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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Female Business Leaders Join Forces on Foundation Board**

WGF Announces 2008 Board of Directors

PITTSBURGH (January 31, 2008) – The Women and Girls Foundation (WGF) is kicking off an aggressive agenda for the New Year with a board of directors that includes some of the most powerful businesswomen in Pittsburgh. As WGF begins another year of leading programs and creating partnerships to work for equality in Southwest Pennsylvania, it is joined in its effort by six female business leaders representing the region's largest corporations and nonprofit organizations.

WGF's new and returning board members reflect the foundation's goal of creating equality for women by partnering with businesses in the region to enact change. In 2008, WGF will continue making grants to local organization to increase women's rights in our region and will focus the Foundation's advocacy efforts on decreasing the region's wage gap and increasing the number of women on the boards of Pittsburgh's publicly-owned companies.

"Our new board members reflect our goal of achieving economic justice for women in Pittsburgh," said Cecile Springer, WGF Board Chair. "We hope these new partnerships with the business community will be the start of positive change for women throughout our region."

New Members of the Board of Directors:

Heidi Bartholomew
Vice President and Controller, FedEx Ground

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Mia Hallett Bernard
Executive Director, PNC Foundation

Annamaria Fato
Administrative Manager - Qatar Project, International and Commercial Services Division, UPMC

Múkami Kinoti Kimotho
Vice President, Global Diversity Strategies,
Bank of New York Mellon

Rona Nesbit
Senior Vice President Finance, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust

Ronnie Savion
Vice President and Creative Director, Elias/Savion

Returning Members:

Cecile M. Springer, Chair
President, Springer Associates

Mildred E. Morrison, Treasurer
Administrator, Allegheny County Area Agency on Aging, Department of Human Services

Mary Ann Dunham
Shareholder (Partner), Buchanan Ingersoll PC

Elisabet Rodriguez-Dennehy
Adjunct Faculty – Point Park, Duquesne, Chatham and Waynesburg Universities/MBA & Masters Programs

Tanya Hagen, MD
Assistant Professor, Orthopedic Surgery, Sports Medicine Division, UPMC

Valerie Navarre
Entrepreneur, Owner, The French Tart Bakery

M.J. Tocci
Principal, Trial Run, Inc. and Fulcrum Advisors

The Women and Girls Foundation (WGF) is an independent, community-based foundation with a mission to achieve equality for women and girls in the region. Through a combination of public advocacy, coalition building and grantmaking, WGF seeds, supports and strengthens women's and girls' efforts to achieve social and economic justice in Southwestern Pennsylvania.

www.wgfpa.org

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