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BPW Foundation CEO Participating in Clinton Global Initiative America Meeting Deborah L Frett to Focus on Small Business, Girls, Women and Women Veterans

Washington, DC -- Business and Professional Women's Foundation CEO, Deborah L. Frett has been invited to participate in the 2012 Clinton Global Initiative America (CGI America) meeting in Chicago this Thursday and Friday, June 7 and 8.

CGI America is an annual meeting bringing together leaders from the business, foundation, NGO and government sectors to develop solutions that address unemployment, prepare Americans to be competitive global citizens and rethink current models that shape our economy and society. This year President Clinton has called on participants to strategically integrate the lens of girls and women throughout the program. This approach is called the Girls and Women (G&W) Champion model. Champions are asked to represent the G&W lens in their respective Working Group

Frett, who has been named a Girls and Women Champion, is part of the Small Business Working group. She also spoke at the *Girls & Women in America: Pre-Meeting Strategy Session* on Thursday, June 7th between 8-9:30am. As head of the first foundation to conduct research about working women, Frett brings unique perspective and background to her role of looking at workplace ideas and solutions through the Girls and Women's lens.

On Thursday evening Frett will attend the "Championing Veterans: America's Next Generation Leaders" event that will bring together a broad range of CGI Working Group representatives who have an interest in or focus on veterans. Frett will share information about BPW Foundation's *Joining Forces for Women Veterans and Military Spouses Mentoring Plus™*. This ground-breaking program connects women veterans and military spouses with working women mentors and subject matter experts (SMEs). Participants receive career development support and guidance that will enable them to find and keep meaningful employment.

About BPW Foundation

BPW Foundation supports workforce development programs and workplace policies that recognize the diverse needs of working women, their families, communities and businesses.

BPW Foundation attributes much of its success to programs built upon evidenced-based research. Joining Forces Mentoring Plus[™] is the result of a commitment BPW Foundation made in 2005 to better understand the employment transition of women veterans. BPW Foundation is a 501 © (3) research and education organization. To learn more, visit <u>http://www.bpwfoundation.org</u>.

About CGI America

President Clinton established the Clinton Global Initiative America (CGI America) to address economic recovery in the United States. CGI America brings together leaders in business, government, and civil society to generate and implement commitments to create jobs, stimulate economic growth, foster innovation, and support workforce development in the United States. Since its first meeting in June 2011, CGI America participants have made more than 100 commitments valued at \$11.8 billion. When fully funded and implemented, these commitments will improve the lives of three million people, create or fill more than 150,000 jobs, and invest and loan \$354 million to small and medium enterprises in the United States. To learn more, visit cgiamerica.org.

About the Clinton Global Initiative

Established in 2005 by President Bill Clinton, the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) convenes global leaders to create and implement innovative solutions to the world's most pressing challenges. CGI Annual Meetings have brought together more than 150 heads of state, 20 Nobel Prize laureates, and hundreds of leading CEOs, heads of foundations and NGOs, major philanthropists, and members of the media. To date CGI members have made more than 2,100 commitments, which are already improving the lives of nearly 400 million people in more than 180 countries. When fully funded and implemented, these commitments will be valued at \$69.2 billion.

CGI's Annual Meeting is held each September in New York City. CGI also convenes CGI America, a meeting focused on collaborative solutions to economic recovery in the United States, and CGI University (CGI U), which brings together undergraduate and graduate students to address pressing challenges in their community or around the world. For more information, visit clintonglobalinitiative.org and follow us on Twitter @ClintonGlobal and Facebook at facebook.com/clintonglobalinitiative.

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