



**ZONTA**  
 CLUB OF  
 MILWAUKEE

# NEWSLETTER

October 2023

Area 2 • District 6

## Monthly Zonta Meeting

**Meeting via Zoom**  
**Wednesday, October 25th**  
**Social 5:45 / Meeting @ 6pm**

**Speaker: Carmen Pitre, President & CEO, Sojourner Family Peace Center**

**Topic: State of the State**



*Valentina Romero-Moran - STEM Recipient*

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

### 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](mailto:jonizonta@gmail.com)

Visit us online at  
[www.zontamilwaukee.org](http://www.zontamilwaukee.org)

# President's Message



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Hi Zontian Sisters,



Autumn is in full swing and so are we! We began this fall season with the D6 Fall Conference in Alton, IL Oct 6-8. "Shout out" to Carol Mangold, Donna Neal, Pam Knackert (alternate) club delegate representatives.

Autumn brings with it changes in temperature and color of leaves. With that observation, we enter this fall with a heightened awareness of the impact of climate change, as well as the beauty and benefit of diversity.

Excitedly, we are moving forward with our fall activities, which includes the Annual Fashion Show (Oct 21), Prospective Member Event (Nov 15), and a Social Christmas gathering in December.

September concluded with welcoming our Stem Scholarship recipient Valentina Romero-Morgan, and Celia Jackson to our monthly club meeting. Ms. Romero-Morgan shared goals and accomplishments and Ms. Jackson, who serves on the Coalition for Safe Driving MKE, focused on Transportation Project Planning goal of Zero deaths on all roadways.

On September 30, Cheryl Lucas-Berry and Pam Knackert conducted our first Leadership Development Core Competency Trainings (Zonta Essentials & Club Essentials).

We grow stronger as we continue to move forward in unity!

*Joann Harris-Comodore*

*President – Zonta Milwaukee*



# Club News and Updates



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## 2023 Fashion Show Committee

**Fall Into Fashion: Build a Better World for Women and Girls Saturday, October 21, 2023 at the Marriott Milwaukee West.**

It's countdown time.

Cheryl Lucas-DeBerry will be sending out the volunteer sheet so you remember what you signed up for.

### **Some things for you and your guests to know:**

**Item Raffles open at 10 am and close at 11 am** when we move into lunch. So make sure your guests arrive with enough time to buy their tickets and get their choices made before 11. (Item raffle tickets are 10 for \$20, 50/50 raffle ticket will be \$10, \$20 for wine pull and \$20 for gift card pull).

Silent auction will open at 10 am and close at 11:45 am.

The coat racks will be down on the south end of the hall past the bar area since we are using the coat room this year for our second vendor.

In the ballroom there will be two coffee & water stations, one on each side of the stage. You will need to get your own coffee and refills on water so if you can't get up or someone at your table can't please get it for them or ask someone to help you.

We hope to have meal cards with the name badge so you & your guests can put them on the table, so the servers know what you are getting. There will be a family size salad bowl on the table with plates at each plate so even those who have the salad entrée coming could partake of a little salad too or pass if they want.

There will be two kinds of desserts preset on the table a gluten and dairy free choc. cake and key lime pie (placed every other one) Please switch to accommodate gluten/dairy free as needed.

The Zonta Club of Milwaukee Presents  
*Fall Into Fashion*  
Build a Better World for Women and Girls  
Saturday, October 21, 2023  
at the Marriott Milwaukee West  
W231 N1600 Corporate Court • Pewaukee, Wisconsin

**Please Join Us**  
Mix & Mingle 10:00 am  
Bids & Raffles 10:00 am  
Lunch 11:00 am  
Fashion Show Noon

**Luncheon Menu Choices**  
**Chicken Pasta Primavera**  
Penne pasta in a parmesan cream sauce with roasted peppers, zucchini, portabella mushrooms, diced roma tomatoes, an herb-seared chicken breast and a side salad.  
OR  
**Roasted Vegetables En Croute**  
with Boursin cheese, baked in a puff pastry with sherry wine sauce and served with green beans and a side salad  
OR  
**Garden Salad with Chicken Breast**  
with assorted lettuces, tomato, cucumber, and grated carrot  
No side salad included  
All entrees include dessert, roll, butter, coffee and tea.  
Balsamic vinaigrette and Ranch dressings will be available on the side along with croutons

**Reservations Required**  
To join our celebration, return your Reservation card  
**no later than October 7, 2023**  
or reserve online at <https://2023-zonta-fashion-show.eventbrite.com>

**Please join us**  
for lunch, networking, fashions and fun as we celebrate our Zonta Club's 97 years of service, advocacy, and community involvement.

Your support in 2022 helped fund these local agencies:

- CORE/EL Centro's Trauma and Healing Services
- Exploit No More's Freedom House
- Franciscan Peacemakers' Social Enterprise Program
- Milwaukee Muslim Women's Coalition's Our Peaceful Home Youth Leadership Program
- Milwaukee Women's Center's Emergency Shelter
- Sojourner's Hope and Healing Services
- The Women's Center Waukesha

As well as two \$1,000 local scholarships

**Fashions by**  
**Mainstream Boutique:** "At Mainstream Boutique, we are dedicated to caring for others. We are passionate about lifting customers up and making them feel beautiful. We believe in the power of community and in the value of strong local communities. Our boutique carries a unique, multi-generational product assortment."  
Jeanette Dvorak, Owner  
**Access Boutique:** Your "One Stop Accessory Shop"  
Jeanette Dvorak, Owner  
**Hollyville:** "Milwaukee's one stop shop for your retro, rockabilly, pinup, and vintage inspired clothing and accessories since 2016. It has continued to be what brings me much joy, not only for myself, but seeing joy on the faces of my many excited and happy customers when they find something that they love."  
Pam Pfeifer, Owner

For more information about Zonta, or this event, go to our website at [www.zontamilwaukee.org](http://www.zontamilwaukee.org) or to our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/ZontaClubMilwaukee/](http://www.facebook.com/ZontaClubMilwaukee/)

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# Club News and Updates



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## Membership

We are planning a **Prospective Member Reception for Wed. November 15, 2023** in place of our regular meeting. It will be held at MRA, N19W24350 Riverwood Dr. in Waukesha, from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. We will be asking members to participate as part of the program and also to bring liquid or food refreshments for that evening.



You are invited to the

Zonta Club of Milwaukee  
Prospective Member Reception  
Wednesday, November 15, 2023  
5:30 p.m. socializing  
(light hors d'oeuvres will be served)  
6:00 to 7:00 p.m. program  
at

**MRA – The Management Association**  
**N19 W24350 Riverwood Dr.**  
**Waukesha (directions below)**

RSVP to Pam Knackert at [pmknackert@gmail.com](mailto:pmknackert@gmail.com) or 262-784-7613 or cell 262-309-3927 by Friday, Nov. 10th

Come learn more about Zonta International and the Zonta Club of Milwaukee, an organization whose mission is to empower women & girls locally and worldwide through service & advocacy. We invite you to be a part of an organization helping to build a better world for women and girls. There will be an opportunity for questions and answers.

For more information about Zonta & the Zonta Club of Milwaukee visit [www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org) and [www.zontamilwaukee.org](http://www.zontamilwaukee.org)

- Take I-94 to Hwy 164 North, Exit 294.
- Travel north on Hwy 164.
- Travel past the Thunder Bay Grille restaurant on your left.
- Turn left (west) on S. Riverwood Drive (the second traffic light).
- MRA is the westernmost office building on the left. Watch for the MRA monument sign.
- Enter northeast backdoor, we'll have sign there.

*We passed around a sheet at the Sept. meeting for food/drink, and we still need a few more items like veggies and dip. Please contact Pam if you can bring something.*

An invite is attached to the newsletter email and we will have invites at the fashion show. Please invite anyone you think might be a good Zonta member – friends, neighbors, coworkers, relatives, and fellow volunteers and please plan on attending yourself.

Our Core Competency Training Session went well. We will continue with one more perhaps on a Sat. morning and then may try to incorporate a session or two at our regular zoom meeting.

We want to welcome our new member **Habiba Ahmad**. She is a Project Coordinator for Xylem, a developer of innovative water solutions. She was unable to join us in September but we will induct her hopefully at our October zoom meeting.

An updated roster will be coming out shortly.



## Service

At our September 2023 Club meeting, we provided an update on our Service planning activities and proposed a Service plan for the next several months, through June 2024. The Service Committee selected 3 Agencies on which to focus our efforts. All participation by Members is voluntary as always. The three agencies are:

- Allies for Teens in Foster Care
- Cathedral Center
- Exploit No More

Being sent with this newsletter is the full document: [Zonta Service Committee Recommendations for Service Projects - 10/2023 thru 5/2024](#)

### This November/December: Holiday gifts for foster teens

At our September meeting, Club members strongly supported undertaking the Holiday project of Allies for Teens in Foster Care. Club members who wish to participate are asked to donate items for the foster teens for a December delivery. ***The collection will take place at our November meeting, which is also our prospective member event.***

Examples include \$50 gift cards (Target, etc) with a goal of respect and giving them a choice to purchase things they need; New and decent quality (Target) African American haircare products (gel, etc), combs and Cantu products; Gloves, hats, scarves; Bathroom bags.

### Future Service Activities:

Club members are asked to review the Service Committee's "Recommendations" document before our October meeting. The Service Committee will be asking for approval of this plan for Service projects/activities through June, 2024 and asking for volunteers for the specific projects. Again, participation by Members is voluntary.

Background: Service Committee representatives met over the summer with several agencies that have requested our assistance in the past on grant applications. We looked at their mission, vision, activities, and service needs, as well as alignment with our Zonta mission and our Club's service areas of interest. Committee members met to discuss opportunities, recommendations, and created a calendar of available Service activities through the end of our current Club year for Members. Not all could be tackled at this time, and a few were targeted for future opportunities beyond this Club year. See the Service Committee's "Recommendations" document.



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## Advocacy

### Zonta and Climate Justice and Milwaukee

There are 4 pillars of the new **Zonta International 2023-2030 Strategic Plan: Zonta, Gender Equity, and a Vision for 2023 and Beyond**: education equality, climate justice, women quality in decision-making, and fighting gender-based violence. To read the strategic plan:

<https://www.zonta.org/images/docs/AboutUs/Strategic%20Plan/ZontaInternationalStrategicPlan.pdf>

*“Zonta will fully embrace climate justice as an area of focus, and we will further develop Zonta Says NOW as the flagship campaign for our activities to address climate justice at local, national and international levels.”*

Zonta is not an environmentally-focused organization, and does not intend to become one. Climate Justice is on our agenda because climate change differentially and negatively impacts women and girls, and stands in the way of their well-being, their freedom to make their own life choices, and their possibilities in many areas of life. We are and will always be focused on women and girls.

Over the past three years, the City of Milwaukee has developed and is now implementing a long-term Milwaukee Climate and Equity Plan. It was developed in a highly collaborative process that solicited much public input through the City-County Task Force on Climate and Economic Equity. To quote from the Environmental Collaboration Office website:

“All Milwaukeeans will be affected by climate change, and low-income communities face environmental hazards at a higher rate. In the face of these threats, **Milwaukee will support a new clean energy economy that provides opportunities for people of color** to more fully and equitably participate in the economic life of the city.

### **The Climate and Equity Plan supports Milwaukee's goals to:**

1. Reduce community greenhouse gas emissions: 45% by 2030 and achieve net zero emissions by 2050.
2. Improve racial and economic equity by creating green jobs that pay at least \$40,000 and are focused on recruiting local people of color.”

<https://city.milwaukee.gov/climate/Climate-Plan>

Explore any or all of the **10 Big Ideas to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Pollution, Increase Racial Equity, and Make Milwaukee a Prosperous City for the Long Term**:

1. Green Jobs Accelerator
2. Healthy Home Energy Upgrades
3. New Net-Zero Energy Homes
4. Commercial Building Benchmarking & Performance Standards
5. People-Centered Transportation and Urban Design
6. Electrify Transportation
7. Greening the Electric Grid
8. Nature in the City
9. Waste Reduction and Sustainable Consumption
10. Resilience Ambassadors



<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/collections/81e362f32b71421eb572832f3e739074>

Learn more about Zonta's strategic vision, and about what's going on here in Milwaukee!

- Advocacy Committee

## **From Zonta.org:**

### **5 actions to increase Zonta's visibility**

Below are quick actions you can take to kick off the Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women campaign while increasing Zonta's visibility all year round:

#### **1. Share on social media and the Zonta App**

Unleash your passion for Zonta and its mission by sharing your meaningful and rewarding volunteer experiences on your social media profile. Use hashtags like #ZontaSaysNO and #ZontiansInAction and post about the campaign on your personal and club social media accounts. With your fellow Zontians, collaborate and share your ideas on the Zonta Says NO forum in the Zonta App to elevate our visibility and make a powerful impact.

#### **2. Attend and promote events**

Attend the Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women Virtual Summit and invite family, friends and colleagues to join you. Expand Zonta's name and knowledge in your neighborhood. Organize your own event and invite local leaders and media to attend to increase the visibility of what you do to say NO to gender-based violence in your community.

#### **3. Contact your local representatives**

Get Zonta on the mind of your local officials as the group that makes a difference in the community. Reach out to your local representatives and ask them to support legislation that addresses gender-based violence and promotes gender equality. Find templates and steps on how to ask for an official proclamation within the Zonta Says NO Toolkit.

#### **4. Educate yourself and others**

We can only truly make a difference if we educate ourselves and others on the best way to build a better world for women and girls. Learn more about gender-based violence and how it affects women and girls. Share your knowledge with others and encourage them to get involved so that it will no longer be 1-in-3 women affected by gender-based violence.

#### **5. Volunteer and partner**

Amplify the Zonta name by adding more voices to our mission. Look for opportunities to partner with local organizations that support survivors of gender-based violence. Or volunteer with a local women's shelter and other like-minded organizations to support survivors.

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## Zontians in Action

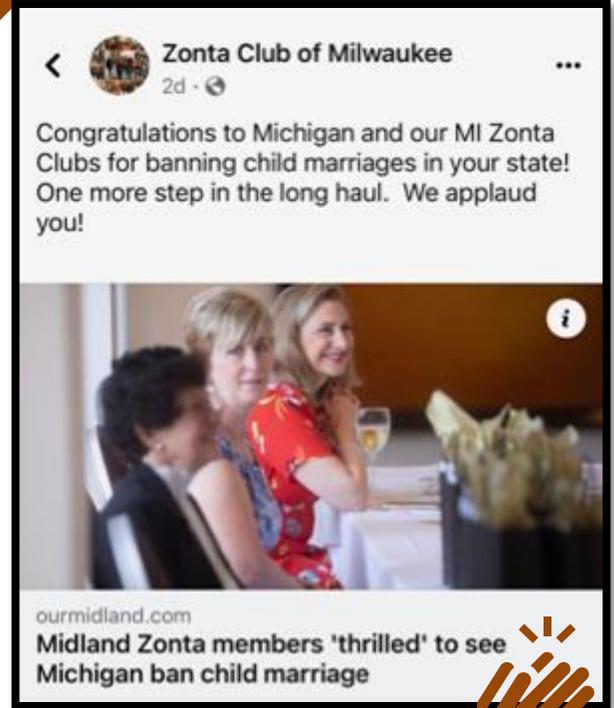
Zonta members are building a better world for women and girls in their local communities and beyond! Read the stories below highlighting how Zonta clubs are taking action and increasing Zonta's visibility.

### [Zonta Club of Kankakee kicks off National Domestic Violence Awareness Month](#)

The Zonta Club of Kankakee, USA, kicked off National Domestic Violence Awareness Month with a domestic violence shelter at a local farmer's market.

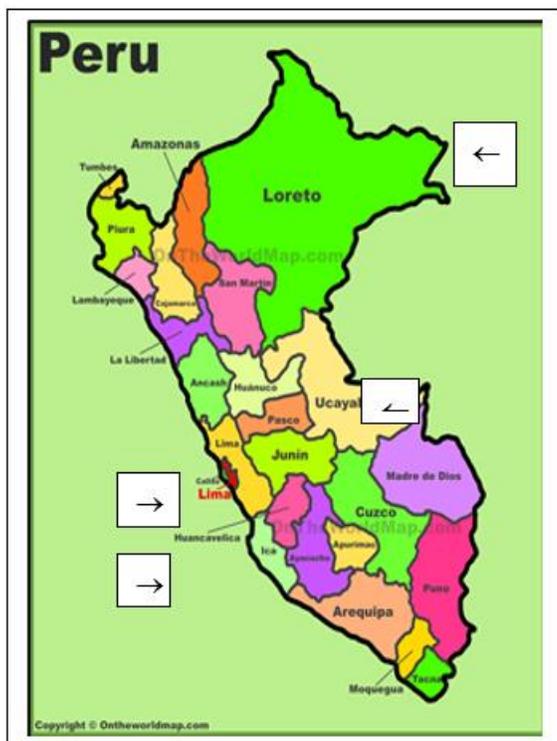
Every week, hundreds of visitors come to the farmer's market to shop, and there, the club shared information about domestic violence, answered questions and spoke about the mission of Zonta with a representative from the shelter. Those who stopped by heard from survivors and visitors, unaware of the magnitude of domestic violence within their community.

As club members walked around the market, their shirts sparked conversation, leading them to meet several women interested in hearing about Zonta and attending a meeting.



## Adolescent Girls' Health and Protection Project

In its Adolescent Girls' Health and Protection Project Zonta International has committed US\$750,000 to improve the capacity of services to respond to the health needs of adolescents, in particular adolescent girls, in a timely manner and prevent all forms of violence in schools and other services in Ucayali, Loreto, Huancavelica and Northern Lima. The project is expected to reach 50,364 adolescents (24,829 girls) in these four regions. The Adolescent Girls' Health and Protection project will contribute to guaranteeing the rights of indigenous and rural adolescents, especially girls, and respond to their needs by preventing pregnancy, addressing mental health concerns and providing a protective environment from violence by providing quality, gender-sensitive, and culturally adapted health, education and protection services.



Peru is a megadiverse country with habitats ranging from the arid plains of the Pacific coastal region in the west to the peaks of the Andes mountains extending from the north to the southeast of the country to the tropical Amazon basin rainforest in the east with the Amazon River. Peru has a population of over 32 million, and its capital and largest city is Lima at 1,285,216 km<sup>2</sup> (496,225 sq. mi).

Loreto is Peru's northernmost department and region. Covering almost one-third of Peru's territory, Loreto is by far the nation's largest department, slightly larger than Japan; it is also one of the most sparsely populated regions due to its remote location in the Amazon Rainforest. Its capital is Iquitos.

Numerous rivers cross Loreto's territory, all of which are part of the Amazonian Hydrographical System. Most of them are navigable. The main river crossing the region is the Amazon, one of the world's most important rivers. Its numerous curves are always changing and sometimes make for a difficult journey.

Ucayali's capital is the city of Pucallpa. It is the second largest department in Peru, after Loreto. According to the 2007

Census, the Ucayali department has a population of 432,159 inhabitants, 51.4% of which (222,132) are male and 48.6% (210,027) are female.

75.3% of the population (325,347) live in urban areas while the remaining 24.7% (106,812) live in rural areas.

Huancavelica is a department and region in Peru with an area of 22,131.47 km (8,545.01 sq. mi.) and a population of 347,639 (2017 census.) The capital is the city of Huancavelica. The region is bordered by the department of Lima and Ica in the west, Junin in the north, and Ayacucho in the east.

Huancavelica, the city, is located about 140 miles (225 km) southeast of Lima, in the inter-Andean Huancavelica River valley at the elevation of 12,060 feet (3,676 meters). Huancavelica was established as a mining settlement in 1563 after the discovery of mercury.



**Lima** is the capital and largest city of Peru. It is located in the valleys of Chillón, Rímac and Lurín Rivers, in the desert zone of the central coastal part of the country, overlooking the Pacific Ocean. The city is considered the political, cultural, financial and commercial center of Peru.

The 2023 census projection indicates that the city of Lima has an estimated population of 10,092,000 inhabitants, making it the most populated city in the country. Lima was named by natives in the agricultural region known by native Peruvians as *Limaq*. Around one-third of the national population now lives in its metropolitan area.



Envision a World without Violence this November

[Reserve your Space](#) Say NO

**2023 ONLINE SUMMIT**

**6 - 8 NOVEMBER**  
[ZONTASAYSNO.COM/ONLINE-SUMMIT](https://ZONTASAYSNO.COM/ONLINE-SUMMIT)



**MILWAUKEE WOMEN'S CENTER**

Where Abuse Ends and Hope Begins

*A Division of Community Advocates*

August 23, 2023

Zonta Foundation  
c/o Janet Kloser  
5990 Teakwood Dr.  
Greendale, WI 53129

Dear Ms. Kloser:

It gives me great pleasure to write and express our gratitude for the Zonta Foundation's generous donation of \$3,000 to the Milwaukee Women's Center whose work makes a difference for our most vulnerable neighbors.

Since 1980, the Milwaukee Women's Center has been a provider of emergency shelter, comprehensive support services, domestic violence support groups, case management, recovery support services, day treatment for women, batterer's education for men, children's programming, and specialized substance abuse services for pregnant women and mothers who are addicted to drugs and alcohol. Services were first offered within a mission to research, develop, and administer programs to end domestic abuse and the agency offered a range of high-quality innovative prevention, intervention and supportive services that responded to the needs of women, men, and children who are experiencing family violence, homelessness, alcohol and drug abuse, mental health, and poverty. As a division of Community Advocates, the Milwaukee Women's Center promotes diversity, fosters creativity, and helps strengthen individuals and families to end abuse.

Our success is due in no small part to the generous contributions from donors like you. On behalf of the Board, staff and all of the individuals and families who will benefit from your generosity, thank you for your gift to sustain the Milwaukee Women's Center's work in the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andi Elliott". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Andi Elliott  
Chief Executive Officer

*Community Advocates provided no goods or services in exchange for this contribution.  
The entire amount of your donation is fully tax-deductible, within the extent of the law.  
Please retain this letter and a copy of your check for your tax records.*

The faux stained glass artwork featured on this card was created in Sojourner's Healing Arts Program.



You help save lives.

Janet,

Thank you to Zonta Clubs of Milwaukee  
and the Zonta Foundation for your  
commitment to the domestic violence survivors  
served at Sojourner Family Peace Center!  
We are grateful for your long standing  
partnership and passion for the community.  
We look forward to seeing you in October!

Sincerely, Lindsay Schuetten