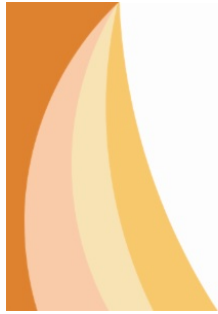


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Zonta News

Build a Better World for Women and Girls



Dear Megan,

From our first service project in 1923, providing vital relief to 115,000 women and orphaned children in Turkey, Zonta has remained committed to its enduring mission of advocating for gender equity through impactful programs and partnerships.

For decades, we have been at the forefront of building a better world, tirelessly addressing the unique challenges faced by women and girls. Through unwavering advocacy and dedicated action driven by our members' support for our international service projects, our impact has evolved to ensure that every woman and girl can live a life free from violence, pursue equal education, take on decision-making roles and thrive in a climate-just world.



Ending Child Marriage - A signature project since 2018, Zonta has championed the cause of ending child marriage, investing US\$6.2 million in the UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to End Child Marriage. Almost 8 million girls received vital support in Phase I of the Programme (2016-2020), and more than 6.3 million girls were empowered through life skills education in Phase II (2020-2023). Our commitment drives ongoing efforts to strengthen government involvement and enrich the lives of girls and their families worldwide.



Laaha - Through this UNICEF digital web-based platform, Zonta empowers girls and women with essential knowledge on menstrual health, healthy relationships, safety, rights, financial literacy and anatomy, while extending support to those confronting violence. This initiative aims to foster a vibrant online community, reflecting the nurturing essence of physical safe spaces.



Climate Empower - Through our investment in UNFPA's Climate Empower program, Zonta is playing a vital role in the fight against climate-induced gender-based violence in Madagascar, Mozambique and South Sudan. This program empowers women and girls to cultivate resilience and champion innovative solutions in the pursuit of equality and justice.

Through these and our other service projects, Zonta has transformed the lives of women and girls in more than 60 countries. Continue on to read updates and to learn more about the people benefiting from our projects.

Now, more than ever, we must rise to the occasion and **continue the vital work of Zonta worldwide**. As we celebrate the **40th anniversary of the Zonta Foundation for Women**, I encourage you to make a donation and inspire others to do the same. Every contribution to the Foundation helps to ensure that all women and girls can reach their full potential in

a gender-equal world.

Thank you for your continue support as we 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 impact that our donors have made for women and girls worldwide!

ZONTA
FOUNDATION
FOR WOMEN

40 YEARS
BUILDING A BETTER WORLD
BEGINS WITH A STRONG FOUNDATION
www.zonta.org/Foundation40

Ending Child Marriage

Learn how we are protecting the rights of millions of vulnerable girls and putting an end to this global violation of human rights in 12 countries in Africa and Asia.



Meet Nafissa, a beneficiary of the Zonta-sponsored Global Programme to End Child Marriage

Nafissa Ouedraogo was only 14 years old when she was introduced to a 42-year-old man who already had two wives. Learn how Nafissa was able to escape her fate as a child bride with the support of her uncle, Chief Kaboré, and UNICEF.



More Resources:

- **Ending Child Marriage Annual Report** | Coming September 2025 | [Bookmark now](#)

"In the aftermath of the atrocities of World War I, Zonta was founded on one clear conviction: Women could not remain second-class citizens. A future in peace and prosperity could only be built with the equal contribution of women and men to civil society. Therefore, it's in Zonta's DNA to fight against child marriage. To contribute both financially and through global advocacy to the Global Programme to End Child Marriage is at the very core of our engagement for women's rights that are nothing but human rights. A practice that denies girls their human right to choose their partners and to decide on their bodies, that endangers their lives and that of their children, that in most cases ends their education, is outright unacceptable for us."

Past International President Susanne von Bassewitz



**UNICEF does not endorse any company, brand, organization or service*

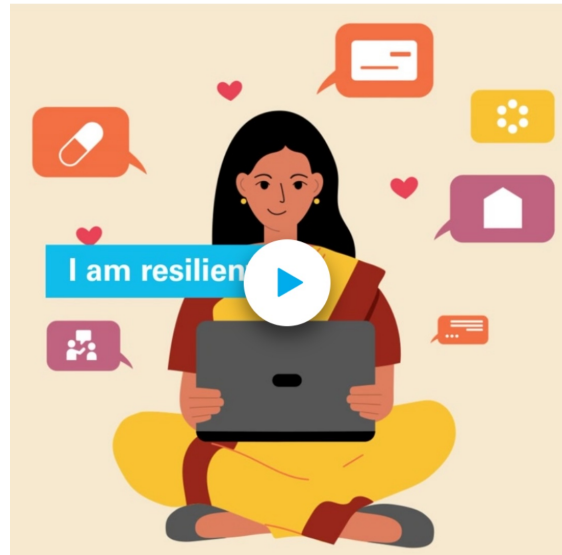
Fostering a digital safe space through Laaha

Learn how we are providing a virtual safe space for girls and women with information about women's and girls' health, rights and gender-based violence services through this UNICEF digital web-based platform.



Meet Amina, a beneficiary of Laaha

Amina lives in a camp for displaced people in Ninewa, Iraq. Like most teenagers, she has lots of questions about her health and body. Learn how she benefits from the Laaha initiative.



More Resources:

- UNICEF USA + Zonta International: [Laaha 101](#) | Password: [Zonta2025!](#) | [Video](#)
- [Laaha Program Videos](#) | [Link](#)
- [Laaha Newsletter](#) | [Subscribe](#)

**UNICEF does not endorse any company, brand, organization or service*

Climate Empower

Earlier this May, Zonta International members virtually met with leaders at UNFPA to learn more about the partnership between Zonta and UNFPA, as well as the projects UNFPA manages across the world. The agency has been a driver of humanitarian responses in global crises, specifically for women and girls who, in these environments, are more at risk.

During this call, Zontians were updated on:

- Zonta's 2021-2024 project, Her Health and

Dignity, Our Priority.

- **The Climate Empower project**, which has been newly launched in Madagascar, Mozambique and South Sudan.
- How women are dramatically affected by changes in climate, such as marrying off daughters due to economic hardships.

Listen to the webinar to see how UNFPA is responding to the rollback and termination of federal funds across the world, and how the Zonta-partnered projects are strongly moving forward.



More Resources:

- **Meet UNFPA Presentation from CSW** | [PPT](#)

2022-2024 Biennium Projects Final Reports

Explore the final reports below to discover how Zonta has transformed the world for women and girls by preventing child marriage, empowering girls to take action on climate change in Madagascar and enhancing gender-based violence response services in Papua New Guinea and Timor Leste.



[Project Update: UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to End Child Marriage 2024 Results](#)



[Project Update: UNFPA Her Health and Dignity in Papua New Guinea and Timor Leste](#)



Project Update: Engaging girls on climate change in Madagascar



Project Update: UNICEF Peru Adolescent Girls Health and Protection

**UNICEF does not endorse any company, brand, organization or service*



ADVOCACY TOOLS
Find supporting materials for advocacy purposes



Meet the class of 2025

Zonta International is pleased to announce the newest classes of Amelia Earhart Fellows and Zonta Young Women in Leadership Awardees.



ZONTA INTERNATIONAL

2025 AMELIA EARHART FELLOWSHIP

Meet the 30 women from 13 countries who are flying the distance

WWW.ZONTA.ORG

Introducing the 2025 Amelia Earhart (AE) Fellows

Zonta International is pleased to announce the 2025 AE Fellows. These 30 women, from 13 countries, have achieved an outstanding academic record and demonstrated initiative, ambition and commitment to pursuing a career in aerospace engineering or space sciences.



ZONTA INTERNATIONAL

2025 ZONTA YOUNG WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP AWARD

Meet the young women from 25 countries who are empowering women and girls worldwide

WWW.ZONTA.ORG

Meet the young women recognized for leadership skills and commitment to public causes

Zonta International is pleased to introduce the 2025 Zonta Young Women in Leadership Awardees. These 37 women, from 25 countries, have demonstrated their commitment to volunteerism, volunteer

The Zonta Foundation for Women received a generous gift to the AE Fellowship Endowment Fund from former AE Fellow and Past International President Sharon Langenbeck. This donation will allow us to [designate one Fellow each year as the Sharon Langenbeck Amelia Earhart Fellow.](#)

leadership achievements and dedication to empowering women worldwide.

Upcoming deadline for educational opportunities

The deadline for the next cycle of the [Zonta Women in Business Leadership Award](#) and the [Zonta Women in STEM Award](#) is swiftly approaching. Take advantage of the opportunity to shine and make your mark. Be sure to share this opportunity!



Zonta International names Lisa Blair an International Honorary Member

Zonta International recently awarded Lisa Blair, OAM, an honorary membership in the organization.

Lisa is the fastest person to sail solo, non-stop and unassisted around Antarctica on her yacht, Climate Action Now. She holds eight world records, having sailed over 130,000 nm and holds an RYA Yacht Master offshore. Ms. Blair is a proud Australian adventurer, author of Facing Fear, and was a keynote speaker at the 2024 Zonta International Convention in Brisbane, Australia. There, she shared her inspirational story of how she became a climate activist and inspired others to take action now.



[Read more](#)

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.

[Empowering women and girls through creative expression](#)

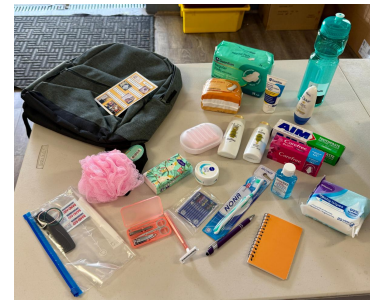
For more than a decade, the Zonta Club of Victoria, Hong Kong, has partnered with the Centre for Community Cultural Development to offer expressive arts therapy to women facing emotional distress, chronic illness, disabilities and other life challenges.

The long-term impact of the initiative extends far beyond the workshop setting. Many participants reported emotional growth, increased confidence, and stronger connections with family and community. Several stories were recently featured in the South China Morning Post, spotlighting the transformative power of art and Zonta's role in driving sustainable community empowerment.



Zonta Club of Nepean Valley Inc supports vulnerable women with care packages

The Zonta Club of Nepean Valley Inc, Australia, assembled backpacks filled with essential items to support local women's charities assisting those in need or escaping domestic violence.



The project was made possible through the generosity of a local football club, which provided financial support.

Members of the local Girl Guides supported the initiative by helping pack the 200 backpacks that were evenly distributed among five local women's charities.

Zontians in the News

Zontians are making headlines in their local news. Learn how their initiatives are inspiring their communities and beyond.


The **Zonta Club of Cheyenne** was recently featured in their local press advising on how volunteering can enhance life and increase longevity by reducing loneliness, fostering friendships and boosting self-esteem. Read more about their coverage and the tips they included here: [Volunteering in your community can improve the quality of your life.](#)

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](#)

Save your seat for the Share Your Story Festival

Get ready to be inspired! Zonta International is thrilled to invite you to its first virtual Share Your Story Festival on 26 August! Join us as clubs from all around the world gather to share their stories of impact and transformation. You will hear from six dynamic clubs that have made waves in their communities through innovative service and advocacy efforts. Click below to register and see how our global community is creating real change.

[Register](#)



SHARE YOUR STORY FESTIVAL
26 AUGUST



Meet this month's Remarkable Woman: Martina Iginì



Martina Iginì is the editor-in-chief at [Earth.Org](https://www.earth.org), a global non-profit environmental news website where she is responsible for breaking news coverage, feature writing and editing, newsletter production, and fundraising.



Martina met with Lynne Foley OAM, host of the Remarkable Women, Powerful Stories podcast, to share how her life experiences as a global citizen have shown that no matter where you live, you are connected with the rest of humanity. She emphasizes how we can all relate to one another when covering the challenges and impact of climate justice and climate impact.

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

Congratulations to our club anniversaries this month!



Zonta Club of Woodstock, Canada
Canada, District 4
65th anniversary

Zonta Club of Busan I
Korean, District 32
55th anniversary

Zonta Club of Freetown
Sierra Leone, District 18
55th 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 June, visit [Zonta News](#).

Important Dates and Events

- 23-28 June: [Global Women's Assembly for Climate Justice](#)
- 24 June: Young Professionals Meet Up | [12 PM UTC](#) | [6 PM UTC](#)
- 13 July: [Zonta Says NOW Intercontinental Think Tank](#)
- 17 July: New Member Webinar | [10 AM CDT](#) | [6 PM CDT](#)
- 31 July: Deadline for nominations for the 2026-2028 Zonta International and Zonta Foundation for Women Boards and International Nominating Committee
- 26 August: [Share Your Story Festival](#)
- 9 September: [How is artificial intelligence impacting gender equality - causes and consequences](#)
- 14 September: [Zonta Says NOW Intercontinental Think Tank](#)





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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