



ZONTA
CLUB OF
MILWAUKEE

Area 2 • District 6

2023–2024

Zonta Club of Milwaukee

Officers

Joann Comodore, President
Carol Mangold, President Elect
Ruth Robertson, Vice President
Laureen Ward, Treasurer
Judith Lehman, Secretary

Club Board

Diana Barnett
Lynda Jackson Conyers
Shari Januszewski
Gloria Jones
Maureen Siwula

Foundation Board Officers

Donna Kahl-Wilkerson, President
Jacqueline Beaudry, Vice President
Donna Neal, Treasurer
Janet Kloser, Corresponding Secretary
Margaret Holzbog, Recording Secretary

Foundation Board

Debra Koller
Lynell Meeth
La Toya Sykes
Barbara Wyatt Sibley

Send your newsletter submissions
jonizonta@gmail.com

Visit us online at
www.zontamilwaukee.org

NEWSLETTER

June/July 2023

Monthly Zonta Meeting

In lieu of a Club Meeting this month, representatives from the Milwaukee Club did a gardening project for Exploit No More and provided dinner to the residents.



Exploit No More

June 14 at 8:13 PM · 🌐

Today's thank you goes to [Zonta Club of Milwaukee](#)!! Members came to Freedom House this evening to donate and plant a raised bed. We have a few guests with green thumbs who will really enjoy caring for the plants. Our Zonta friends even treated dinner! We are so very appreciative of the support we receive from our community. Zonta has been very good to Exploit No More. 🌱🍴❤️



www.zontamilwaukee.org

President's Message



ZONTA
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Hello Sisters,

Hope that you are enjoying the warmth that the sunshine brings.

This month begins the 2nd year of this biennial. A special "shout out" to incoming club boards officers and directors. It is with much anticipation and expectation that we move forward.

Our June social event was replaced with a garden experience with Exploit no More, coordinated by Maureen and the Service Committee.

Lynell Meeth will be leading the charge for this year's Annual Silent Walk. Let's offer Lynell our support as she guides us through this memorable event.

Let's not forget the club does not meet in July. Our next Club Meeting is August 23, 2023. Our August meeting will be a club planning meeting, a time to review and discuss goals and forward moving outreach, additional information will be forth coming.

Enjoy the summer and all the festivities and activities it brings!

Joann Harris-Comodore

Club President



Happy Birthday!!

June 19 - Joann Harris-Comodore

June 22 - Carol Mangold

July 10 - Joni Reese

July 22 - Donna Kahl-Wilkerson

July 22 - Lynne Oehlke

July 23 - Ruth Robertson



Club News and Updates



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Membership



Sammie Lou Krieger
Remembrance for our Zonta Sister and former Zonta Club of Milwaukee member



On a fun note, Kim Brinsko shared this picture from Trieste Italy.

Hugs & a big TY to all Zontians who were so generous in remembering my Rock with the beautiful Zonta Yellow Rose tribute, Z Fdn memorials, Tree plantings, \$ for masses, cards & calls. All wonderful boosters in my new life as a widow. I am so blessed, thank you God & many sisters in our globe.

Christine Mary Todd

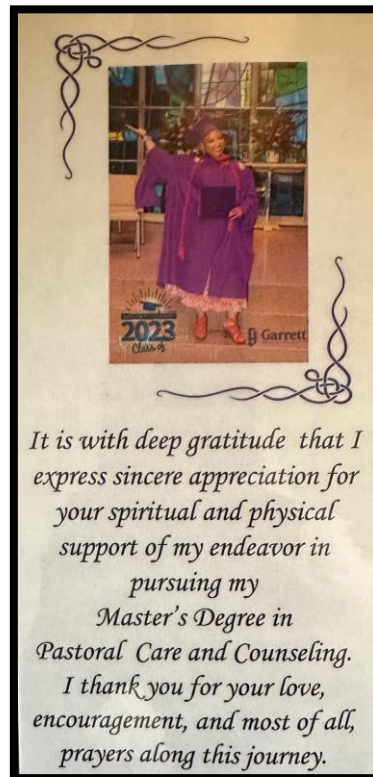


Club News and Updates



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Congratulations to Cheryl!



Congratulations to the New Club and Foundation Board & Officers



Karen installed the new Board members & officers those that could be in person at the May meeting.



Club News and Updates



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2023 Fashion Show Committee

Please save the date for **Saturday, October 21st** at the Marriott Milwaukee West for our **Fall Into Fashion: Build a Better World for Women and Girls** fashion show event.

Our next fashion show committee meeting will be **Tuesday, July 11th at 6 pm via zoom**. Please note we are meeting on the second Tuesday now.

Please ask businesses or companies for **money sponsorships**: your employer, financial advisor, accountant, dentist, etc. Please let Pam and Carol Mangold know who you are contacting. If there are any businesses you wish us to contact, please let Carol know. (Revised letter with form sent out to members on May 18th)

Please also ask businesses and restaurants for **item or gift card/certificate donations** for our **raffle and silent auction** and consider donating an item or themed basket yourself. (Letter and form sent out to members June 6 and will be sent to our list of businesses in July)

The committee has confirmed Mainstream Boutique (Third Ward) and Hollyville (South Milwaukee) as our fashion vendors.

This year there are **two options** for donating towards the fashion show's **Wine Pull**:

1. A monetary donation (\$20 recommended) can be made, as in years past.

OR

2. Donate two bottles of wine with a minimum full price value of \$12 each.

You can send a check to Donna Neal made out to Zonta Foundation, Inc. to 2624 E. Bellevue Milwaukee, WI 53211 and denote wine or bring wine to September meeting or get to Deb or Karen before then.

We will also be collecting gift cards again (minimum \$20 value) for our **"Gift Card Tree."** Please provide gift cards to Pam at the September meeting or before.

Invites for the fashion show will be going out in August.



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Service

Neu-Life Back-to-School Service Project



At the April 26th club meeting, members agreed to support the Neu-Life Backpack Project again this year. We will work on collecting 50 backpacks with supplies for the kindergarten and elementary children (about \$350 of the funding came from Foundation last year above the donations). Pam will be shopping and collecting items again. If you would

like to make a monetary donation, please write a check to the Zonta Foundation, Inc. & denote Neu-Life and send to Donna Neal at 2624 E.

Bellevue Pl. Milwaukee, WI 53211 If you are purchasing items, please let Pam know and get to Pam by July 15th. (We will stuff sometime between then and the event).

The event at Neu-Life is planned for Thursday, July 27th from 1:30 to 3 pm.

Items needed:

Backpacks 13 and Monetary Donations \$\$



Advocacy

On June 1st from 10am -1pm, the Wisconsin State Assembly's Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety held a public hearing on proposed Safe Harbor legislation: Assembly Bill 48. This bill is a bipartisan effort to *treat child victims as sexually exploited children rather than as prostitutes* even though it is already a crime in Wisconsin to have sex with a minor.

Five legislators and 22 organizations spoke in support of the Bill. The next steps are to vote it out of committee so that it can be voted on by the Assembly. Concurrently, a similar Bill needs to be proposed in the Wisconsin Senate, sent to a committee, voted out of that committee, and sent to the full Senate for a vote. During the last legislative session, a bill was passed in the Assembly but not in the Senate.

Key points about trafficking of minors:

- Thirty-four other states have similar Safe Harbor laws.
- In MN, after Safe Harbor was passed in 2017, convictions of traffickers quadrupled, proving that when minors are not incarcerated, they receive treatment and are willing to testify against their trafficker.

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- Traffickers gain trust from victims with flattery, gifts, promises, etc. and tell them that, if caught, they will be arrested and that's exactly what happens now.
- Trafficking trauma is increased when a minor is prosecuted. In Juvenile Detainment, children are likely to be further abused. Trauma and conviction lead to criminal records which leave survivors with lasting disadvantages.

When Bills are ready to be voted upon, we will be ready to advocate for their passage because it is in the best interests of trafficked minors as well as a recognized best practice.

Diane S. Lindsley
Co-Chair, Advocacy Committee



Foundation Grants



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Zonta Foundation: 2023 Application for Grants is Available Now

The Zonta Club of Milwaukee Foundation Board is soliciting requests from agencies until July 15, 2023. The Board will review and make decisions in an August/September timeframe. Awards will be given at the Zonta Fashion Show Fundraiser scheduled for October 21, 2023.

The Foundation Board notified the organizations that have received grants in the past two years that the new application is available and requested by July 15. Other organizations are encouraged to apply.

Members: If you know of an organization that you think would be deserving and should apply, please feel free to pass the application along or direct them to online access.

The **2023 Application** for funding is now available.

Please find the information at <http://zontamilwaukee.org/> on the Foundation Page.

ZONTA Foundation, Inc. **Funding Guidelines** **And Application** **for 2023 Grants**



ZONTA
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MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

General Information

Zonta International was founded in 1919 and is a leading global organization of professionals with more than 29,000 members in 63 countries. The organization seeks to empower women worldwide by improving the legal, political, economic, educational, health and professional status of women at the global and local levels through service and advocacy. With the generosity and collective action of Zontians and friends around the world, Zonta International has supported projects in 66 countries, provided scholarships and awards to women around the globe, and has been a powerful advocate for change in our local and international communities, thereby transforming the world and women's place in it.

Zonta Club of Milwaukee was chartered in 1926 as the 39th local club of Zonta International.

Zonta Foundation, Inc. was established in 1957 as the charitable arm of the Zonta Club of Milwaukee. Classified as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, the foundation's primary role is to raise and distribute funds. Each year, one-third of the funds raised are used to support Zonta International service projects, while the remaining two-thirds are distributed locally to provide scholarships and support programs designed to improve the lives of women and/or girls.

2023 Grants Program

In keeping with the mission and goals of Zonta International and the Zonta Club of Milwaukee, Zonta Foundation, Inc. is soliciting Funding Applications from 501(c)(3) non-profit agencies/organizations for specific programs, projects or services that are designed to empower women and/or girls.

Eligibility: 501(c)(3) non-profit agencies/organizations serving women and/or girls in the greater Milwaukee area.

Grant Amounts: Individual grants typically range from \$1,000-\$3,000 per year, with commitments up to 3 years. However, the Foundation Board will consider requests for larger awards. Applicants should keep in mind that preference is generally given to funding requests for specific programs, projects or services versus unspecified contributions to a general operating fund.

Application Process: 2023 Funding Applications, with the required supporting documentation, must be sent to Zonta Foundation, Inc. in time to arrive by the due date below. Electronic submissions via email as **Word** documents are preferred.

Due Date:	July 15, 2023
Email Address:	zfoundation@zontamilwaukee.org
Mailing Address:	Zonta Foundation, Inc., c/o Janet Klosser 5996 Teakwood Dr. Greendale, WI 53129

Funding Decisions: The Board of Directors of Zonta Foundation, Inc. will review all applications and will make their final decisions by the end September.

Award Presentations: Grants will be presented to recipients at the Zonta Club of Milwaukee's Fashion Show Fundraising Event that is planned for Saturday October 21, 2023.

Other Requirements: Grantees must consent to: (1) the electronic or hard copy publication of material contained in the application for Zonta's internal use or publicity purposes, (2) the use of their agency/organization name and photographs in communications designed to promote Zonta International, Zonta Club of Milwaukee and/or Zonta Foundation, Inc., and (3) the submission of funded program/project/service reviews or status reports at mid-year, or other mutually agreed upon dates.

Additional Information: More information about Zonta can be found at www.zonta.org and www.zontamilwaukee.org. If you have any questions about 2023 foundation grants, please contact us by email at zfoundation@zontamilwaukee.org.

Press release: New UN policy paper shows the devastating impacts of the Ukraine war on women and girls.

A new UN policy paper, published as the UN Security Council meets on Ukraine, reveals how the war and its global impacts on food, energy, and finance are affecting women and girls disproportionately, both inside Ukraine and globally. From the school-aged girls who are at risk of being obliged to drop out to get married for dowry or bride-price income for desperate families, to the physical and health challenges of the 265,000 Ukrainian women who were pregnant when the war broke out, the "Global gendered impacts of the Ukraine crisis on energy access and food security and nutrition" policy paper lays out how the crisis is aggravating already existing inequalities around the world.

Developed by UN Women and the UN Global Crisis Response Group on the War in Ukraine (GCRG), the report shows that war-induced food price hikes and shortages have widened the global gender gap in food insecurity, as women have even reduced their own food intake to give it to other household members. Spiraling energy prices have also caused families to return to using less-clean fuels and technologies, exposing women and girls to household air pollution, which already kills 3.2 million people, mostly women and children, per year.

Women-headed households in Ukraine were already more food-insecure prior to the war, with 37.5 per cent of them experiencing moderate or severe levels of food insecurity compared to 20.5 per cent of male-headed households. Now, rural women in the territories occupied by the Russian military are increasingly unable to perform agricultural work due to high insecurity and lack of resources, yet they are rising to the challenge to accommodate and feed internally displaced people, multiplying their unpaid care and domestic work responsibilities.

Additionally, the report shows that there are alarming increases in gender-based violence; transactional sex for food and survival; sexual exploitation and trafficking; and early, child, and forced marriage as a result of these worsened living conditions in conflict, crisis, and humanitarian contexts worldwide.

Sima Bahous, UN Women Executive Director, said: "Systemic, gendered crises require systemic, gendered solutions. That means ensuring that women and girls, including from marginalized groups, are part of all the decision-making processes. That is simply the only way to be certain that their rights and needs are fully taken into account as we respond to the clear facts before us."

The policy paper was presented at the high-level roundtable, "How do we best respond to the disproportionate impacts of rising food insecurity on women and girls?", on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly, hosted by the Government of Denmark and the Government of Nigeria in partnership with OCHA, UNHCR, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women, WFP, and Save the Children, together with representatives from women-led organizations.



May Meeting Minutes

Zonta Club of Milwaukee General Club Meeting, May 24, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by President, Joann Harris-Comodore at Bravo Italian Kitchen.

The Zonta Club of Milwaukee Young Women in Public Affairs scholarship recipient, Avanti Kekane, and her mother, Anjoli Kekane, attended the meeting. Avante gave a brief presentation of her projects and plans for the future.

The proposed 2023-24 club budget was presented by Laureen Ward and approved. All 31 members' dues are paid. Two members did not renew. Zonta International dues are submitted.

Discussion and decisions about dinner and speaker costs resulted in a motion made by Ruth Robertson, seconded by Marge Holzbog and approved by a club vote that dinner cost in the next year will be \$45.00 a person and speakers will be paid \$75.00.

Karen Smith, Area 2 Director, reported on Zonta International's Strategic Plan. The Zonta International Board is working to better refine Zonta's scope, grow membership, encourage leadership, and retain members. Additional details of the plan were distributed to attendees by Karen.

- We were encouraged to use the Zonta International log-in to access the leadership modules. All members, especially new members, and those in board positions, were encouraged to use the leadership modules.
- Zonta International and the Zonta Club of Milwaukee want to diversify membership and attract a younger population.

Spring Workshop Report:

Thirty-three members from our area attended. A panel discussion took place on how to move forward and focus on the child marriage issue. Suggested actions to be taken across the clubs are:

1. Send postcards to legislators.
2. Arrange interviews with legislators and have discussions.
3. Educate people and find out their concerns.

District 6 is hosting The North American Inter-District Meeting (NAIDM) in Indianapolis from 6/30/23 to 7/2/23.

Maureen Siwula and the Service Committee are leading a gardening service project to create a garden for Exploit No More in lieu of the June general club meeting. Donations are appreciated.

Advocacy reported that Lynell Meeth has offered to chair the Silent Walk this year.

Foundation Meeting commenced:

The Foundation Annual Report was presented by Donna Kahl-Wilkerson and approved. The Foundation Treasurer reported that Club precedent and ZI recommendation is that 1/3 of funds raised be donated to the ZI Foundation for Women. The Foundation Board recommended a donation of

Club Minutes



\$9043.59 to the Rose Fund, in line with past practice. The Club unanimously approved the amount and the recipient fund.

Elected Foundation Board and Officers are:

President, Donna Kahl-Wilkerson
Vice President, Jackie Beaudry
Recording Secretary, Marge Holzbog
Corresponding Secretary, Janet Kloser
Treasurer, Donna Neal
Directors, Deb Koller, Lynell Meeth, La Toya Sykes and Barbara Wyatt Sibley.

The Foundation Meeting was adjourned at the end of the Foundation business portion.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Judith Lehman

Young Women in Public Affairs scholarship recipient

The 2023 Zonta Club of Milwaukee Young Women in Public Affairs scholarship recipient, Avanti Kekane, attended the meeting. Avanti aspires to be an Environmental Attorney and plans on continuing her education at UW-Madison. She would like to analyze environmental policy and resolve legal problems to minimize the negative human impacts on the environment. She aims to be a bridge between scientists and the public to help everyone reach the common goal of sustainability.

Avanti has been an active member of Brookfield Central High School's Key Club as well as serving as the Lieutenant Governor for the Wisconsin and Upper Michigan Key Club Board. She is also an executive board member of her high school's Spanish Honors Society.

For the past year Avanti has been a volunteer tutor at a non-profit organization called Global

Nagri. She has been tutoring a girl from a village in India to read and speak English over Zoom. Avanti is also a student mentor for new volunteers joining the program.



NAIDM Updates



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Governor Cheryl!



Zonta International Board



District 6 Representatives