FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dining For Women Awards $50,000 for WAW’s New #ByHerSide Project

Dining for Women backs the provision of critical health access and intensive support to women and girls under WAW’s care in Afghanistan

New York, NY, April 17, 2018—WOMEN FOR AFGHAN WOMEN (WAW) is proud to announce that it is a 2018 grant award recipient of Dining for Women, a non-profit giving circle dedicated to empowering women and girls living in extreme poverty.

The Dining for Women grant of $50,000 will support WAW’s new #ByHerSide program in Afghanistan, which will provide access to critically-needed health services including: treatment for survivors of rape or incest (including emergency reconstructive surgeries as needed); treatment for survivors of physical abuse or violence by family or community members; obstetrics and gynecological services for pregnant women (including nutritional supplements to reduce incidences of malnutrition and providing medicines such as pain relievers); and birth and after-birth services in a high-quality medical facility.

Dining for Women is a global giving circle that funds grassroots projects working in developing countries to fight gender inequality. Its members are deeply involved with the grantees that the organization supports and the problems it seeks to address. Dining for Women has raised more than $5 million between 2003 and 2015, although its members are generally not wealthy and contribute average donations of $35. This unique collective-giving model has proven that small contributions, aggregated together, can make a huge difference. For WAW and the women and girls it serves, this partnership is certainly the case.

WAW is a grassroots, civil society organization dedicated to securing and protecting the rights of disenfranchised Afghan women and girls, particularly their rights to develop their individual potential, self-determination, and representation in all areas of life: political, social, cultural, and economic. WAW began in 2001 as volunteer-run to now employing over 750 staff in Afghanistan and in the U.S. Today, the organization has 33 centers, which provide services in 14 of Afghanistan’s 34 provinces, and is preparing to move into a larger New York Community Center to accommodate the growth of its programs.

In just 17 years, WAW has become the largest Afghan women’s organization in Afghanistan and in the world, and has provided protection, safety, holistic care, and empowerment programming to over 31,000 women and children, as well as 150,000 family members, and trained over 333,000 individuals from all walks of life on women’s rights as human rights.

WAW’s work will be presented to supporters at the WAW EXPO 2018: #ByHerSide, an interactive, experiential event held at Espace in New York City. WAW EXPO 2018 aims to raise awareness about the extraordinary breadth and impact of WAW’s programs while expanding WAW’s supporter base and raising much-needed funds.

WAW is thrilled to be partnering with Dining for Women on the critical #ByHerSide project in Afghanistan. Together and with these kinds of partnerships, we can truly save lives.
For Press Related Inquiries Contact:

Mona Abu Rayyan, WAW Communications Manager
158-24 73rd Avenue | Fresh Meadows, New York 11366
Tel: 718-591-2434 | E-mail mona@womenforafghanwomen.org

WOMEN FOR AFGHAN WOMEN (WAW) is a grassroots civil society organization dedicated to protecting and promoting the rights of disenfranchised Afghan women and girls in Afghanistan and New York. In particular, WAW works to help Afghan women and girls exercise their rights to pursue their individual potential, to self-determination, and to representation in all areas of life—political, social, cultural, and economic. WAW relentlessly advocates for women’s rights and challenges the norms that underpin gender-based violence wherever opportunities arise to influence attitudes and bring about change.