# OINTIALIAN Membership Voice of Zonta International

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CONVENTION 2014



#### ZONTA INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

#### Welcome from the Staff

Zonta International Headquarters, located in Oak Brook, Illinois, is a staff of thirteen full-time employees that manages the day-to-day operations of Zonta International and supports the Board of Directors in implementing policies and programs to further the objectives of Zonta International.

Our friendly, capable staff is ready to assist you!

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If you are visiting the Chicago area, we invite you to visit Headquarters. Enjoy a tour of our offices and see artifacts from Zonta's 93-year history. To schedule a visit, please call 1.630.928.1400 or stop by our offices during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. CST.



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#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As we think about these issues and add our voices to the conversation, we should focus our attention on women's empowerment.

Dear Zontians and Friends of Zonta.

Come to our convention in Orlando, Florida, USA next year from 27 June to 1 July 2014. In this issue of The Zontian, you will find the Call to Convention with more detailed information on the convention program and events, as well as information about Orlando and important travel tips.

By coming to convention, clubs, through their delegates, will elect Zonta International's future leaders. Attendees will discuss and agree Zonta's future direction, learn more about the status of women worldwide and meet old and new friends.

Responding to feedback from past conventions, we will be offering workshops, themed lunches and other opportunities for you to meet with fellow Zontians and have the chance to discuss the issues facing women and girls today. Make sure you come to the final dinner on Monday evening, the 1st of July, where we will bid farewell to our current leaders, welcome in the 2014-2016 leaders and enjoy entertainment from Cirque du Soleil. Keep an eye on our convention website for updates on convention arrangements, including speakers. Online registration is expected to open in September 2013 and convention voting material released by the end of March 2014.

We are also delighted to have Golden Z club members join us in Orlando where they will hold their own convention sharing our venue and speakers, making this a convention not to be missed. So start making plans to join us in Orlando now and bring others with you. Orlando is a great place to enjoy with your fellow Zontians, family and friends!

This issue also focuses on understanding more about women's economic empowerment—a key to achieving gender equality. What does economic empowerment mean? How are we tracking globally and what's the relevance to Zonta? A useful start to understanding the status of women's economic empowerment is reviewing progress globally in reaching the Millennium Development Goals. Read more about this topic in this issue of The Zontian.

With less than two years to the target date for achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2015, the United Nations and its agencies, non-governmental organizations and private citizens around the globe are engaged in collaborative dialogues and debates on what a new post-2015 development agenda will look like. Women's organizations, in particular, are focused on how gender equality will be included in this new agenda and are committed to ensuring that gender equality and women's rights are both a standalone goal and a component of all other goals.

As we think about these issues and add our voices to the conversation, we should focus our attention on women's empowerment. Women's empowerment, educationally, economically and politically, is essential not only to realizing women's equal rights worldwide but also to reducing poverty and child mortality, achieving gender equality in education, improving maternal health, combating HIV/AIDS and other diseases and ensuring environmental stability. When women are empowered, their children and families benefit and societies improve as a whole.

We must address women's empowerment within a larger global development agenda and in our own communities. Take a closer look at women's status in the workplace. Are they found in all roles, and do they earn the same pay as men for the same roles? Are women occupying 50 percent or more leadership and governance positions in the private and public sectors and civil society? What about women's representation in local or national government? Are women being elected or appointed to decision-making positions in greater numbers?



Zonta Governors Jacqueline Dide, Gloriastene Agboola and Winnie Teoh during their installation at the 2012 Zonta International Convention in Torino, Italy.

Bluntly, the answer is NO. Only 20 percent of the world's parliamentary seats are held by women. Generally, women earn less than men working in the same role. Women are over represented in unskilled roles and do not have access to education on the same basis as men. Is this right or just? Is it right that the talents of 50 percent of the world's population are underutilized and their perspectives not heard? NO it is not!

Closer examination of these issues will likely reveal opportunities for your district or club to take action. It's what you will do; it's not what you can do!

Speaking of action, I know many of you are already engaged in service and advocacy to address pressing issues facing women in your local communities, including directing your attention to women's economic empowerment, and I continue to be inspired by the many stories shared by Zonta districts and clubs and Z and Golden Z clubs around the world. Our members are doing great work, and women and girls in

#### Is it right that the talents of 50 percent of the world's population are underutilized and their perspectives not heard? NO it is not!

your local communities and around the world are benefiting as a result. Think about the education scholarships you provide, advocacy on issues affecting women and girls in your communities, and the service you provide, all driven by a need to make the world a better place for women and girls. Thank you! Share these successes with all of us via the Share Your Story feature on the Zonta International website, the ZI Facebook and Twitter accounts, as well as on your district and club websites and social media pages.

Let's not forget the improvements we are making to the lives of women and girls globally through the projects and education programs funded through your donations to the Zonta International Foundation. In this issue, we provide you with updates on our international projects and education programs. You will see that your donations to the Foundation make a significant difference to the lives of women and girls.



Fistula survivors in Liberia sing at their graduation celebration from their rehabilitation program, which teaches income-generating skills. I hear sometimes from members whose currency is not as strong as others that it's not worth donating. Let me assure you, it is worth it. Your donation buys a lot for women and girls in Rwanda, Liberia and other countries we support.

I'd also like to remind you of two additional opportunities to showcase your district or club and increase Zonta's credibility and visibility worldwide this biennium. Whether you have a long-standing service project or a new initiative that's just beginning, join the Zonta Says NO campaign, which peaks this November, and amplify Zonta's voice in the fight to end violence against women and girls around the world. Do something. My own club is examining how safe our city is for women and girls. Want to participate but not sure what to do or how to get started? Read the article in this Zontian and go to http://zontasaysno.com/ to see what other Zontians are doing and find inspiration for your own activities.

The Zonta Service Recognition Award is another opportunity to earn greater recognition for your district or club's service and advocacy efforts. Submit up to two club projects to your governor by 30 December 2013, or submit a district project to the International Service Committee by 10 February 2014. District projects and club project finalists submitted by the governors will be recognized at the 2014 Zonta International Convention. More information about the Award can be found on the Zonta International website under Member Resources/Tools/ServiceTools.

I thank you for your continued efforts to improve the lives of women and girls and for your generous contributions to the Zonta International Foundation this biennium, which enable Zonta to continue to make a difference to the lives of women and girls locally and globally.

Warm regards,

Lynn McKenzie

Zonta International President

Zonta International Foundation President

## Donations to the Zonta International Foundation Reach Far and Wide

THIS BIENNIUM, OUR GOAL AS AN ORGANIZATION IS TO RAISE NEARLY US\$5 MILLION TO SUPPORT SERVICE PROJECTS AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS FUNDED THROUGH THE ZONTA INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION, BUT WHERE DOES THIS MONEY COME FROM AND WHERE DOES IT GO ONCE IT REACHES THE FOUNDATION?



A Liberian Fistula Project leader presents to a group of community members.

Nearly all of the Foundation donations come from our own members, either through clubs or individual members. This biennium, we are asking all clubs to donate to the Foundation. Last biennium 86 percent of clubs donated and 11 districts had all of their clubs donating. We are also seeking to have more members donate. Presently, only a small number of members donate. Last biennium 14 percent of members donated, and our target for this biennium is an additional 10 percent of new donors. As of 30 June 2013, we are tracking to achieve this milestone.

Zonta International encourages all Zonta clubs to contribute one-third of all money raised locally to the Zonta International Foundation to support Zonta's international service projects and educational award programs, and many Zonta clubs respond generously to this request. They host a variety of fundraisers in their local communities and direct two-thirds of the funds raised to local initiatives to improve the lives of women and girls and the remaining one-third of funds raised to the Zonta International Foundation. In addition to club donations, some members also choose to make a personal contribution directly to the Foundation, while a small percentage of donations come from non-members and corporate donors who share Zonta's commitment to improving the lives of women and girls worldwide.

The more we donate, the more women and girls we can help. Regardless of the value of your currency compared to key currencies, it buys considerable opportunities for women and girls in Honduras, Liberia, Rwanda, Samoa and other countries where our international service and Zonta International Strategies to end Violence Against Women (ZISVAW) projects are delivered. Please keep giving, thank you!

#### YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS WORKING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

The incredible generosity of Zonta clubs, Zontians and friends of Zonta has enabled Zonta International to contribute millions of dollars over the years to projects benefiting countless women and girls in our own backyards and in distant communities in countries around the globe. The 2012-2014 biennium is no exception. Zonta has committed a record US\$1 million each to two international service projects in Liberia and Rwanda, more than US\$1.1 million to projects to prevent and end violence against women and girls in Africa, Asia, Central America and the Pacific and more than US\$1 million to our international educational award programs.



Women suffering from obstetric fistula are left incontinent and with a damaging social stigma.

#### LIBERIA FISTULA PROJECT-US\$1 MILLION

Zonta International has been supporting the Liberia Fistula project via United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Campaign to End Fistula since 2008. In that time, a total of 1,001 women and girls with various types of fistulae have received surgical treatment, and a total of 230 survivors have been rehabilitated and reintegrated back into their communities. Obstetric fistula remains the most predominant type of fistula in Liberia, and the average age of patients is between 11 and 20 years. This debilitating, socially isolating illness is largely preventable and results in the mother being incontinent and often the baby she is carrying stillborn.

Zonta's current support for the project focuses on prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and support. From January to April 2013, 12 fistula victims were recruited through a mass advocacy campaign and received surgical treatment and outpatient care; an additional 12 patients went through the rehabilitation and reintegration process; and 18 survivors successfully completed their 4 – 6 month training cycles and were reintegrated into their communities. Eighteen (43 percent) of these beneficiaries were women (over the age of 21) while 24 (57 percent) were girls (ages 16-21 years).

"I was in labor for about a week. During my days in labor, the traditional birth attendant (TBA) in the town was called in. She used all the techniques she knew [unconventional and inhumane methods of delivery] but I could not deliver the baby. By the time they took me to the hospital, the baby was already dead. I cannot describe what I went through the few months that I lived in the village after coming down with fistula. Friends after noticing my condition stayed away from me. Family members also got tired with me because I could not assist them in farming activities. I want to go to school to learn how to read and write so that I can manage my money well."

-Mary, a beneficiary of free fistula treatment and reintegration program funded by UNFPA and Zonta International in Liberia



In Rwanda, pregnant women are encouraged to have a mobile phone nearby to call for help during labor. This mother utilized this program and called an ambulance to take her to the clinic to give birth. Without the phone, she and the baby could have died.

### ELIMINATION OF NEW PEDIATRIC HIV INFECTION & PREVENTION AND RESPONSE TO SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN RWANDA—US\$1 MILLION

Since 2008, Zonta and UNICEF have partnered to prevent mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV, focusing on HIV counseling and testing of pregnant women, antiretroviral therapy for infected pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers, and treatment of HIV-infected women and their families. Working closely with the Rwandan Government and NGOs, as a result, approximately 89 percent of prenatal care facilities now offer PMTCT services and 62 percent of HIV infected mothers are receiving antiretroviral therapy for PMTCT. Transmission of HIV from infected mothers to children is 1.36 percent among infants 6 weeks of age.

Through focus, investment by organizations like Zonta, political and community will, Rwanda is tracking to meet and exceed the UN target of 5 percent transmission of HIV from mother to child. Your investment makes this possible and is critical as 49 percent of Rwanda's population is under 18 years old.

Zonta International's initial contribution this biennium has in part helped produce training manuals and job aids for HIV testing in 489 health facilities. The training materials are expected to improve health care workers' skills in using the finger prick method according to World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines. The finger-prick method is more cost-effective and efficient than previously used methods of HIV screening, reducing waiting time for patients and promoting more efficient use of available



Pauliina Aukee, President of Zonta Club of Jyvaskyla I, Finland stand with administrators in front of a health center that was dedicated to the people of Rwanda by Zonta International and District 20 in honor of Past International President Helvi Sipilä.

"My dream is for my baby boy to live a healthy life. I no longer feel as an outcast in my society and among my relatives, thanks to the support I get from the nurses and fellow women and men I meet during support group sessions at Musanze health center."

-Angelique Mukamusoni, recipient of family package support services funded by UNICEF and Zonta International in Rwanda

human resources. This improved efficiency is expected to increase access to and uptake of HIV testing in the general population, including pregnant women, adolescents and young adults. HIV testing is a proven strategy for HIV prevention, as women and couples who know their HIV status are known to adopt protective behaviors and are less likely to transmit HIV to their babies.

In 2010, Zonta International extended its support to include the prevention of domestic and gender-based violence and response to survivors of violence in Rwanda. This biennium, UNICEF has supported the Government of Rwanda in strengthening services provided at the One Stop Centers to improve services for victims of gender-based violence and child abuse and worked with key ministries to finalize a National Scale Up Strategy. This strategy will see more centers established based on the pilot centers Zonta has already supported.



Central training with multi-country participation in Nepal May 2013. Photo: Oxfam Novib

#### GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP ON EDUTAINMENT FOR SOCIAL CHANGE-US\$802,124

Edutainment is the use of entertainment to educate your audience. In Zonta's case, we are supporting a project using this tool to advocate that violence against women is not okay. Partnering with the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women and implementing partner, Oxfam Novib, Zonta is contributing to the reduction of the incidence and scale of violence against women in 11 countries throughout Africa and Asia by challenging existing gender norms and attitudes that perpetuate violence against women. The project will be implemented in two phases—the first, focusing on Nigeria and Bangladesh where considerable investment is being made to train local NGOs to develop and deliver edutainment strategies. The second phase will deliver the program to the other 10 countries drawing upon the experiences from Nigeria and Bangladesh.

In Nigeria, implementing partners have completed review of the proven South African Soul City television series on violence against women and decided to adapt the series to a Nigerian context, including adding a television talk show to discuss the gender and violence issues included in each episode. In Bangladesh, preparations are being made for the development of a pilot campaign on sexual harassment to be launched in early 2014.

"I learned how we can make a campaign and use culture to change culture. Also I learned how to make a message matrix and to budget a campaign." -Haroon, Saba TV, Afghanistan

> At this time, capacity building of 11 non-governmental organizations to share or apply edutainment strategies to combat violence against women has been completed in the pilot countries of Bangladesh and Nigeria, as well as in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Viet Nam. Training was held in Nepal in May 2013 with the following results:

- Partners in the region are exploring the possibility of developing a regional campaign on early marriage.
- The Center for Studies and Applied Sciences in Gender, Family, Women and Adolescents (CSAGA) in Viet Nam will be using learning from the training to develop a campaign on the impact of domestic violence on children. They will also develop 10 short films on violence against women and 20 short radio dramas that will be aired every Friday night.
- Partner organizations from Afghanistan are exploring the use of radio and mobile technology in their existing project on educating the girl child.

#### EMPOWERING WOMEN IN RURAL SAMOA TO COMBAT VIOLENCE— US\$109,876

Zonta is partnering with the UN Trust Fund (part of UN Women) and Samoa Victim Support Group (SVSG) to empower communities in rural Samoa to prevent and combat violence against women. The project seeks to train all stakeholders, including police, community leaders, and survivors of violence, to identify and address the root causes of gender-based violence and to increase access to community support and justice for survivors.

Building on a successful 2010 awareness-raising campaign, SVSG is focused on building stronger, more peaceful communities via media campaigns, community awareness programs and continued advocacy at the village and government levels. Highlights include:



"In our community, women and children have less say while the men have the power to speak and do anything they like. But since this organization started, women and children now have their voice through SVSG that identify their needs if they are in trouble."

-Leituala Leilua Faiva, Village Representative

The Torch of Peace is paraded around the island of Samoa.

- The Torch of Peace, which took the message of peace around the entire island of Samoa, engaging villages, churches, schools, businesses and the Government of Samoa. The campaign has increased visibility of efforts to end violence against women and was regarded as a standout achievement for the project and for Samoa by the Prime Minister of Samoa.
- New legislation, including the Crimes Act 2013, which includes harsher penalties for sexual crimes, and the Family Safety Act 2013, which provides for greater protection of women and their families and the handling of domestic violence.
- In April 2013, the Samoa Parliamentary Group for Population & Development was established and the President of Samoa Victim Support Group was included, which will not only secure support from key ministries for the project but will also ensure sustainability of the work after the project concludes.
- Training of 385 village representatives who continue to liaise with the SVSG office for assistance in domestic violence cases and to strengthen outreach to their communities. More than 150 village representatives have reported that their villages have begun to implement strategies to end violence against women.
- Strengthened relationships between the SVSG President, Assistant Police Commissioners, and the Associate Ministers of Police as they deliver services to women threatened by violence.
- Increase of 5 percent in the number of women using the formal justice system as noted through an increase in the number of restraining orders being issues and the number of domestic violence cases progressing through the court.

#### SAFE CITIES FOR WOMEN IN HONDURAS-US\$250,000

Zonta International has supported the Safe Cities Program in partnership with UN Women since 2008—first in El Salvador and Guatemala and now, during the 2012–2014 Biennium, in Honduras. Safe Cities seeks to reduce violence against women in public and private spaces by strengthening their right to exercise active citizenship.

"I'm a community leader since 2007, when I became a women's rights defender in my neighborhood. Women in Nueva Suyapa and Villanueva are really affected by violence, especially sexual violence. We have also great capacities and will to overcome all these challenges. We believe Zonta's support came right on time to accomplish this!"

-María de la Cruz Bustillo, also known as Crucita.



City Dolls in Tegucigalpa was an initial exploratory activity to identify the citizens of Honduras' perceptions on violence against women in the city.

In Honduras, the Center for Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation to Victims of Torture and Their Families (CPTRT) conducted a research about inter-sectional violence affecting women in Nueva Suyapa and Villanueva, and their strategies to address it. With the support of The Safe Cities Program, women in these neighborhoods formulated a security agenda, which contains concrete proposals to address security safety issues from a gender based perspective. The agenda prioritizes violence prevention through collective community proposals on domestic violence, violence against women in public spaces, sexual violence, recovery of public spaces for the use and enjoyment of women, and women's human rights advocacy. This document will be presented to local and national authorities with the aim of influencing policies, plans and programs at the municipal level. The security agenda is a useful tool to defend the rights of women and to position a security approach inspired in the concept of human security.

#### IMPROVING WOMEN'S LIVES THROUGH EDUCATION

In addition to the service projects Zonta funds to address the most pressing issues facing women in developing countries around the globe, Zonta International also provides more than US\$1 million every two years to support the educational and professional aspirations of the most promising women and young women in the fields of aerospace-related sciences and engineering, business and business management, and public affairs.



#### AMELIA EARHART FELLOWSHIP

Established in 1938, the Amelia Earhart Fellowship Program supports talented women, pursuing Ph.D./doctoral studies in aerospace-related sciences or aerospace-related engineering, in achieving their educational and professional goals. Each year, Zonta International awards Fellowships of US\$10,000 each to 35 Fellows from around the globe. In the program's 75-year history, Zonta International has awarded 1,403 Fellowships, totaling more than US\$8.3 million, to 983 Fellows from 68 countries. Learn more about the history of the Amelia Earhart Fellowship in the June 2013 Issue of *The Zontian* magazine, which is available on the Zonta International website.

"Receiving the Amelia Earhart Fellowship allowed me to fully concentrate on research and take a short break from teaching. As an international student, obtaining a fellowship has been quite challenging because most require U.S. citizenship as a prerequisite. With this unique opportunity, I can finally dedicate all my time and energy to what I love doing most—research." —Mar Vaquero, 2012 Amelia Earhart Fellow, Spain



#### JANE M. KLAUSMAN WOMEN IN BUSINESS SCHOLARSHIP

Zonta International's Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship recognizes promising future business leaders who are pursuing an undergraduate or Master's degree in business management or a business-related field. Scholarships of US\$1,000 each are awarded annually to up to 32 women worldwide each year, and 12 of these women are awarded an additional international scholarship of US\$7,000 each. Since 1998, Zonta International has awarded 314 Scholarships, totaling more than US\$660,000 to 247 women from 44 countries. Our goal is to have all Zonta districts/regions participate in this scholarship during this biennium. Last year, 90 percent participated.

"Through this scholarship, I had the opportunity to travel abroad to work with an NGO in Uganda where I provided business analysis and mentoring services to women entrepreneurs and developed a curriculum for a young women's empowerment program—experiences that will have a profound impact on my life forever." —Kelly Laidlaw, 2010 Scholarship Recipient, Canada



#### YOUNG WOMEN IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS AWARD

The Young Women in Public Affairs Award honors young women, ages 16 to 19, for their demonstrated leadership skills, commitment to volunteer and civic causes, and dedication to the advancement of women with the goal of encouraging future generations of women leaders' increased participation in public and political affairs. Each year, Zonta presents up to 32 district awards of US\$1,000 each, in addition to 10 international awards of US\$4,000 each. Since the Award's inception in 1990, Zonta has distributed 637 Awards, totaling more than US\$475,000, to 565 young women from 50 countries. In 2013, we met our goal with all districts submitting a YWPA candidate for the Award.

"It [the Award] gave me a sense of fulfillment and confidence in realizing that there was an entire institution dedicated to inspiring and encouraging young women determined to take the world by storm and change it in their own ways, no matter how idealistic it might sound. After attending the award dinner and interacting with very inspiring women, I left feeling reassured of my personal goals and aspirations." —Mehitabel Markwei, 2011 Award Recipient, Ghana

For updated information on these projects and programs throughout the biennium, please watch the Zonta International website, monthly e-Newsletter and Zonta International Facebook and Twitter accounts. ■

#### MAKING A DONATION TO THE FOUNDATION

Donations can be made to the Zonta International Foundation via credit card, using the Donate Now link on the Zonta International website. You can also download a paper donation form to mail in a donation by check or credit card.

Interested in learning more about planned giving opportunities? Information on a variety of planned giving options can be found on the Zonta International website at http://www.zonta.org/ZIFoundation/WaystoGive/PlannedGiving.aspx, or you can call Bonnie Wolinski, Development Manager, at +1 630.928.1400 x222 for additional information and assistance.



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE ZONTA INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION!



### Z and Golden Z Clubs

#### **ENCOURAGING SERVICE AND VOLUNTEERISM IN FUTURE GENERATIONS**

By The Z and Golden Z Club Committee

Members of the Golden Z Club of Saint Michael's College of Laguna, in the Philippines, participate in local advocacy. Did you know that Zonta sponsors clubs for high school, college and university students? Established in 1948, the Z and Golden Z club program is one of Zonta International's longest-running and still growing programs. There are currently 249 Z and Golden Z clubs in 19 countries around the world. You can see in the following table where Z and Golden Z Clubs are very strong, particularly in Asia, North America and Africa.

Z Clubs 185 clubs	Golden Z Clubs 64 Clubs		
Australia 11	Australia 1		
Bangladesh 2	Bahamas 2		
Bulgaria 1	Bangladesh 2		
Canada 22	Canada 1		
Ghana 2	France 2		
Hong Kong 14	Ghana 1		
New Zealand 4	Hong Kong 8		
Nigeria 11	Italy 1		
Philippines 27	Japan 7		
Republic of China (Taiwan) 3	Philippines 17		
Romania 1	Republic of China (Taiwan) 2		
Sierra Leone 2	Sri Lanka 1		
Sri Lanka 1	Thailand 2		
USA 84	USA 17		

"I particularly enjoy the work with our local Z club—these girls are our future and to be able to have some involvement in their development, see them grow, and gain an appreciation for both local and global issues is personally rewarding. I work in an area where I see so many young girls in situations because they have not had good role models and people to advise and support them from early in their life."

-Jean Dally, Club President, Zonta Club of Berry Inc, Australia

The following Zonta clubs have enthusiastically embraced the Z and Golden Z club program and sponsor numerous clubs in their local areas.

- Zonta Club of Brampton-Caledon,
   Ontario, Canada (District 4)—
   15 Z clubs and 1 Golden Z club
- Zonta Club of Hong Kong (District 17)
   8 Z clubs and 4 Golden Z clubs
- Zonta Club of Shreveport, Louisiana, USA (District 10)—10 Z clubs and 1 Golden Z club
- Zonta Club of Ibadan, Nigeria (District 18)—8 Z clubs
- Zonta Club of Kowloon, Hong Kong (District 17)—5 Z clubs and 2 Golden Z clubs
- Zonta Club of Laguna, Philippines
   (District 17) 3 Z clubs and 2 Golden
   Z clubs
- Zonta Club of Longview, Texas, USA (District 10)—5 Z clubs

#### What is a Z club or Golden Z club?

Z clubs for high school students and Golden Z clubs for college or university students encourage young women and men to develop leadership skills, explore new career opportunities and participate in community, school and international service projects.

Z clubs and Golden Z clubs are recognized extracurricular clubs on school and university campuses. Members meet 1 to 2 times each month to conduct business, hear speakers, work on service projects, hold fundraisers and have fun. Each Z or Golden Z club is sponsored by

a local Zonta club, whose members provide resources, information and guidance to the members of the Z and Golden Z club members as they plan school, community and international service projects to participate in as a club.

#### Why should your Zonta club sponsor a Z or Golden Z club?

Members of traditional Zonta clubs also have a lot to gain from sponsoring a local Z or Golden Z club, including the opportunity to mentor young people and encourage the next generation of leaders to participate in service activities to improve their school, local and global communities. Many sponsoring Zonta clubs also invite their Z or Golden Z club members to participate in service and advocacy projects sponsored by the Zonta club and build long-term partnerships with the schools in which they operate, thereby increasing visibility of the Zonta club's activities and creating goodwill in the community.

#### Getting started is easy!

Your club is interested in forming a new Z or Golden Z club—how do you get started?

- Identify potential Z or Golden Z club "champions" within your club's membership—at least two members should co-chair efforts to bring leadership, coordination and continuity as your club seeks to charter and mentor a new Z or Golden Z club.
- Identify potential high schools or colleges/universities to partner with—consider the school's location, administration, current student club offerings and student diversity.

- Interview the school's leadership to determine if the school is a good fit for a Z or Golden Z club. Watch the Z and Golden Z club video on the Zonta International website to see what some in-school sponsors have to say about working with their Z club.
- Contact your district leadership and the International Z and Golden Z Club Committee for guidance as needed throughout the process.

Once you have identified the right school to partner with and your club is ready to charter a new Z or Golden Z club, follow these easy steps.

- Complete the "New Z Club Authorization" form and submit the form with the US\$25 charter registration fee to Zonta International Headquarters.
- Arrange for a ceremonial new Z club charter activity/event with the school and your own Zonta club.

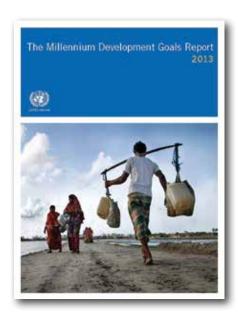
Use available resources to help your club as you charter and mentor your new Z or Golden Z club.

- Why your club should sponsor a Z or Golden Z club PowerPoint, courtesy of Kris Ritts, the District 11 Z and Golden Z Club Chairman and Charlene Rains, member of the Zonta Club of Mobile, Alabama, USA
- Z and Golden Z Club Manual
- Zonta International Website
- Other Zonta clubs sponsoring Z or Golden Z clubs

#### Golden Z Club Convention

#### 27 JUNE TO 1 JULY 2014 ORLANDO, FLORIDA, USA

Golden Z club members are invited to the inaugural Golden Z club convention to be held in conjunction with the 2014 Zonta International Convention in Orlando, Florida, USA. Students will hear from interesting and engaging speakers and participate in workshops that will inspire them as they prepare to start a new Golden Z club year and new service and advocacy activities. More information will be provided to the Golden Z clubs via their sponsoring Zonta clubs and the 2014 Convention website—orlando2014.zonta.org.



## Women's Empowerment and the Post-2015 Development Agenda

The Millennium Development Goals, set to be achieved by 2015, were agreed upon in 2000 by all 189 member states of the United Nations. These eight international development goals are:

- Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- 2. Achieve universal primary education
- Promote gender equality and empower women
- 4. Reduce child mortality
- 5. Improve maternal health
- Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
- 7. Ensure environmental sustainability
- Develop a global partnership for development



As we approach the target deadline set for the achievement of these goals, we acknowledge the significant progress made and results achieved in the areas of global poverty, primary school enrollment, child mortality, access to safe drinking water and efforts to fight malaria, HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis in many parts of the developing world. Despite these advances, we believe one of the Goals still furthest from realization is Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women. According to The Millennium Development Goals Report 2013 "whether in the public or private sphere, from the highest levels of government decisionmaking to households, women continue to be denied equal opportunity with men to participate in decisions that affect their lives." Failure to achieve this particular goal is significant far beyond 2015 as gender equality and women's empowerment impact all other areas of global development. The World Development Report 2012 states "women now represent 40 percent of the global labor force, 43 percent of the world's agricultural labor force, and more than half the world's university students". Citing these facts,

the report argues that productivity will be raised if the skills and talents of women are used more fully.

So, where do we go from here? In July 2012, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon, appointed a 27-person panel—the High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda-to make recommendations on a new development agenda beyond 2015. The Panel sought feedback from hundreds of thousands of people around the world via face-to-face meetings, online surveys, interviews and polling. As a result of these dialogues, the Panel determined that a Post-2015 development agenda must build on the successes of the Millennium Development Goals, but shift the focus and leave no one behind. "We should ensure that no person-regardless of ethnicity, gender, geography, disability, race or other status -is denied universal human rights and basic economic opportunities," states the Panel in its report to the Secretary-General.

Women and girls, therefore, play a significant role in the Panel's conclusions regarding a new development agenda. According to the report, "the majority of

those living in extreme poverty are female. A people-centered agenda must work to ensure the equal rights of women and girls, and empower them to participate and take on leadership roles in public life. Women across the world have to work hard to overcome significant barriers to opportunity. These barriers can only be removed when there is zero tolerance of violence against and exploitation of women and girls, and when they have full and equal rights in political, economic and public spheres."

A more detailed discussion on progress made and remaining challenges in achieving the MDGs can be found in the article on the status of women worldwide in the June 2013 Issue of *The Zontian*, and country specific data can be found in individual Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and The Millennium Development Goals country reports.

#### **EDUCATING WOMEN AND GIRLS**

According to *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2012*, access to education has proven to have long-term ramifications for girls and their families with edu-

cation being the key to viable, sustained employment opportunities that in turn ensure girls' financial empowerment and economic independence into adulthood. A mother's education is also proven to be a powerful determinant in the survival of her children with less education for mothers closely linked to increased mortality rates for children under five years old.

While significant progress has been made in gender parity in primary education throughout the developing world, The Millennium Development Goals Report 2013 outlines how girls continue to face substantial barriers at all levels of education in Northern Africa, sub-Saharan Africa and Western Asia. Gender disparities increase in secondary education in these regions due to a number of factors: families confronted with limited resources may place a higher value on a son continuing his education than a daughter, secondary schools are also often a further distance from the home (presenting unique safety and security issues for female students traveling to and from school alone) and early or child marriage may halt a girl's education at the primary school level.

Gender disparities become even more pronounced in tertiary education; however, according to The Millennium Development Goals Report 2013, girls are not always at a disadvantage with enrollment of women exceeding that of men in tertiary education in 62 percent of countries. In countries with low enrollment rates overall, men typically outnumber women. The World Development Report 2012 also outlines how "gender gaps in primary education have closed in almost all countries. In secondary education, these gaps are closing rapidly and have reversed in many countries". The report notes how "girls now outnumber boys in secondary schools in 45 countries and there are more young women than men in universities in 60 countries"; however similarly to The Millennium Development Goals Report 2013, "despite the overall progress, primary and secondary school enrollments for girls remain much lower than for boys for disadvantaged populations in Sub-Saharan countries and some parts of South Asia".

Eight key messages are identified in the Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2011-A Gender Review, prepared by The United Nations Girls' Education Initiative. Number one states that education is a human right for everyone, including girls and women. Also, protection is a crucial prerequisite for ensuring education, especially for girls and that the demand for girl's education is highly sensitive to household poverty and therefore responds well to well-designed conditional cash or in-kind transfer measures. Higher investment in early childhood care and education is crucial for promoting sustained girls' education and the notion of quality should be widened to include transformative, gender-responsive educational process and outcomes. The report states "this change needs to be based on an understanding that educational curricula and processes can play a major role in changing a large number of gender-related practices, norms and beliefs, including sexual abuse and violence against women and girls". The report also points out that reduced gender disparities in secondary education and in labor markets are mutually reinforcing in

equity where "educational and protection policies are often not recognized as integral parts of aid policy in conflict areas, but they are essential for the holistic wellbeing of children."

According to *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2013*, only two out of 130 countries with available data have reached the target of gender parity in all levels of education. Addressing societal challenges limiting girls' access to higher education and ensuring that more girls and young women are educated at a higher level will have long-term positive impacts for young women into adulthood and will likewise have positive impacts on their families and the communities in which they live.

#### Zonta Initiatives

Through programs like the Amelia Earhart Fellowship, the Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship and the Young Women in Public Affairs Award, Zonta International is working to remove barriers to women's education and increase opportunities for long-term professional success. In the past, Zonta has also supported projects to provide technical and vocational skills training for young women and women in Afghanistan and Bolivia,

The cost of not investing in girls' education far exceeds the cost of investing in it, with the report emphasizing that "strong advocacy is needed to maintain or enhance investment in education in the face of the economic downturn."

strengthening gender equality." Further, the cost of not investing in girls' education far exceeds the cost of investing in it, with the report emphasizing that "strong advocacy is needed to maintain or enhance investment in education in the face of the economic downturn." Finally, while reform of the aid architecture is under way, its pace needs to be accelerated along with a renewed focus on gender and social

and increased access to primary education for girls in South Africa.

#### WOMEN IN THE LABOR MARKET

Despite the growth of women's access to and enrollment in tertiary education outpacing men's, this growth has not directly correlated to greater opportunities for women in the labor market. Gender wage gaps persist, and women's representation in managerial positions, among others, remains low. According to *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2013*, "research from 51 countries reveals that the proportion of women managers as a percentage of total managers ranges from 10 percent to 43 percent, with

1990 when only 35 out of 100 jobs were held by women." Gender parity has almost been achieved in Eastern Asia, the Caucasus and Central Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean; however the percentage of women in non-agricultural paid employment was under 40 percent in



As part of the Millennium Development Goals, Rwanda is looking to increase the enrollment of children in school.

the majority of countries falling between 20 percent and 35 percent." The World Development Report 2012 argues that there is unequal access to economic opportunities for women because "women are more likely than men to work as unpaid family laborers or in the informal sector. Women farmers tend to farm smaller plots and less profitable crops than men. Women entrepreneurs operate in smaller firms and less profitable sectors. As a result, women everywhere tend to earn less than men."

Women's access to paid employment is essential to gender equality as access to a stable income enables women to achieve economic independence and decision-making power both within and outside the home. According to *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2013*, women continue to make strides in the labor market; however, progress varies by region and by area of work. The report states that "globally, 40 out of every 100 wage-earning jobs in the nonagricultural sector were held by women in 2011—a significant improvement since

six other developing regions and under 20 percent in Western Asia, Northern Africa and Southern Asia.

Increased access to income-generating work does not necessarily guarantee women decent jobs or gender equality in the workplace. Women in developing regions often work on farms or in other family businesses with little or no personal financial security or social benefits. According to The Millennium Development Goals Report 2013, this type of gender disparity is particularly evident in Western Asia and Northern Africa where paid employment opportunities for women are limited and in sub-Saharan Africa and Oceania. A variety of factors contribute to this disparity and limit women's employment choices, including women's responsibilities for unpaid care work and lack of childcare facilities and other social rights. The McKinsey & Company report Women Matter 2012, Making the Breakthrough, outlines the results of their research into the gender diversity practices of 235 European companies. A key finding was that "in only 8 percent of the biggest companies in the survey did women account for more than a quarter of the top jobs". The report goes on to identify some of the influencers for women in the workplace beginning with how cultural and socioeconomic factors are powerful influencers of women's role in the workforce. Further outlined is how governments have "various tools at their disposal that can affect gender diversity," at work such as tax incentives, childcare and parental leave. The report also points out how the governments of Norway, Sweden, France, Italy and Belgium, "have set legally binding quotas for the proportion of women sitting on corporate boards or introduced corporate governance codes and/or voluntary charters." Another influencer identified in the report is the contribution of women's own behavior and from their research in the United States they found that women, "frequently turn down advancement opportunities because of commitments outside work, risk aversion to positions that demand new skills or a desire to stay in roles that they feel provide personal meaning." This report also found that women had, "a reluctance to promote themselves."

Another McKinsey & Company report, Unlocking the full potential of women in the US economy, identifies factors that hold women back such as: structural obstacles which center on a lack of access to informal networks, lack of female role models and a lack of sponsors, lifestyle issues and concerns about the "24/7 executive lifestyle and travel requirements" and imbedded institutional mindsets where "women are often evaluated for promotions primarily on performance, while men are promoted on potential". Also, there are imbedded individual mindsets that act as barriers where women on average are, "less satisfied than men with their chosen profession and jobs", and as they get older "their desire to move to the next level dissipates faster than men's." Interestingly, when the McKinsey Women Matter team asked business executives globally what they believed are the most important leadership attributes for success today, they identified the top as: "intellectual stimulation, inspiration, participatory decision-making and setting expectations/rewards" and that these attributes are "more commonly found among women leaders."

The Economist report Women's Economic Opportunity 2012, identified women as "a key driver of economic growth," and that "women are the world's greatest undeveloped source of labor," where "nearly one-half of working age women are not currently active in the formal economy." Also, women traditionally have "less access than men to income and resources," making them "less productive than men, which holds back the overall economy." The report outlines that "to realize greater returns from female economic activity, the legal, social, financial and educational barriers hindering women's productivity need to be removed." In their assessment of progress they use five categories: Labor Policy and Practice; Access to Finance; Education and Training; Women's Legal and Social Status; and the General Business Environment. The countries at the top of their Index were Sweden and Norway with their "robust, gender-sensitive legislation and progressive cultural norms," and at the bottom were Chad and Sudan with their "few legal, educational and financial resources for women and an oppressive social environment."

#### Zonta Initiatives

This biennium, Zonta International's International Service Projects in both Liberia and Rwanda have an income-generation skills training component. In Liberia, part of the rehabilitation program includes training the women in new skills that will allow them to go back to their communities, earn a living and be economically independent. Likewise, in Rwanda participants in the Family Package Program can access skills training that will enable them to provide for their families in a sustainable way. Previously funded Zonta International service projects have also focused on women's income generation and economic empowerment in Botswana, Chile, Egypt, Mexico, the Philippines and Senegal.

#### **WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT**

2012 was a banner year for women's representation in parliaments worldwide. According to *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2013*, the average

share of women in parliament as of 31 January 2013 stood at 20.4 percent, up from 19.6 percent in January 2012, which is a rare annual increase of nearly one percentage point. The report also notes that only six parliamentary chambers in the world today have no women members: Haiti, Micronesia, Qatar and the Pacific Islands of Nauru, Palau and Vanuatu, On a positive note, for the first time women were appointed to Saudi Arabia's Shura Council and now account for 20 percent of that country's parliament. Many of the gains seen in women's representation in parliaments worldwide are in countries that have employed voluntary or legislatively mandated quota systems. According to The Millennium Development Goals Report 2013, "where quotas have been legislated, women took 24 percent of parliamentary seats; with voluntary quotas, they occupied 24 percent of seats; and, where no quotas were used, women took just 12 percent of seats, well below the global average." The effectiveness of using quotas to achieve gender equality in political representation, however, remains a topic of discussion. According to the same report, when combined with proportional representation systems, quotas seem to be the most effective, but women candidates need to be placed in winnable positions on party lists and political parties must be supportive.

#### Zonta Initiatives

Zonta districts and clubs are continuing to advocate increasing women's representation in local, regional and national government bodies. Our founding principles of supporting women's right to vote is as important today as it was years ago.

#### WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT AFTER 2015

With the target date for achievement of *The Millennium Development Goals* less than two years away, the United Nations and its agencies are engaging member states, international organizations and citizens from around the globe in collaborative discussions regarding the global





development agenda beyond 2015. Although The Millennium Development Goals have spurred progress in many areas, the results have been uneven and many areas are far from reaching their targets. According to the recent position paper published by UN Women, A transformative stand-alone goal on achieving gender equality, women's rights and women's empowerment: imperatives and key components, gaps include: "persistent gender wage gaps, with women being paid 10 to 30 percent less than men; low representation in parliaments, with only 1 in 5 legislators being women; vulnerable employment, with nearly two-thirds of women largely outside the protection of law in 2011; and violence against women and girls, with nearly 1 in 3 women impacted by violence during their lifetimes." As a result of these shortcomings, UN Women is emphasizing the need to address the underlying causes of gender equality, including widespread violence against women, unpaid care work, limited control over personal assets and property, and unequal participation in private and public decision-making.

"Momentum is growing for gender equality and women's empowerment and, in recent weeks, we have seen increasing support for a goal on gender equality, women's rights and women's empowerment in the post-2015 development agenda," said Lakshmi Puri, Acting Head of UN Women. "UN Women is putting forward this paper as a contribution to this discussion, both as a synthesis and a starting point for the mobilization needed to shape a new generation of development goals. At the heart of our approach is the need to address structural causes of gender discrimination and violence against women that continue to impede progress for women and girls around the world. This is why we call for a comprehensive stand-alone goal, as well as gender mainstreaming in all areas of the new framework."

According to UN Women, this standalone goal will address three critical areas:

- Freedom from violence against women and girls. Concrete actions to eliminate the debilitating fear and experience of violence.
- Gender equality in the distribution of capabilities-knowledge, good health, sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights of women and adolescent girls; and gender equality in access to resources and opportunities, including land, decent work and equal pay to build women's economic and social security.
- Gender equality in decision-making power in public and private institutions, in national parliaments and local councils, the media and civil society, in the management and governance of firms, and in families and communities.

In addition to this stand-alone goal on gender equality, UN Women is also advocating for the integration of gender equality concerns throughout all other priority areas of a new post-2015 development agenda as is the Secretary-General's High-Level Panel. The Panel concluded that "gender equality is integrated across all of the goals, both in specific targets and by making sure that targets are measured separately for women and men, or girls and boys, where appropriate. But gender equality is also an important issue in its own right, and a stand-alone goal can catalyze progress."

In the World Development Report 2012, it is argued that a "focused and sustained domestic public action is essential to bring about gender equality and to be effective these policies will need to target the root causes of gender gaps." The key priorities identified are; to reduce excess deaths of girls and women, to shrink persisting educational gaps, to narrow disparities between women and men in earnings and productivity, to diminish gender differences in household and societal voice and to limit the reproduction of gender inequality across generations. They see the role of the international community as supporting, "evidence-based public action through better data, impact evaluation and learning", and that "partnerships should extend beyond governments and development agencies to include the private sector, civil society organizations, and academic institutions in developing and rich countries".

Zonta International supports UN Women's call for a stand-alone goal on gender equality and the integration of gender equality concerns throughout a new post-2015 development agenda. To support these efforts and join the global conversation, Zontians can make their voices heard by participating in the My World survey at http://www.myworld 2015.org/ and engaging in ongoing discussions on The World We Want website at http://www.worldwewant2015.org/.

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### JOIN THE CAMPAIGN TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

By the International Public Relations and Communications Committee

#ZontaSaysNO

The international 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence Campaign is right around the corner (25 November-10 December) and so too is Phase Two of the Zonta Says NO campaign to end violence against women and girls, which is designed to complement the 16 Days Campaign. Phase Two will bring together the actions of Zonta districts and clubs from around the world to illustrate the collective commitment of Zonta's nearly 30,000 members in 64 countries to taking a unified stand against gender violence. There's still time for your district or club to make a plan, take action and Say NO!

#### **EVERY ACTION COUNTS!**

Any action, big or small, taken by a Zonta district, club or individual member to say no to violence against women and girls, counts as participation in the campaign, provided the action also incorporates the Zonta Says NO campaign logo.

#### Here are some ideas for actions:

- Take an existing project that focuses on violence against women and girls and brand the project with the Zonta Says NO logo, color and images.
- Purchase Zonta Says NO ribbons and wristbands from the Zonta Store and distribute them to club members, district conference attendees, Z and Golden Z club members, guest speakers and participants at club-sponsored community events.













Wear the ribbons or wristbands on 25 November—International Day for the Elimination of All Forms of Violence against Women—and throughout the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence.

- Gather data on violence against women (VAW) in your local community and prepare a public exhibit to illustrate the local impact of VAW.
- Make a donation to a local facility to support victims of violence or to prevent violence against women. Don't forget to display campaign items when you hand over the check.
- Organize a panel discussion and invite experts on the subject to participate.
- Invite other like minded organizations to participate in your project or event.
- If these ideas don't suit your club, just borrow an idea. Visit the Zonta Says NO website at http://zontasaysno.com/ for inspiration and ideas.

As your actions unfold, make sure you keep all your members informed and involved. Reach out to community leaders, politicians and the media to get the word out that your club is working to end violence against women and girls in your local community and that you are part of a larger global effort to end violence against women and girls worldwide. The tools section on zontasaysno.com will offer facts and pieces of copy you can work with when you draft your local communication so you don't have to do this research on your own.

As you work with local politicians, high ranking officials in your country, CEOs/board members of major corporations or other high profile individuals in your communities, ask them for a quote in support of the campaign which can be used in your printed materials or on your club or district website. Send the quotes along with their photos if possible to pr@zonta.org and you may also see it listed on the Zonta Says NO website with quotes from other campaign supporters. If this makes sense, you may also join forces with like-minded organizations, but before you enter a collaboration of this kind, please consult our guidelines in the tools section.

If your club sponsors a Z or Golden Z club, involve the students in your campaign activity. Invite them to join you in the planning and implementation, and ask them to reach out to their campus newspapers for additional media coverage. Invite also current and past recipients of your club's education programs, service and fundraising-use all of your networks to highlight our call that violence against women is not okay.

#### **SHARE YOUR STORY!**

Take photos of your Zonta Says NO action with the Zonta Says NO logo clearly visible. Post these photos with a brief description of your action on your club and district websites and social media pages. Finally, join your fellow Zontians around the world in saying no to violence against women and girls by submitting your story and photos to the Zonta Says NO website. And: watch out for more possibilities this website might offer to advocate on and around November 25.

Together, let's show that Zontians are committed to ending violence against women and girls in our own communities and around the world! ■

zontasaysno.com



# Shaping Zonta's Future Member Dialogues on Membership





Should prospective members be able to join without being invited? In the future, could a recipient of a Jane M. Klausman scholarship automatically become a Zontian? Could membership be extended to those who would most likely not be able to attend the monthly meetings? These are questions that Zontians from all over the world are encouraged to discuss.

Zontians are invited to participate in Member Dialogues on Membership. We invite you to share your thoughts in multiple ways—an online survey, Zonta's LinkedIn group and webinars. These forums provide a platform for an open exchange that can be carried forward to the District Conferences.

"It's time that we seize the opportunities today's communication tools provide for enhancing two-way-communication with and among members"

"It's time that we seize the opportunities today's communication tools provide for enhancing two-way-communication with and among members," International President Lynn McKenzie said. "There's no need to wait until the District Conferences or the Orlando Convention to discuss these issues at the international level. Thoughts from as many Zontians as possible will be an input for the November Board meeting and will find their way into proposals that delegates at Convention will eventually vote on."

The topic of this year's dialogues has been selected due to the relevance of membership for the future of Zonta. In order to remain a leading organization dedicated to advance the status of women and to be a lively network that offers opportunities for friendships with people from different professions and cultures, Zonta has to make sure it's attractive for members and potential members alike.



# The Power of Associations and the Benefit to You

By Allison Summers, Executive Director, Zonta International and Zonta International Foundation



Dear Zontians,

I am excited to become a part of your wonderful community and I am honored to be your Executive Director and to serve your Zonta International Board. As a professional who focuses on the effective management of associations, I am very passionate about the value of membership in great organizations like Zonta International. As an introduction, I would like to share with you a little about my belief in the power of associations.

Why do you need to be a member of an organization like Zonta International?

A known study in the association world, "Where Winners Meet," validates that there are special common characteristics of individuals who are likely to join an association. These people, who we call 'joiners', are statistically happier people who tend to move up more quickly in their careers, and as a result, propel their earning potential. But why is this? Belonging to an association like Zonta International expands our network and professional contacts in a way that we could never achieve just through traditional business channels. Can you think of someone whom you met in Zonta that provided good advice, taught you something new or modeled a behavior you adapted? This mindset is nothing new for Zontians. Our founders had it right when they said we need to lift one another professionally so that we may better positioned to affect change in this world.

Did you know membership organizations serve as the number one worldwide platform for fueling the knowledge economy? Membership organizations like Zonta International are better positioned than any university, government or media channel for delivering education and shaping beliefs. They are an accelerant for cultural understanding and can foster like-minded thinking around the globe in a way that no other platform can. And the best associations know how to leverage the power of many to get things done. Think for a minute about all the information on women's issues you now know because of your relationship with Zonta International and your fellow Zontians. Now think of how many people you have told this information to. Have you activated any of those people to action? You are in a unique position when you are a member of Zonta because you are armed with information and empowered to make a difference in both your local and global communities.

Why Zonta International? When I look at Zonta, I see a wealth of knowledge, spirit and unlimited potential. The relevant work of Zonta clubs is vital to advancing the status of women within their own communities. Through individual giving to the International Service Projects, ZISVAW and scholarship funds, members make an impact on a global scale. But there is still so much more to be done. We must not only protect the work that has been completed, but we must reach the Z and Golden Z club generations to be sure that they not only operate with a giving spirit but that they recognize how fragile the global environment is for women still today and that they find a strong voice of advocacy.

You recognize the value of being engaged, but can you think of someone else who should be a member of Zonta? For Zonta to achieve its maximum potential we must attract the best and brightest people from all career fields who are intent on making the world a better and more equitable place for women and girls. Today, I ask you to think of two individuals that you should extend an invitation of membership to. With two new memberships, you will receive a pin to commemorate your commitment to keeping Zonta healthy and strong.

We welcome you to share thoughts on what the value of being a member of Zonta International means to you. Send us a note on the Zonta International Facebook page or tweet @ZontaIntl. Thank you for all you do to keep Zonta credible and visible in the world—you are making a difference.

Kind Regards,

Illison

#### DONATE NOW!

ADVANCING THE STATUS OF WOMEN WORLDWIDE



We appreciate your donation and commitment to advancing the status of women worldwide. Our target this biennium is US\$4.93 million—help us reach this goal so we can help more women and children.

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Jane M. Klausman Women In Business Sch	nolarship Fund			US\$
Young Women in Public Affairs Award Fund				US\$
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Rose Fund (Funds are applied where needed mo	ost)			US\$
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International Service Fund				US\$
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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.



#### Welcome to the Zonta International family!

The Zonta International Community extends a warm welcome to our new Zonta clubs and Z and Golden Z clubs, chartered since April 2013.

#### **ZONTA CLUBS**

6 new clubs including the first e-club in the USA

- Zonta Club of Daejeon III-FL, South Korea, District 32, Area 3
- Zonta Club of Daejeon VI, South Korea, District 32, Area 2
- Zonta Club of Greeley, Colorado, District 12, Area 2
- Zonta Club of Negombo, Sri Lanka, District 25, Area 1
- Zonta Club of Valea Prahovei. Romania, District 30, Area 5
- Zonta E-Club of USA-1, District 7, Area 2

#### **Z CLUBS**

2 new Z clubs

- Domingo Lacson National High School Z Club, Philippines, District 17,
- Z Club Plovdiv, Bulgaria, District 30, Area 5

#### **GOLDEN Z CLUBS**

4 new Golden Z clubs

- Golden Z Club at ASU, Arizona, USA, District 9, Area 6
- Golden Z Club of Seinan Jo Gakuin University, Japan, District 26, Area 4
- St. Catherine's College—University of Western Australia Golden Z Club. Australia, District 23, Area 3
- University of Matsumoto Golden Z Club, Japan, District 26, Area 2





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