FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 2, 2012

This week, the National Association of University Women awarded Helping Our Teen Girls In Real Life Situations, Inc. (HOTGIRLS) a Community Service Grant award for $8,000 to support its programming for young women and girls.

HOTGIRLS is an award-winning, youth-driven 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering underserved young women and girls to make healthy choices, create social change and become leaders in their communities. HOTGIRLS founder and Executive Director Dr. Carla Stokes accepted the award on behalf of HOTGIRLS at the 68th National Convention of the National Association of University Women (NAUW) in Atlanta, Georgia. NAUW's Community Service Chair Donna Clark presented a big check during a public meeting on August 1, 2012, which was attended by local residents, city officials and community leaders. Mrs. Clark and NAUW's National President, Dolores Y. Owens spearheaded the efforts to raise funds from the organization's membership.

“As foundations have scaled back grantmaking for girl-serving organization in recent years, we are thrilled that we were chosen to receive the NAUW’s first-ever community service grant award,” said Dr. Stokes. “I applaud the women of NAUW for being champions for HOTGIRLS and believing in the importance of educating and uplifting women, girls and disadvantaged communities. We are extremely grateful to receive this generous and unexpected award.”

HOTGIRLS youth advisor and spokesperson Kristen Robinson said:

I would like to extend a special thank you to the women of the National Association of University Women. I was a member of HOTGIRLS back in high school and now that I have graduated and I attend the University of Georgia, I continue to share my passion for empowering young girls because the HOTGIRLS organization has given so much to me. It has allowed me to understand my self-worth and I now have the confidence to speak out on issues that are relevant to my age group and also to empower young girls who are coming up after me.

The NAUW's generous funding will provide support for HOTGIRLS' innovative youth leadership development, violence prevention, media literacy and empowerment programming, allowing the organization to upgrade its website and serve more youth and organizations through educational workshops and online programming.
About NAUW

The National Association of University Women has a long and rich history, which spans over 102 years. NAUW's mission is to serve women, youth and the disadvantaged in communities and developing countries by addressing educational issues, advancing the status of women’s issues and strategically partnering with allied organizations. Under the leadership of National President Dolores Y. Owens, the biennial convention was hosted by the Atlanta Branch, where Ms. Virginia Chappell serves as Branch President. Nearly 400 women from across the United States and Liberia, Africa attended the convention.

For more information, visit www.nauw1910.org.

About HOTGIRLS

HOTGIRLS is an award-winning grassroots 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering underserved young women and girls to make healthy choices, create social change and become leaders in their communities. The organization’s mission is to improve the health and lives of disadvantaged young women and girls through youth-driven health education, leadership development and media literacy programming. HOTGIRLS is recognized for its creative use of social marketing, youth culture and technology to mobilize youth to produce their own positive media and develop innovative educational programs that address gender-based violence prevention and related health and social justice issues.

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