

THE INSTITUTE OF WOMEN & ETHNIC STUDIES RECEIVES \$2 MILLION GIFT FROM THE YIELD GIVING OPEN CALL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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*New-Orleans Based Non-Profit Announced as a Recipient of a Generous Gift from the
Yield Giving Open Call*

New Orleans, LA — March 19, 2024 – Today, the Institute of Women & Ethnic Studies (IWES)—a community-based public health non-profit headquartered in New Orleans, LA—announces that it has received \$2 million from MacKenzie Scott’s Yield Giving as one of the Yield Giving Open Call’s awardees working with people and in places experiencing the greatest need in the United States. Aligning with many of IWES’ main focal areas, the Yield Giving Open Call supports organizations providing resources such as access to health care, education and job training, and civic engagement, as well as those engaged in data collection and communication to amplify the voices of people and communities struggling against inequities.

“Receiving this award from Yield Giving is an incredible honor,” said Dr. Lisa Richardson, CEO of IWES. “We are passionate about using narratives and data to create pathways to collective healing here in the United States, as well as with partners and collaborators all over the world. This funding will help us to deepen our work in transformative and innovative ways, and we are grateful that Yield Giving recognizes the need to support community-based work such as ours.”

In March 2023, Yield Giving launched an Open Call for community-led, community-focused organizations whose explicit purpose is to enable individuals and families to achieve substantive improvement in their well-being through foundational resources. The Open Call received 6,353 applications and initially planned for 250 awards of \$1 million each. In the Fall of 2023, organizations top-rated by their peers advanced to a

second round of review by an external Evaluation Panel recruited for experience relevant to this cause and underwent a final round of due diligence. In light of the incredible work of these organizations, as judged by their peers and external panelists, the donor team decided to expand the awardee pool and the award amount.

"We are excited that our partnership with Yield Giving has resonated with so many organizations," said Cecilia Conrad, CEO of Lever for Change. "In a world teeming with potential and talent, the Open Call has given us an opportunity to identify, uplift, and empower transformative organizations that often remain unseen."

More information on the Yield Giving Open Call and other initiatives can be found at www.leverforchange.org. For more information about the Institute of Women & Ethnic Studies, please reach out to info@iwesnola.org.

About The Institute of Women & Ethnic Studies:

Founded in 1993, IWES is a national, non-profit health organization that creates initiatives to heal communities, especially those facing adversity. Through community-driven research programs, training, advocacy, and partnerships, IWES helps to build emotional and physical well-being, resilience and capacity among women, their families and communities of color, especially those which are disadvantaged. IWES creates culturally proficient programs, activities, and research to address and advocate for the emotional and physical well-being, resilience, and capacity of women of color, their families, and their communities to heal and create sustainable change.

About Yield Giving

Established by MacKenzie Scott to share a financial fortune created through the effort of countless people, Yield Giving is named after a belief in adding value by giving up control. To date, Yield's network of staff and advisors has yielded over \$16,500,000,000 to 1,900+ non-profit teams to use as they see fit for the benefit of others. To learn more, visit www.yieldgiving.com.

Lever for Change

Lever for Change connects donors with bold solutions to the world's biggest problems—including issues like racial inequity, gender inequality, lack of access to

economic opportunity, and climate change. Using an inclusive, equitable model and due diligence process, Lever for Change creates customized challenges and other tailored funding opportunities. Top-ranked teams and challenge finalists become members of the Bold Solutions Network—a growing global network that helps secure additional funding, amplify members' impact, and accelerate social change. Founded in 2019 as a nonprofit affiliate of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Lever for Change has influenced over \$1.7 billion in grants to date and provided support to more than 145 organizations. To learn more, visit www.leverforchange.org.