



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The GO Project

Contact: Rebecca Muir, Associate Director of Communications: rmuir@goprojectnyc.org
Sadie Sloatsky, Director of Development: ssloatsky@goprojectnyc.org

**THE GO PROJECT NAMED SEMIFINALIST FOR NEW YORK COMMUNITY TRUST
NONPROFIT EXCELLENCE AWARDS**

(New York City, NY, August 4, 2015) The GO Project, a non-profit that provides critical academic, social and emotional programs for under-resourced and under-performing New York City public school children, has been named as a semifinalist for New York Community Trust's 2015 Nonprofit Excellence Awards.

The Manhattan based organization is one of ten nonprofit groups in three New York City boroughs and Westchester that have been chosen for the prestigious award, which is managed by the Nonprofit Coordinating Committee of New York, The New York Community Trust and Philanthropy New York, and sponsored by WNYC.

"We are honored to be recognized for our work and included with such an impressive group of organizations." Erica Ahdoot, Executive Director of the GO Project said. "Our team of staff, Board, supporters and volunteers at GO are committed to closing the opportunity gap for struggling New York City public school students. They recognize that the best way to achieve our goal is by delivering a high quality, highly efficient program that yields impressive results."

The ten semifinalists organizations are: America Needs You, Bowery Residents' Committee, Cardinal McCloskey Community Services, Ghetto Film School, Girls Write Now, Inc., GO Project, Groundswell, New York Common Pantry, and The New York Foundling, TNTP (formerly known as The New Teacher Project).

The Awards recognize outstanding management practices in key performance areas identified by thousands of non-profit leaders across the country. The eight areas of excellence are: management focus on results; strong governance; excellent financial management; diverse and culturally competent organizational practices; enlightened human resources; model IT practices; effective communications; and, exemplary fundraising and resource development.

"We're thrilled to announce the ten semifinalists of the 2015 New York Community Trust Nonprofit Excellence Awards," said Michael Clark, president of the Nonprofit Coordinating Committee (NPCC). "These organizations, which represent a wide range of nonprofit subsectors, have distinguished themselves and are to be commended for their stellar management practices."

The groups are in the running to win \$60,000 in prizes as well as tuition scholarships for the Columbia Business School Executive Education Programs in Social Enterprise. Three winning organizations will be announced and honored at an Awards presentation in November, 2015.

More about the Nonprofit Excellence Awards, including the Awards' guiding document; past winners; funders; and Selection Committee members, is available at www.npccny.org/info/awards.htm.

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ABOUT THE GO PROJECT

The mission of the GO Project is to shape the futures of public school children in New York City by providing critical academic, social and emotional support starting in the early elementary years. GO provides year-round educational and family support services to children who are performing below grade level and equips them with the confidence and skills needed to succeed at school, at home and in life.

The GO Project is a \$2.2 million 501(c)(3) organization serving 615 elementary and middle school students from more than 30 downtown public schools. The organization promotes educational equity by leveraging the resources of the community to close the opportunity gap for under-resourced families who have students that are struggling in the city's highest need schools. The GO Project's partnerships with private host sites (including Grace Church, Grace Church School, LREI, Friends Seminary, and Avenues-the World School) provide critical resources and program space for its services, resulting in a cost efficient, scalable and proven solution that can impact real change in New York City.

In 2013, the GO Project completed a strategic plan with support from the Robin Hood Foundation and McKinsey & Company. The plan revealed that other NYC neighborhoods had a strong need for the GO Project's unique program. In response, GO is expanding its services in the Lower East Side and will replicate its program in another New York City neighborhood by 2018.

The GO Project's programs include: GO Summer, a rigorous five-week, full day academic and enrichment program led by a team of certified teachers, academic specialists and social workers; GO School, a focused, seven-month Saturday program from October until April, with students participating in a half-day of academic skill-building; GO Families, a year-round social service program designed to empower parents of participants to create positive learning environments at home and at school; GO Fundamentals, an extended tutoring program on Saturday between February and April for students who have been identified as "promotion in doubt" or are facing significant academic challenges; and GO Bridges, which provides comprehensive support to ensure students and families are well informed and prepared for a successful transition into middle school and high school.

Named one of the most effective summer program models in the United States by the *National Summer Learning Association*, the GO Project was also highlighted as an effective out-of-school time program as part of *American Graduate Day* on PBS and recognized for its outstanding board leadership as a finalist for the *Brooke W. Mahoney Award*.

For more information, please visit www.goprojectnyc.org.

About the NPCC

The Nonprofit Coordinating Committee of New York (NPCC) serves as the voice and information source for New York nonprofits. An umbrella organization representing and serving over 1,400 member nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations throughout New York City, Long Island, and Westchester, NPCC is the largest such organization in the New York City area. It represents all types of nonprofits on sector-wide issues. Established in 1984, NPCC informs and connects nonprofit leaders, saves nonprofits money, helps them manage and govern themselves better, and protects and strengthens the entire nonprofit community's relations with all levels of government. (www.npccny.org)