

**For Immediate Release**

**June 6, 2017**

**Media Contact: Rolanda Telesford**

**YWCA Brooklyn**

**Director of Outreach and External Relations**

**[rtelesford@ywcabklyn.org](mailto:rtelesford@ywcabklyn.org), 718-875-1190 ext 214**

## **YWCA Brooklyn is Finalist for Association Excellence Award for Women's Empowerment**

**Washington, D.C.** –YWCA Brooklyn has been selected as one of the top three nominees for YWCA's annual Association Excellence Awards for Women's Empowerment. Nominations reflecting outstanding and life changing work are submitted from YWCA associations located throughout the country. From the associations nominated, three are selected in each category as finalists and the entire network of 216 local YWCAs vote for the YWCA whose work they find most outstanding.

The finalists in YWCA's Association Excellence Award for Women's Empowerment are: YWCA Brooklyn, YWCA Silicon Valley and YWCA Tri-County.

YWCA Brooklyn was nominated for the YWLEAD College Access Program and Leadership Development Program, which provides girls and young women of color from difficult circumstances an opportunity to reach their academic and leadership potential. Annually serving over 250 young women, each participant has graduated in the top 10% of their class and all were accepted to competitive colleges. Through mentoring, internships and leadership opportunities at the YWCA Brooklyn, these girls have also become social justice champions organizing speak outs and even testifying before a New York Senate committee

"YWCA has been empowering women for nearly 160 years, and the work of associations like YWCA Brooklyn, YWCA Silicon Valley, and YWCA Tri-County bring that work to life year after year! Congratulations to them on this honor," said Casey Harden, Interim CEO, YWCA USA.

The winner will be announced at YWCA's Women of Distinction Awards Gala in Washington, D.C. on June 16, 2017 at the Capital Hilton (1001 16<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Washington DC 20036).

### **About YWCA USA**

YWCA USA is on a mission to eliminate racism, empower women, and promote peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. The organization is one of the oldest and largest women's organizations in the nation, serving over 2 million women, girls, and their families each year. Learn more: [www.ywca.org](http://www.ywca.org).