

For Immediate Release

Montclair Fund for Women to Provide Dollars for Local Charities

November 3, 2003 - Montclair, NJ - The Montclair Fund for Women, a newly formed grant-making organization dedicated to the economic empowerment of women and girls has asked local charities to submit proposals to fund projects with an emphasis on financial literacy education and public policy advocacy. The Montclair Fund for Women grants program will invest in local nonprofit organizations located in Montclair, Bloomfield, Glen Ridge, Verona, Cedar Grove, Roseland and the Caldwelles.

“We are excited to once again join the ranks of effective public charities that serve our community,” says Catherine Bolder, President of the Board of Directors for the Montclair Fund for Women. “We have worked diligently for the past 18 months to transform our organization into one that will serve more women and girls and make a significant contribution to their financial empowerment.”

The Montclair Fund for Women is a “new” organization initiated by the 90-year old YWCA of Montclair-North Essex using the net proceeds from the sale of its property on Glenridge Avenue earlier this year. Many thought the move was controversial. But, holding true to its promise, the Board of Directors is presenting the community with a revitalized and fiscally sound grant-making organization. The Fund is dedicated to promoting economic empowerment for women and girls by supporting community programs in economic education and financial literacy. MFW will also partner with other organizations to inform the public about policies that will increase economic opportunities and life chances for women and girls.

Montclair Fund offers opportunities to local philanthropists and donors to support its work. “We would welcome the assistance of women who are financially successful role models for the women and girls we support,” says Lydia Davis Barrett, Executive Director for the Fund. “We recognize that there are many long-time residents and new upwardly mobile young professionals in Montclair and neighboring communities, all of whom have the civic spirit and means to make contributions that can benefit their communities while meeting their personal financial and tax savings objectives.”

Grant awards will range from \$500 to \$2,000 each. These grants are intended to support workshops, mini-projects, or activities as components of larger programs in other public charities or small nonprofits whose goals are compatible with MFW’s. Local supporters are encouraged to contribute toward one of the Funds grant-making areas. For more information, call (973) 746-5400 or email lydia@montclairfundforwomen.org.

Contacts:

Lydia Davis Barrett (973) 746-5400

Zoraya E. Lee (973) 325-9176