

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MCW'S 11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GALA CELEBRATION RAISES \$920,000 AND HONORS UN WOMEN, MAMA SARAH OBAMA FOUNDATION, AND BANK OF AMERICA**

**NEW YORK, N.Y., June 25, 2015** — MCW, a New York-based non-profit organization dedicated to empowering youth to become positive agents of change in their communities, celebrated its 11<sup>th</sup> annual gala held on June 24<sup>th</sup> at New York University's Kimmel Center for University Life. The organization honored prominent individuals and organizations that share its mission and sustain its programs through their personal leadership and generous philanthropic support. The event raised \$920,000, which supports MCW's youth leadership, community development, and oral health care efforts in the United States and Africa.

“It is with the generous support of our partners, donors, dedicated staff and volunteers that MCW is able to carry out our mission and work in global youth development, community development, and oral health care,” said Eddie Bergman, the Co-founder and President of the Board of Directors of MCW.

The 2015 event, attended by more than 450 guests, included a silent auction and a special musical performance by *Hope - The Nelson Mandela Musical*. Liz Claman, an anchor at *Fox Business Network*, emceed the event and a special video message was shown from Ali Velshi, Host of “Real Money with Ali Velshi” on Al Jazeera America. Attendees also had the opportunity to purchase special items including hand-made arts and crafts produced at MCW community centers in Africa.

The 2015 MCW Community Partnership Award was presented to Bank of America and the 2015 MCW Leadership Awards were presented to Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women, and the Mama Sarah Obama Foundation. A special update on global youth development was provided by Dr. Charles L. Robbins, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education and Dean of the Undergraduate Colleges at Stony Brook University, and Sayid Abdullaev, Mahmoud Jabari, Mallory Rothstein, MCW Youth Leadership Retreat alumni who recently graduated from college.

To view pictures from the 2015 MCW gala, visit <http://on.fb.me/1HWI3oG>.

## **About MCW**

MCW is a non-profit organization founded in 1999 with the vision “Local Change through Global Exchange®.” Our mission is to empower youth to become positive agents of change in their communities. Based in New York, with partner organizations in Africa (i.e., Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Tanzania and Zambia), MCW offers the following programs: Global Youth Development, Community Development and Oral Health Care, as well as Partner Initiatives (e.g. Pediatric AIDS Treatment for Africa). MCW's core values include integrity, compassion, accountability, responsibility and excellence. [www.mcwglobal.org](http://www.mcwglobal.org).

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