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NEWS RELEASE

The Women's Foundation of Colorado Opens Application Process for 2013 Girls' Leadership Council

Invites Sophomore High School Girls from Across Colorado to Apply for Prestigious Week-Long Leadership Program Held at University of Denver in late July

DENVER, COLO. (March 7, 2013) — The Women's Foundation of Colorado (WFCO), a Denver-based nonprofit committed to building resources and leading change so that every woman and girl in Colorado achieves her full potential, is now accepting applications for its 2013 Girls' Leadership CouncilSM (GLC) which is expanded this year to include 20 participants.

Girls' Leadership Council is a prestigious program created by The Women's Foundation of Colorado coordinated this year in partnership with Girls Inc. of Metro Denver. The program inspires girls to be future leaders, advocates and philanthropists. Participants will engage in a challenging, hands-on program that allows each girl to discover the power to make an impact in her community and reach her full potential. Applications are now available online at www.wfco.org/GLC and are due Friday, March 29, 2013 at 5 p.m.

"The Girls' Leadership Council is an amazing opportunity for Colorado's high school sophomore girls to participate in a program that has the potential to impact the rest of their lives," said Louise Atkinson, President & CEO of The Women's Foundation of Colorado. "During a week-long intensive program, the GLC girls acquire life-long leadership skills while also learning about important issues affecting women and girls in Colorado, and even more importantly, how they can make change by using the power of philanthropy."

Any **high school sophomore girl in Colorado** who will be a junior during the 2013/2014 school year, and is no older than age 17, is eligible to apply for the GLC. Applicant **must have a strong interest in and history of extracurricular, volunteer or paid activity/experience in her school and/or community**. Applicants should also demonstrate a strong academic record. While GPA will be reviewed, the overall academic assessment will take into account GPA, specific class performance and variety of course enrollment.

Through a competitive application and interview process, The WFCO will invite twenty (20) diverse high school sophomore girls to participate in a one-week summer program on the University of Denver campus to take place July 21-27, 2013. Participants will learn about the latest research on the status of women and girls in Colorado, educational opportunities and economic security for women and girls as well as women in leadership and media, career paths for women, and participate in extensive team and skills-building activities.

— More —

Girls' Leadership Council/2

Participants of the 2013 Girls' Leadership Council will:

- Investigate, discuss and address issues impacting Colorado's women and girls;
- Research, conduct site visits and as a collective group grant \$20,000 to Colorado nonprofit organization(s) working to reduce the high school drop-out rate among girls;
- Discover the importance and impact of philanthropy by and for women and girls; and,
- Live among a community of like-minded peers for one week on the DU campus.

At the end of the Girls' Leadership Council, two exemplary participants will be selected to each receive a \$1,500 Dottie Lamm Leadership Award to support their future educational expenses.

To learn more about the Girls' Leadership Council, visit www.wfco.org/GLC and view a video here: <http://vimeo.com/59194390#>

About The Women's Foundation of Colorado

The mission of The Women's Foundation of Colorado is to build resources and lead change so that every woman and girl in Colorado achieves her full potential. We are committed to boldly leading systemic change to advance economic opportunity for all women and girls in Colorado; using research to build knowledge and guide action; building philanthropy that supports and champions women and girls in Colorado; demonstrating and promoting inclusiveness and commitment to a diversity of people, partners and ideas; and creating strategic partnerships throughout the state to service our mission. For more information, visit www.wfco.org or call 303-285-2960.

About Girls Incorporated of Metro Denver

The mission of Girls Inc. of Metro Denver is to inspire all girls to be **strong, smart, and bold.**SM As an affiliate of the national nonprofit, Girls Incorporated, whose research-based programs and expertise on girls' issues date back to 1864, Girls Inc. of Metro Denver offers a variety of educational, enrichment and empowerment programs for girls ages 6 to 18. Programs are grounded in research and tested in the field and address the educational, societal, and economic barriers girls continue to face. These programs encourage girls to set goals, take on new challenges, build self-esteem, and achieve their full potential. For more information, please visit www.girlsincedenver.org.

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