-wide collective giving movement.”

Fellowships are open via application to women from the five boroughs under the age of 35 who have demonstrated a commitment to improving lives in their communities through work, volunteerism, or study and are interested in addressing the vital needs of our community. Preference will be given to women for whom the annual individual membership donation of \$1,000 to Impact 100 NYC poses a hardship. The Founders Fellowship provides a three-year path to membership in Impact 100 NYC, beginning with a one-year commitment in which the fellow’s \$1,000 membership fee is covered 100% by Impact 100 NYC. In Year two, fellows make a \$250 contribution and in Year Three a \$450 contribution, with the balance each year covered by Impact 100 NYC.

The deadline for applications is December 31, 2021. The Fellows will be selected by mid-January and will participate in the grant review and selection process, the core initiative of Impact 100 NYC, beginning in January, 2022.

In 2021, its inaugural year, Impact 100 NYC, bestowed \$147,000 in grants to four New York City nonprofit organizations, awarding its first-ever Innovation Grant of \$102,000 to Fiver Children’s Foundation, a comprehensive youth development organization that makes a 10-year commitment to children from underserved communities throughout New York City and central New York. Additionally, three finalists, George Jackson Academy, Reaching Out Community Services, and Youth

Represent, were recognized for meeting critical needs and providing vital services, and each awarded a \$15,000 general operating grant to help further their missions.

The Founders Fellowship follows on the recent debut of nextgen, a program to give high schoolers hands-on social impact experience. Open to all eighth through twelfth graders from any New York City high or home school, nextgen members also learn and practice grant-making and fund-raising, participate in community service, and meet like-minded do-gooders from across the city.

For additional questions about the Founders Fellowship, please visit <https://impact100nyc.org/Be-a-Founder-Fellows> or email fellowship@impact100nyc.org.

About Impact 100 NYC

By harnessing the power of collective giving and collaborative action, Impact 100 NYC unites women across the five boroughs to fund transformative change that helps the people and communities of NYC overcome adversity and thrive.

An all-volunteer organization, Impact 100 NYC empowers diverse women to be change-makers by working and giving together to transform NYC communities through lasting impact. By aggregating individual giving into high impact grants, we connect members to each other, to NYC nonprofits and the communities they serve. Together, through collaborative giving, decision-making and volunteering, we each become transformational forces in our own communities and in our own lives.

Founded in 2019, IMPACT 100 NYC is a 501(C)(3) charitable women's giving circle dedicated to awarding high-impact grants totaling \$100,000 or more to at least one nonprofit in the five boroughs of New York City. Impact 100 NYC is a chapter of Impact100, a global organization with 60 chapters in more than 60 cities and four countries. By the end of 2021, Impact100 will have collectively granted more than \$100 million dollars during its first 20 years.

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