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Jhpiego Wins 2014 UN Population Award

Baltimore, Maryland (March 25, 2014)—Jhpiego, a nonprofit global health affiliate of Johns Hopkins University, is the winner of the 2014 United Nations Population Award. The award was given to Jhpiego for its four decades of tireless work in creating access to innovative, high-quality family planning and reproductive health services throughout the developing world.

The United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA) presents this prestigious award to one institution and one individual each year in recognition of their outstanding contributions to addressing population issues and developing effective solutions. Jhpiego will join the ranks of past award laureates such as Bill and Melinda Gates and Indira Gandhi.

As a leader in maternal health, Jhpiego understands deeply the integral role family planning plays in preventing the needless deaths of women and their families. Family planning is among the strategic tools used in the fight to save the lives of women and their children.

Jhpiego was founded in 1973 to share reproductive health breakthroughs, such as laparoscopy and modern contraceptives, with physicians, nurses, midwives and health administrators from Africa, Asia and Latin America. Since then, Jhpiego has emerged as a leader in developing strategies and working with nations to help women gain access in substantial ways to family planning and reproductive health interventions, including postpartum family planning and integration of family planning with existing maternal, child health and HIV/AIDS services. The organization's programs have responded to meeting the unique needs of urban and rural women and their families, as well as educating a generation of family planning leaders.

Currently, Jhpiego provides technical assistance in family planning to more than 23 countries, including Malawi, India, Pakistan, Mozambique, Nigeria, Kenya, Bangladesh, Tanzania, Indonesia and the world's newest country, South Sudan. The organization's innovative platform to introduce family planning to women immediately after the birth of a child—with a viable, long-acting and reversible method—is resulting in impressive gains across the developing world.

"Today is an incredibly proud moment in Jhpiego's history. It is the culmination of 40 years of work on behalf of women and their families and secures Jhpiego's legacy as a world leader in the field of family planning and reproductive health. We know that healthy spacing of births is key to the health and welfare of a mother and her baby and that providing women with these options saves lives," said Leslie Mancuso, President and CEO of Jhpiego. "We are honored to have been chosen for this prestigious award by UNFPA, an organization we deeply respect and admire."

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon will present Jhpiego with the award at a ceremony to take place on June 12, 2014.

For more information, please contact Melody McCoy, Vice President of External Relations and Communications, at Melody.McCoy@Jhpiego.org or 410.537.1829.

About Jhpiego

Jhpiego (pronounced "ja-pie-go") is an international, non-profit health organization affiliated with Johns Hopkins University. For 40 years, Jhpiego has empowered front-line health workers by designing and implementing effective, low-cost, hands-on solutions to strengthen the delivery of health care services for women and their families. For more information, go to www.jhpiego.org.