



Empowering Women Since 1997

Women in Housing & Finance Foundation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Press Release

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO BE HONORARY CO-CHAIRS OF WHF FOUNDATION 20TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT

Alexandria, VA -- The WHF Foundation is pleased to announce that Senator Richard Shelby (R-Ala.) will serve as honorary co-chair of the Foundation's 20th anniversary special event, to be held on September 28, 2017. Joining the senior senator from Alabama on the Honorary Board of Congressional Co-chairs are Rep. Emanuel Cleaver (D-Mo.), Rep. Warren Davidson (R-Ohio), Rep. John Delaney (D-Md.), Rep. Frank Lucas (R-Okla.), Rep. Blaine Luetkemeyer (R-Mo.), Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-N.Y.), Rep. Greg Meeks (D-N.Y.), Rep. Jared Polis (D-Colo.), Rep. Ed Royce (R-Calif.) and Rep. Steve Stivers (R-Ohio). In addition to these current serving legislators, former Congressman Steve Bartlett (R-Texas) has agreed to serve on the Honorary Board.

"The WHF Foundation is extremely honored to have garnered such a distinguished roster of co-chairs to help us celebrate 20 years," said Mary Martha Fortney, WHF Foundation President. "We are inspired that the Foundation's goals have earned broad support from members of Congress."

The WHF Foundation's core mission is to partner with local non-profit organizations dedicated to helping low-income women and children with basic financial literacy skills, housing assistance, transition services and economic empowerment. Since its creation by Women in Housing & Finance in 1997, the WHF Foundation has provided \$569,500 in nonprofit partnership grants and has awarded \$21,000 in grants to the Trinity Washington University scholarship program.

"Because of generous supporters like the WHF Foundation, we have been able to establish successful and innovative models for permanent supportive housing as well as increase awareness of this need in our city," writes Marilyn Kresky-Wolff, Open Arms Housing Executive Director. "The Foundation has given hope and strength to women who are changing their lives," notes Calvary Women's Services Executive Director Kristine Thompson in her July 3 letter to the Foundation.

To mark its 20th anniversary, the WHF Foundation will host a reception on September 28, 2017 from 5:30pm to 8:00pm. In addition to honoring our co-chairs, we will recognize our nonprofit partnership grant recipients, Trinity Washington University scholarship winners, former and current Foundation leadership, and the many WHF

member volunteers who work with those nonprofit partners. The reception will be held at The McDermott Building, 500 North Capitol Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001. Details and registration information about the event are available here, or visit our website at www.whfdc.org/foundation.

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About the WHF Foundation: A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to: (1) Develop personal finance counseling programs to enhance the financial empowerment of low-income women or other at-risk individuals; (2) Provide partnership grants to organizations that provide services to women and their families in the Washington, D.C. area; (3) Coordinate volunteer activities of Women in Housing and Finance members benefiting community groups, especially in the areas of housing and women's' concerns; and (4) Create an internship or scholarship program for women students interested in the fields of housing and finance. For more information, please visit the WHF Foundation's Web-site at <http://www.whfdc.org/about-whf-foundation>.