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RUTH SHACK TO RECEIVE THE MARILYNN GLADSTONE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Women's Fund celebrates women and girls at Power of the Purse 2015

MIAMI, Florida – The Women's Fund Miami-Dade's signature 2015 **Power of the Purse** Luncheon and Auction will be held at the Hilton Miami Downtown on lucky Friday, March 13 with over 800 of South Florida's leaders, philanthropists, celebrities and government officials to celebrate the POWER of women and girls to create change in our community.

Leading a stellar event committee are Co-Chairs M. Victoria Cummock and Tiffany Zientz Heckler and returning Auction Chair and Board member, Cyndi Hibnick. "Starting 2015, we are delighted to rename The Women's Fund Lifetime Achievement Award after the founder of the organization, Marilynn Gladstone," said Cummock. Marilynn will personally present this year's award to Ruth Shack, who in her 24-year tenure as President of The Miami Foundation led the organization from its infancy to be a community leader and change agent.

Two of this year's *Honor Roll* inductees will be Saliha Nelson and Lisa Schejola Akin. As a social change agent, Ms. Nelson is the founder of the twenty year old non-profit Urban Renewal Greater Enhancement National Team (URGENT, Inc.), and the current Chairwoman of the Overtown Children and Youth Coalition, Vice Chair of the Miami Dade County Public Schools Student Services Advisory Committee and member of the Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust Youth Action Committee.

Lisa Schejola Akin, who is an active advocate for women and girls is involved with Eve Ensler's V-Day movement and sits on the international V-Day and One Billion Rising Boards. She is also a founding Board member of Casa Valentina. "The women selected as members of the *Honor Roll* have been instrumental in developing the mission and stewarding the success of The Women's Fund" said event co-chair Tiffany Zientz Heckler. She added, "we are proud to honor these women who stand for a community where all women and girls have equal access and opportunity."

While sipping on cocktails, guests should expect an over-the-top auction which will once again feature fabulous designer bags, wine collections, extraordinary travel experiences and jewelry. The luncheon will include an emotional and inspiring program which will highlight the transformational stories of the women and girls served in Miami-Dade County.

Individual tickets are \$150.00 and VIP tickets are \$200.00. To purchase tickets, buy a table or sponsor the Power of the Purse, please visit www.womensfundmiami.org or call 305.441.0506.

About The Women's Fund Miami-Dade

The Women's Fund Miami-Dade empowers women and girls through advocacy and funding for innovative initiatives that build equality, foster social change and create community partners. Founded in 1993, The Women's Fund is Miami-Dade's only organization directing all of its energy toward creating equal opportunity, access and influence for women and girls. Through research, collaboration, and grant-making we expose the issues, give voice to the silent majority, and pool our collective giving power to provide grassroots solutions. We believe that by pooling our resources we can create a just and safe Miami-Dade, where power and possibility aren't limited by gender. The Women's Fund Miami-Dade improves the lives of women and girls through grant making, research, advocacy and education.