



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 12, 2018

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Women's Foundation of Greater Saint Louis Funding Provides Self-Development Programming for Women Residents at DOORWAYS Housing Complex

St. Louis, MO: DOORWAYS successfully completed a one-year grant awarded by the Women's Foundation of Greater Saint Louis (WFSTL) in early 2017. The goal was to provide additional support services and self-development programming for the mothers residing in the DOORWAYS family housing complex. All are battling poverty while struggling with the challenges of HIV/AIDS.

Sixty-five women attended one-on-one counseling and group sessions funded through the Women's Foundation of Greater Saint Louis grant. During the individual sessions, the residential support services coordinators reviewed an inventory of skills, with particular emphasis on experience with financial management issues, such as managing a household budget, debt, banking, etc. Topics of the group sessions also included financial literacy, as well as self-care, and other basic life skills.

"Our residents reported increased knowledge about banking and managing money as a result of participation in these programs," noted Opal Jones, president and CEO of DOORWAYS. "This is an important step as they work towards moving beyond poverty, towards independence. We greatly appreciate and value this partnership with the Women's Foundation of Greater Saint Louis."

In its 30th year, DOORWAYS provides emergency and permanent housing to the impoverished and homeless population affected by HIV/AIDS in Missouri and Illinois through five programs: Cooper House, Residential, Own Home, and Outstate (doorwayshousing.org). Housing is the foundation for a stable healthcare plan, which lays the groundwork for additional support services to assist DOORWAYS residents on the journey towards improved life-stability.

The Women's Foundation of Greater Saint Louis (wfstl.org) advances economic security for women and girls. Founded in 2007, the WFSTL has awarded grants to local organizations committed to removing societal, policy, and economic obstacles so that women and girls may achieve economic self-sufficiency.

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