FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 21, 2018

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Women’s Philanthropic Group Grants $180,000 to Three Local Denver Non-Profits for Transformational Impact in Refugee and Mental Health Services

Third Annual “Impact Grants” Announced by Volunteer-based Impact100 Metro Denver

Denver, CO — Impact100 Metro Denver has awarded a total of $180,000 in grants to three Denver-based non-profit organizations to support transformational impact in the region’s refugee and mental health services: $100,000 to Project Worthmore, $48,000 to Rocky Mountain Crisis Partners, and $32,000 to International Rescue Committee in Denver.

This is Impact100 Metro Denver’s third annual grant of at least $100,000 to an organization that will use the funds for lasting impact within the metro Denver community:

**Project Worthmore** fosters community and self-sufficiency among Denver-area refugees. It was formed in 2011, and located in the heart of the refugee committee, in response to the estimated 60,000 people who have fled their homes from other countries and now call Denver home. With the $100,000 Impact Grant, Project Worthmore will be able to significantly transform its Food Share Program to address food insecurity among the refugee population. It will purchase infrastructure and employ refugees to support a 9 am to 5 pm food access program five days a week as well as a mobile unit to deliver food to single mothers, the elderly disabled. It will also be able to kick-start a business model to support the food program by increasing farm share partnerships from its refugee-training with local restaurants.

**Rocky Mountain Crisis Partners** is a statewide, 24/7, year-round, community-based system of crisis intervention services and handles about 20,000 calls a month. It provides culturally-sensitive counsel in 150 languages. It will use its Impact Grant to help address the organizational crisis it faces in retaining a qualified workforce by making long-overdue and critical improvements to its physical work environment.

**International Rescue Committee in Denver** helps refugees rebuild their lives and regain control of their future in their new home community. Recognizing that financial literacy is one the biggest barriers to better jobs, education and contributing to a region’s economic development, IRC will use its Impact Grant to initiate a financial literacy and Center for Economic Opportunity for Denver area refugees.

This year’s grant award is a record for the three-year-old Impact100 Metro Denver, whose current membership is at 180 women throughout the Metro Denver area who pool together $1,000 each to make a larger philanthropic impact than they could alone. This year’s finalists were selected from a pool of nearly 40 applicants who underwent a rigorous grant review process.

"Our members are laser-focused on how they can leverage their dollars to have a transformational impact in the Metro Denver area. Refugee and mental health services are vital to a healthy economy and culture and we
applaud the passion, determination and smart business models that our finalists displayed and look forward to being a part of their future success,” said Pat Wynne, Impact100 Metro Denver Co-founder.

**About Impact100 Metro Denver**
Impact100 Metro Denver is part of the Impact100 movement, which began in 2001 in Cincinnati to create transformation change at the local level through members’ direct involvement in grant making. Today there are over 40 chapters around the country. The Metro Denver chapter is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Membership is open to all women in Metro Denver area. For more information, visit [www.impact100metrodenver.org](http://www.impact100metrodenver.org).

**About The Denver Foundation**
The Denver Foundation is a community foundation that inspires people and mobilizes resources to improve life in Metro Denver. In 2017, the Foundation and its donors awarded more than $66 million in grants. The Denver Foundation has three roles: stewarding an endowment to meet current and future needs for Metro Denver, working with community leaders to address the core challenges that face the community, and managing more than 1,000 charitable funds on behalf of individuals, families, and businesses. For more information, visit [www.denverfoundation.org](http://www.denverfoundation.org).

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