FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
04/24/17

Contact: Shante Avant | Deputy Director
O: 901-525-1237 | shanteavant@wfgm.org
Erica Horton | Communications & PR Associate
O: 901-969-2414 | C: 901-304-3975 | ericahorton@wfgm.org

WFGM’s to Announce Year Two $1 million Investment in Vision 2020

MEMPHIS, TN – The Women’s Foundation for a Greater Memphis (WFGM) will announce its second year investment of $1.2 million into zip code 38126 and 27 new grantee partners during a press conference at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 27 at the Memphis Cook Convention Center. The investment is part of WFGM’s Vision 2020 Strategic Plan. The overarching purpose of Vision 2020 is to reduce poverty by five percent over five years in zip code 38126, the poorest area in the City of Memphis. The plan focuses on case management, employment training, early childhood education, youth development, and financial literacy to achieve the five percent reduction. In April 2016 WFGM awarded its year one investment of over $1 million to 22 grantee organizations to support programs provided in 38126.

The 2017 grantee partners and investment areas are:

**Financial Literacy**
- Rise Foundation

**Case Management**
- Knowledge Quest
- Urban Strategies Memphis Hope (USMH)
- Metropolitan Interfaith Association (MIFA)

**Employment Training**
- Advance Memphis
- Boys and Girls Club of Greater Memphis
- DeNeuville Learning Center
- HopeWorks
- Karat Place, Inc
- Memphis Urban League
- Southwest Tennessee Community College
- YWCA

**Early Childhood Education**
- Early Success Coalition
- Memphis Library Foundation
- Porter-Leath
- Neighborhood Christian Center
- Exchange Club Family Center

**Youth Development**
- Booker T. Washington High School
- Emmanuel Center
- Girls Incorporated
- Girls Scouts Heart of the South
- Memphis Inner City Rugby
- Mustard Seed Inc
- New Ballet Ensemble
- Streets Ministries
- University of Memphis, Herff CE
- Vance Avenue Youth Development Center

Immediately following the press conference is the 2017 Annual Tribute Luncheon, WFGM’s signature fundraising event. It is Thursday, April 27 from 11:30 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. at the Memphis Cook Convention Center. The presenting sponsor is FedEx and the luncheon keynote speaker is award-winning journalist and philanthropist Tamron Hall.

“I am honored and humbled to be the keynote speaker for the 2017 Annual Tribute Luncheon. The Women’s Foundation for a Greater Memphis’ investment to “Women Helping Women,” is deeply reflected in their work in the community,” said Tamron Hall, award-winning journalist, and philanthropist. “Their commitment to recognizing and uplifting women is inspiring and proof of the importance and necessity of philanthropy and women’s leadership.”

Hall has been the host of *Deadline: Crime with Tamron Hall* on Investigation Discovery since September 2013. She was a part of the NBC News team as a co-host of the third hour of NBC News’ *TODAY* and the anchor of *MSNBC Live with...*
Tamron Hall. Hall’s passion and commitment to “Women Helping Women” reflects the mission and vision of the Women’s Foundation for a Greater Memphis. Most recently, Hall launched The Tamron ❤ Renate Fund with Safe Horizon in honor of her sister to help victims and families affected by domestic violence.

# # #

For 22 years, The Women’s Foundation for a Greater Memphis (WFGM) has played a major role as a backbone organization aligning people, resources, and coordinating community-based services through the two-generation approach.