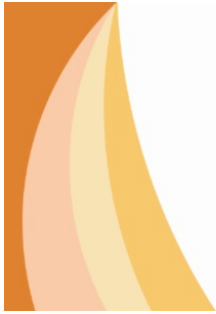


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# Zonta News

Build a Better World for Women and Girls



Dear Megan,

Women and girls often confront significant challenges due to social, cultural and economic factors that stand in the way of their potential. Yet, one of the most pressing obstacles to achieving true gender equality is climate change. [Please watch the video on Zonta Says NOW here](#) and learn more about why climate justice is one of the important strategic topic areas for Zonta.



Research reveals that women face greater hurdles than men when recovering from extreme weather events, largely due to systemic gender inequalities that restrict their access to essential resources and opportunities. As climate-related disasters become more frequent, these disparities only deepen, impacting women's education, employment, legal rights and leadership roles. [Zonta has issued its statement on climate change in 2021.](#)

This moment calls on us to recognize the unique challenges climate change poses for women and girls, emphasizing the need for action from a gender equality perspective. As the effects of climate change increasingly fill our news, Zonta members worldwide are bravely advancing gender-equal climate justice through [their actions](#) and support for [international service projects](#), striving for greener, cleaner and fairer societies.

With Earth Day quickly approaching, I encourage you to join this year's campaign to #ElevateEquality. Read below to choose which one of the four actions you can take to bring gender equality to the spotlight on 22 April.

Another important topic to pay attention to and take action on is the [Zonta Foundation for Women's 40th Anniversary campaign](#). Please join the campaign by making a donation and encouraging others to do the same. Through the Foundation, Zonta is able to support critical work promoting and protecting women's and girls' rights around the globe.

As you read ahead about how you can contribute to a more climate-just world, I call upon the global Zonta community to unite in our shared responsibility as stewards of the planet. Together, through our collective action, we can create a significant impact and build a better world for women and girls.

Warm regards,



Salla Tuominen  
President 2024-2026  
Zonta International and Zonta Foundation for Women



Join us in celebrating **four decades** of building a better world for women girls and share your inspiring Zonta stories of impact and membership!

 **40 YEARS**  
BUILDING A BETTER WORLD  
BEGINS WITH A STRONG FOUNDATION  
[www.zonta.org/Foundation40](http://www.zonta.org/Foundation40)



22 APRIL 2025

# ELEVATE EQUALITY EARTH DAY

Elevate Equality this Earth Day, **22 April**. Take strides with Zonta to address gender equity and work for climate justice.

This year's plans include:

- Learn how you can partner with local sustainable groups and businesses.
- Take action to ensure your community addresses the needs of women and girls within its disaster-ready plans.
- Lead the conversation on how Earth Day is about gender equality.
- Continue to support the Zonta Says NOW to Gender-Equal Climate Action campaign.

[Learn how to Elevate Equality on Earth Day](#)

## 7 Ways to make Your Membership More Sustainable

Not sure where to start on your sustainability journey? Here are some practices you and your club can start doing for a greener Zonta experience!



**Apply the 5 R's to purchases: reduce, reuse, recycle, rethink and repair.**

When you embrace the 5 R's, you make an impactful choice that not only saves money but also paves the way for a sustainable future by utilizing recycled materials.



### **Learn how to recycle goods correctly.**

Different municipalities have unique standards for recycling. By sharing this knowledge, we can inspire members of our communities to embrace recycling wholeheartedly, ensuring that all recyclable items are welcomed and valued.



### **Promote car sharing to attend meetings and events or host events at venues easily accessible by public transportation.**

Encourage a reduction in everyone's carbon footprint by integrating more sustainable transportation options for your events and meetings. Consider promoting carpooling, public transit, cycling, or even walking as viable alternatives. By doing so, you not only demonstrate a commitment to environmental responsibility but also facilitate a more eco-friendly gathering.



### **Use digital technology to minimize the use of printed materials.**

Leverage digital technology to significantly reduce the reliance on printed materials, in turn promoting a more sustainable and eco-friendly approach to information sharing and communication.



### **Provide speakers with 'green gifts,' or donations to the Zonta Foundation for Women.**

Consider giving speakers thoughtful 'green gifts' as a token of appreciation, or alternatively, making a donation in their name to the Zonta Foundation for Women, which supports initiatives that promote gender-equal climate justice actions.



### **Choose a bank with green credentials.**

Select a bank that prioritizes sustainability and has strong environmental credentials. Look for institutions that actively support eco-friendly initiatives, promote green investments and have transparent practices in their commitment to reducing their carbon footprint.



### **Include vegetarian options at events.**

Embracing vegetarian options at events opens doors to a world where diverse dietary needs are celebrated. A plant-based option sets an example of environmental sustainability, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and conserving precious land and water resources.

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## **Zontians in Action**

Zontians are taking action to build a better world for women and girls! Read the stories below highlighting how Zonta clubs and student clubs are making an impact in their communities and beyond.

### **The Little Vintage Shop joins She Slays 2025**

The Zonta Club of Makati and Environs, Philippines, joined the Girl Coded Convention by bringing The Little Vintage Shop (TLVS) to the event with a special pop-up booth featuring curated pre-loved clothes and accessories.

Beyond style, TLVS champions sustainable fashion as part of Zonta International's climate empowerment initiative, proving that fashion can be both empowering and eco-conscious. By upcycling and repurposing clothing, TLVS not only promotes mindful consumption but also supports programs that protect and uplift women and girls.



## Zonta Club of Perth Inc supports climate and gender equity awareness

The University of Western Australia (UWA) hosted its annual public lecture as part of the Principles of Responsible Management Education program, focusing on the theme of Climate Change and Gender Equity.



A prominent federal politician delivered the keynote lecture, highlighting the intersection of climate action and gender equality. Alongside the lecture, students participated in SustainFest, a parallel event featuring poster submissions on the same theme. The posters were displayed after the lecture and during the business school's annual award ceremony.


Members of the Zonta Club of Perth Inc, Australia, Donella Caspersz and Carole Theobald, were invited to judge the student posters and raise awareness of Zonta Says NOW campaign for gender-equal climate action. The winning poster, designed by a male student from Oman, was recognized for its impactful message, and a copy was presented to the politician to display in her office.

Click the buttons below to be inspired by Zontians taking action within their own communities. Then, tell us how you are changing the world by sharing your story!

[Local Service & Advocacy](#)

[Zonta Says  
NO](#)

[Share Your  
Story](#)



We proudly highlight our [#ZontiansinAction](#).

See the steps our members have taken to make a difference around the world.

[WATCH NOW](#)

## **Stock Markets and Implications to Zonta Foundation for Women**

With the significant volatility in the global markets, we understand there may be questions and concerns regarding the Zonta Foundation for Women investment portfolio and the impact of the market on your donations.



The Foundation's portfolios are broadly diversified and were positioned with less risk than their policy benchmarks heading into this drawdown. Each portfolio is in-line with or outperforming its Policy Benchmark and holding up much better than global stock indices.

Guided by the Investment Policy Statement, the Foundation actively follows the situation on a daily basis and has full confidence in our investment advisors, Capital Strategies Investment Group LLC, to closely monitor the situation, actively manage risk in the portfolios, and look to capitalize on long-term opportunities to support Zonta's long-term mission.

[Click here to read a full update from the Zonta Foundation for Women .](#)

## 2025 Add Your Voice Membership Campaign is Underway!

New Members added now through 31 May count toward your or your club's recognition. The deadline to submit your club's recruitment event grant proposal is 31 May. Please see the [Add Your Voice webpage](#) for more details.



## ADD YOUR VOICE 1 APRIL TO 31 MAY 2025

Join the Add Your Voice membership campaign and be recognized for strengthening the voice of Zonta.



## Show off your actions at the Share Your Story Festival

Don't miss the chance to shine! Zonta International will be hosting its virtual Share Your Story Festival on 26 August. We will be selecting six clubs that submitted stories from the first year of this biennium to present. If you have any stories that you have not submitted and want to be considered, **please submit by 30 April**.

Share Your  
Story



## Webinars from our Partners

Join our partners, UNFPA and UNICEF USA for two exclusive events about our [international service projects](#).



**UNICEF USA + Zonta International: Laaha 101**

**Tuesday, 29 April**

**10:00 AM CDT**

Find your time: [Meeting Planner](#)

Register

**Meet UNFPA – A Webinar for Zonta International Members**

Wednesday, 14 May  
9:00 AM CDT  
Find your time: [Meeting Planner](#)

Register



## Advocacy Webseries: Share Your Story Live

Join the International Advocacy Committee and the Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women working group as they highlight past advocacy and actions taken during the 16 Days of Activism. Get inspired as you begin planning your club's 2025 16 Days of Activism efforts!



Tuesday, 27 May  
12:00 PM CST

Register

## Meet this month's Remarkable Woman: Kehkashan Basu



**Kehkashan Basu** is a TEDx speaker, climate reality mentor, author, musician, and dedicated campaigner for peace and sustainability while embodying the spirit of change. She has received Canada's Meritorious Service Medal and is the only Canadian to win the International Children's Peace Prize. Celebrated in the Forbes 30 Under 30 list, she is also the first recipient of the Voices Youth Gorbachev-Schultz Legacy Award for her impactful efforts in nuclear disarmament.



Kehkashan met with Lynne Foley OAM, host of the Remarkable Women, Powerful Stories podcast, to share her journey in climate justice. Through her work, she embraces the unique differences among generations and communities, amplifying the power of common ground to discover transformative solutions for all.

Listen to Kehkashan's story on the go | [Spotify](#) | [YouTube](#)

## Congratulations to our club anniversaries this month!

Zonta Club of Frederick  
USA, District 3  
95th anniversary

Zonta Club of Essex County  
USA, District 3



95th anniversary

Zonta Club of Tampa I  
USA, District 11  
85th anniversary

We applaud your efforts in advocating for the women and girls in your community and beyond. To see which other clubs are celebrating a milestone anniversary in April, visit [Zonta News](#).

## Important Dates and Events

- 1 April-31 May: [Add Your Voice Campaign](#)
- 22 April: [Earth Day](#)
- 29 April: [UNICEF USA + Zonta International: Laaha 101 webinar](#)
- 2-4 May: [European Interdistrict Seminar](#)
- 11 May: [Zonta Says NOW Intercontinental Think Tank](#)
- 14 May: [Meet UNFPA - A Webinar for Zonta International Members](#)
- 27 May: [Advocacy Webseries: Share Your Story Live](#)
- 1 June: International dues deadline
- 20-22 June: [North American Interdistrict Meeting](#)
- 13 July: [Zonta Says NOW Intercontinental Think Tank](#)
- 26 August: [Share Your Story Festival](#)



[www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org)

[Zonta International](#) is a global organization based in 64 countries building a better world for women and girls. Zonta International envisions a world in which women's rights are recognized as human rights and every woman is able to achieve her full potential. In such a world, women have access to all resources and are represented in decision-making positions on an equal basis with men. In such a world, no woman lives in fear of violence.

Zonta International | 1200 Harger Road Suite 330 | Oak Brook, IL 60523-1817 US

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