



## **Women Creating Change Applauds New York City's *Women Forward NYC* Initiative**

**— Nonprofit with more than 100 years of service to New York City commends the Mayor for drawing attention to the infrastructure women need to thrive —**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**(New York, N.Y.)**—Sharon Sewell-Fairman, President and CEO of Women Creating Change (WCC), a nonprofit that works toward a more just and equitable New York City where all women are civically engaged, released the statement below in response to the Mayor's announcement of \$43 million in city, federal, and private funding to support *Women Forward NYC*:

"The City's focus on equipping women with the tools, resources, and connections they need to thrive could not come at a more opportune moment. WCC knows from [our own research](#) that progress has stalled for New York women when it comes to achieving pay equity, and we are especially pleased that economic mobility will be a key pillar of the initiative. The attention being paid by the Mayor to maternal health, particularly among Black and Brown women, is likewise urgently needed as the rate of maternal deaths in New York City remains unacceptably high. Similarly, dedicating resources to the safety of women facing gender-based violence must remain a priority as domestic violence rates have surpassed pre-pandemic levels in New York City.

By dismantling barriers that women—particularly Black and Brown women—face in the economic, reproductive health, and personal safety spheres, we can ensure they have the resources necessary to advocate for themselves, their families, and their communities. It is critical that women have unfettered access to participate and lead civic processes, and this initiative points a way toward that future."

### **About Women Creating Change:**

Founded in 1915, Women Creating Change (formerly Women's City Club of New York) is a nonprofit, non-partisan, activist organization committed to advancing women's rights and shaping the future of New York City. Today, Women Creating Change is a diverse community

that collaborates with stakeholders and organizations, with a focus on historically disenfranchised women. Our mission is to develop and strengthen the skills and resources needed for women to effectively identify and advocate for the issues that matter most to them and to New York's most diverse communities. Our vision is a more just and equitable New York City where all women are civically engaged.