



For Immediate Release

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Spring Event Spotlights 2017 Membership

At its annual spring Membership Celebration, at the home of Cathy and Herb Vinnicombe, Bernardsville, Impact 100 Garden State marked the end of its current membership year, welcoming many of the 93 new 2017 members. With a total of 282 members, the organization has reached its highest membership level in five years.

President Merle Johnson shared some additional good news for the year. Impact 100 Garden State has received two matching gift awards. Thanks to the generosity of Carrie Morgridge, the Morgridge Family Foundation, and the Impact 100 Global Council, the Garden State Impact received funds in both the Impact 100 Council Young Philanthropist Program and Impact 100 Council Matching Membership Grants Program. The organization was among several nationwide to receive Morgridge funds.

“We are particularly delighted to have this recognition from well-known philanthropist, Carrie Morgridge, and the Impact 100 Global Council,” Johnson says. “We believe that collective women’s philanthropy is a powerful idea whose time has come. We look forward to reaching out to more and more young women to spread the word.”

In additional news, Johnson announced the creation of an Ambassador Program within Impact 100 Garden State. This cadre of experienced members will be on board to welcome new members and familiarize them with Impact events.

Johnson also told the membership that a new website portal, for members only, will launch in June. Its features, which will be available only by password, will increase the benefits of membership, Johnson said.

Members attending the event also heard updates from the three recipients of 2016 grants. The Interfaith Food Pantry displayed its new mobile van and young musicians from the Paterson

Music Project, a program of the Wharton School for the Performing Arts, performed for the members.

Impact 100 Garden State will award two grants of \$141,000 each this November. Information about the organization at www.impact100gardenstate.org

Photo Caption:

Impact 100 Garden State members. Left to right: Amelia Wolfe, Madison, Mary Jane Robertson, Morristown, Maryann Zaleski, Chatham, Mary Cobb, Morristown.