



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Dining for Women Joins Forces With White House and Peace Corps**

**GREENVILLE, SC – March 9, 2016** -- Dining for Women, a global giving circle with chapters across the U.S., is supporting Peace Corps volunteers involved in Let Girls Learn, a U.S. White House initiative aimed at increasing educational opportunities for girls around the world.

Dining for Women announced that it has awarded a \$100,000 grant to the Let Girls Learn Fund, which offers grants to Peace Corps volunteer projects that focus on girls' empowerment and education.

Dining for Women's commitment was part of an announcement made by First Lady Michelle Obama at a special event recognizing International Women's Day. (See White House Fact Sheet at [White House Fact Sheet](#).)

Dining for Women is a global giving circle dedicated to transforming lives and eradicating poverty among women and girls in the developing world. Through member education and engagement, as well as the power of collective giving, Dining for Women funds grassroots organizations that empower women and girls in developing countries and promote gender equity.

Dining for Women was founded in Greenville, SC by Marsha Wallace and Barb Collins in 2003. Since that time, the organization has invested more than \$5 million in grants that address education, health care, economic opportunities, food security, environmental degradation, and safety and security for women and girls internationally. It has more than 8,000 members in nearly 400 chapters across the U.S., and 12 international giving circles.

"Girls' education has always been one of the primary focus areas for Dining for Women," said Barbara Collins, Co-Founder and Board Chair. "We know that when a girl is educated, she is more likely to earn a viable living, delay marriage, have fewer and healthier children, and improve the quality of life for herself, her family, and her communities. By supporting the Let Girls Learn Initiative, we will open even

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more doors for learning, allowing girls to control their own destinies, and change the world.”

DFW funds will be used by Peace Corps volunteers in countries around the world to fund grassroots, community-driven projects that address barriers to girls’ education and improve the quality of that education.

This Let Girls Learn grant is possible due to the collective donations of Dining for Women members. “The average Dining for Women donation is \$35 meaning the grant to the Peace Corps Let Girls Learn Fund represents the collective giving of nearly 3,000 individuals,” said Beth Ellen Holimon, Dining for Women Executive Director. “By harnessing the power of collective giving and people’s desire to take action, Dining for Women is a proven vehicle for social change.”

For more information, visit our website at [www.diningforwomen.org](http://www.diningforwomen.org).

**Media Contacts:**

Wendy Frattolin  
Communications & Membership Director  
[wendy@diningforwomen.org](mailto:wendy@diningforwomen.org)  
864-256-1043

Peace Corps Press Office  
202-692-2230