

ZONTA
CLUB OF
MILWAUKEE

Area 2 • District 6

2024–2025

Zonta Club of Milwaukee

Officers

Carol Mangold, President
Open Position, President Elect
Ruth Robertson, Vice President
Laureen Ward, Treasurer
Shari Januszewski, Secretary

Club Board

Lynda Jackson Conyers
Gloria Jones
Christine Todd
Barbara Wyatt Sibley
Open Position

Foundation Board Officers

Cheryl Nowak, President
Joni Reese, Vice President
Donna Neal, Treasurer
Janet Kloser, Corresponding Secretary
Donna Conant, Recording Secretary

Foundation Board

Joanne Harris-Comodore
Donna Kahl-Wilkerson
Debra Koller
La Toya Sykes

Send your newsletter submissions
to jonizonta@gmail.com

Visit us online at
www.zontamilwaukee.org

NEWSLETTER

April 2025

April 23 Dinner Meeting

5:30 for socialization

Meeting starting at 6pm

*New Berlin Public Library,
15105 W Library Ln, New Berlin*

April will be our annual business meeting where we will review and approve our reports for both the Club and the Foundation.

We will also vote on our slate of officers presented at the March meeting.



Dinner will be catered by Sendiks and be a baseball themed meal, including hamburgers, hot dogs, potato and pasta salads.

Please RSVP to Ruth Robertson if you are able to attend this meeting so we can plan our meal quantity accordingly. Dinner is \$25 per attendee. Ruth's email is ZontaRuth@gmail.com.

As usual, if you can help us set up between 5:30 -6:00 and clean up after, it is always appreciated!

Please bring diapers and/or wipes to donate!

www.zontamilwaukee.org

President's Message



ZONTA
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Dear Zonta Sisters,

I never cease to be impressed by and proud of the amazing women who comprise Zonta International around the world. Here in Milwaukee one of our own amazing club members and former Club President, Joann Harris-Comodore, will be honored by the Marquette University's Institute for Women's Leadership at their 4th Annual Gala on April 10, 2025.

Joann, one of the three 2025 Institute for Women's Leadership Transformational Leadership Awardees, will be recognized for her role as Founder & CEO of Neu-Life Community Development. Joann's vision and leadership have been instrumental in transforming many lives in the Milwaukee community. She is a distinguished leader in our club and community and an inspiration to all of us. Please join me in congratulating Joann on her award!!

April is a busy month for us in the Milwaukee Club preparing to host Spring Workshop on May 17th. We have also been working on the annual reports, by-law revisions, and a new slate of officers for next year. Several of us have volunteered to work at the Florence Eiseman Children's Clothing Sale this weekend. I hope to see as many of you as possible at our April 23rd meeting at the New Berlin Library. We will have an opportunity that night to meet Celine Kronstedt, our Young Women in Leadership award recipient this year.

Carol Mangold
President Zonta Club of Milwaukee



Club Updates



ZONTA
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Area 2 Spring Workshop

Reminder to register for the Spring Workshop before April 28th!

It would be greatly appreciated if members attending can bring a package of diapers to fill the diaper demand at HeartLove Place!!



Join us as we explore exciting possibilities for the future and how we can shape it together.

SCHEDULE

8:30-9:00 **Registration & Continental Breakfast**

9:00-9:10 **Welcome**
(Cathy Myers)

9:10-9:30 **Session 1 - Leadership**
(Yvonne Chalfant)

9:30-10:00 **Session 2 - Foundation**
(Jeni Royalty)

10:00-10:20 **Session 3 - Membership**
(Lt. Governor Brandy Harrington)

10:20-10:40 **Session 4 - Membership Core Values - Creating a Values Statement and a Code of Conduct**
(Governor Isabel Vidal, Lt. Governor Brandy Harrington, A2 Director, Cathy Myers)

10:40-10:50 **Break**

10:50-11:15 **Club Presidents' Reports**

11:15-12:30 **Session 5 - Club Strategic Planning, pt. 1**
(Anna Weselak)

12:30-1:15 **Lunch** -Turkey, ham, and vegetarian sandwich choices. Gluten free and yeast free sandwiches.
Please indicate allergies and needs.

1:15-2:00 **Session 6 - Club Strategic Planning, pt. 2**
(Anna Weselak)

2:00-2:20 **Session 7 - Service Project**
(Governor Isabel Vidal)

2:20-2:45 **Closing - ZI Updates and Survey**
(Governor Isabel Vidal)

REGISTRATION

DEADLINE: April 28, 2025

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Club: _____

Food Allergies: _____

Registration Fee - \$40

(Includes breakfast, lunch, beverages)

Pay by Check ____

(Complete the form, return with your check payable to:
Zonta Club of Milwaukee)

Send forms and check payments to:

Carol Mangold
1009 Day Lily Ct.
Plymouth, WI 53073

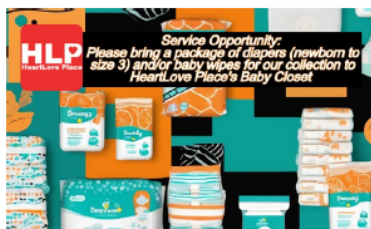
Mailed registrations should be postmarked by April 28, 2025.

OR

Register and Pay Electronically using this link:

<https://forms.gle/BMPCSw2gXnWSR9br8>

(Copy and paste in URL if Hyperlink does not work)





Scholarship

Young Women in Leadership Award Recipient



The scholarship committee selected **Celine Kronstedt** as the 2025 Young Women in Leadership Award recipient.

Celine is currently a Senior attending Cedarburg High School. In high school, Celine has been in leadership roles for multiple clubs including Debate, Global Scholars, Model United Nations, GSA, and more. Most recently, Celine was chosen for the Distinguished Young Woman of Grafton Award. Throughout these experiences Celine feels she has learned many different soft and technical skills, however, she believes that developing the values of cultural awareness and empathy were the most important skills she's acquired.

Outside of school Celine completed an internship through Leadership Initiatives that partnered with Borno State University of Nigeria. During the course of her internship, she developed an electrical security system designed to provide the university with tools to

protect its students and staff. The system aided over 10,000 students and is ultimately what inspired Celine to decide to pursue a career in law, where she can help and advocate for others.

Celine's career goal is to earn a degree in Political Science and Legal Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and later pursue a J.D. in law school to become an attorney. Growing up in a low-income household and losing her father in 2022 taught Celine about resilience and the value of standing up for others facing adversity. This loss has shaped her desire to pursue a career dedicated to justice and advocacy, helping those who face hardships like her family did.

Celine is concerned that disparities within the government continue to affect the choices in American politics and give a lack of representation in policy that affects all Americans. It is her firm belief that increasing voter education and empowerment within the United States will provide women and girls more empowerment in politics. Women and racially (and/or ethnically) marginalized groups need information that is targeted toward them so that information resonates with them and encourages them to vote.

Congratulations!

Club Updates



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Scholarship continued

Now Open: Women in Business Leadership Award **\$2,000 + \$10,000**

ELIGIBILITY:

- Women, aged 18-35 at the time of application, who demonstrate evidence of the following, are eligible to apply:
 - a. Exceptional leadership in a business-related field of study or industry.
 - b. Entrepreneurial spirit.
 - c. Ethical conduct.
 - d. Significant contributions to addressing global or local issues affecting women and girls or climate justice
- Z club and Golden Z club members are eligible to apply.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Completion of the official application, including essay.
- Two recommendations from adults, not related to the applicant, such as teachers, school officials, employee supervisors or business leaders, which must be sent directly to the Zonta club or district and not through the applicant.
- Currently be employed (if applicable), enrolled as a full time student (if applicable) or have legal residency (if applicable) in Milwaukee, Waukesha, Washington, Ozaukee, Racine, or Kenosha counties.

HOW MAY I USE THE AWARD FUNDS?

- There are no restrictions on the use of funds. Please note: If the applicant is studying at a secondary school, university or college, Zonta International is offering a "scholarship" type of payment to be used for tuition and/or living expenses.
- Recipients are not permitted to defer the Zonta Women in Business Leadership Award.
- Recipients may accept additional grants and awards from other sources.

ZONTA CLUB OF MILWAUKEE DETAILS:

- The Zonta Club of Milwaukee provides one \$2,000 award. The winner's application is sent on to Zonta District 6, which selects one application to be forwarded to Zonta International for consideration of a \$10,000 award.
- The 2025 Women in Business Leadership Award application is available now. Completed 2025 applications are due on or before July 1, 2025. Only TYPED applications will be accepted and considered. If the school stamp is embossed on the Enrollment Verification Form, lightly shade it with a pencil prior to submitting the application electronically.
- The PDF application can be found here on the [Awards page of our Zonta Club of Milwaukee website](#) or on the Zonta International Website.

2025


ZONTA
INTERNATIONAL

ZONTA WOMEN IN BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AWARD

Encouraging women to drive innovation and impact in the business world



1 APPLICATION, 2 OPPORTUNITIES

Club award
Varies by club

10 international awards
US\$10,000 each

Applications must be received by the applicant's local Zonta club's deadline. To locate a club near you and download an application, please visit: zonta.org/womeninbusinessleadership.

CLUB DEADLINE:
July 1, 2025

SUBMIT APPLICATION TO:
zcscholarship@zontamilwaukee.org
OR
Deb Koller
210 S. Water St. Unit 521
Milwaukee, WI 53204

The Zonta Women in Business Leadership Award is a Zonta International program funded by contributions to the Zonta Foundation for Women. Zonta International is a leading global organization of individuals working to build a better world for women and girls.

Club Updates



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Nominating Slate 2025-2026

Chair: Karen Smith

Committee Members: Cheryl Lucas DeBerry, Barbara Wyatt Sibley

Members were selected to fill open Club Board of Director positions and Zonta Foundation, Inc. Board of Director positions. Proposed for election at the April 2024 Club Meeting:

Club Board Nominations:

Proposed 2025 slate for Zonta Club Board Officers:+

Continuing Board Members:

President: Carol Mangold: 2nd year of a 2-year term 2024-2026

Treasurer: Laureen Ward: 2nd year of a 2-year term 2024-2026 (second term)

Secretary: Shari Januszewski: 2nd year of a 2-year term 2024-2026 (shared duties with Helen, Shari will do virtual board & club meetings and Helen will do club in-person meetings Shari cannot attend)

New Board Members:

President-Elect: Helen Ludwig: **Nominee** for 2nd year of a 2-year term 2025-2026

Vice President: **Open Nominee** for a 2nd year of a 2-year term 2025-2026

Proposed 2025 slate for Zonta Club Board Directors:

Continuing Directors: Christine Todd: 2nd year of a 2-year term 2024-2026

Barbara Wyatt Sibley: 2nd year of a 2-year term 2024-2026

New Directors: Pam Knackert: **Nominee** for a 2-year term 2025-2027

Diane Lindsley: **Nominee** for a 2-year term 2025-2027

Zonta Foundation, Inc. Board Nominations:

Proposed slate for Zonta Foundation, Inc. Board:

Continuing Directors: Joann Harris-Comodore: 2nd year of a 3-year term 2024-2027

Cheryl Nowak: 2nd year of a 3-year term 2024-2027

Joni Reese: 2nd year of a 3-year term 2024-2027

Donna Conant: 3rd year of a 3-year term 2024-2026 (filling 2 years)

Deb Koller: 3rd year of a 3-year term 2023-2026

Donna Neal: 3rd year of a 3-year term 2023-2026

New Directors: Diana Barnett: **Nominee** for a 3-year term 2025-2028

Judith Lehman: **Nominee** for a 3-year term 2025-2028

Dawn Zehren: **Nominee** for a 3-year term 2025-2028

Club Updates



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Fashion Show 2025

Save the Date: Saturday, November 15, 2025 at the Marriott Milwaukee West

Theme: Fashion for a Cause: Build a Better World for Women and Girls

Chico's will be our vendor for fashions.

We will be looking for **sponsors** again, so start thinking of what businesses you can approach. A template letter with sponsorship levels was sent out to you on March 28th that you can use to ask (if you need it resent let Pam know). Please consider asking your accountant, financial planner, dentist, employer, etc. If you have names you do not want to contact yourself, please supply them to Carol. (And also encourage them to attend our fashion show and perhaps bring a table of people from their business).

If you received any **gift cards** you won't be using, please consider donating them to the fashion show for our "gift card" tree or please purchase a few to donate. Looking for \$20 to \$25 gift cards (such as Panera, Target, other restaurants or stores). Please give to Deb Koller.

We will be collecting **bottles of wine** for our wine pull with a minimum value of \$15 or cash donations suggested of \$20. You can bring to our in-person meetings or get to Shari Januszewski.

Anyone interested in joining our committee, we will be meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of the month with April 15th and May 20th our next meetings. Meetings will be virtual starting at 6 pm. Just let Pam or Jackie know so you can be sent the link.



Membership



If you have any prospective members, please invite them to join us for our April 23rd annual meeting. This is one where they can learn all about our committees, etc.

Also, just a reminder that dues are due on May 5th, to Laurie Ward. You can write a check to the Zonta Club of Milwaukee for \$185 and bring to April meeting or send to her or she will be sending out invoices if you want to pay with credit card to Square. Also if you have any changes to your contact info, etc. please let Laurie know too.

If you, for some reason, are not renewing your membership please let Laurie know as well.

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Service

April Service: Diapers & Wipes for HeartLove Place

Our April Service focus is helping local families in need by donating diapers and wipes to HeartLove Place's Baby Closet. Bring your donations to our April meeting. Most needed are diapers size newborn to size 3 and wipes.

Diapers & wipes are also being collected at Zonta's Area 2 Spring Workshop on May 17th; we appreciate their support and contributions!

At our April Zonta meeting Viola Rembert, their Executive Director, will tell us more about HeartLove Place, their Baby Closet and an opportunity for in person volunteering at their Back-to-School Rally in August. This is an all-day event in need of volunteers.



HeartLove Place is a nonprofit ministry, established in 1989, by dedicated individuals committed to serving Milwaukee families through love, kindness, respect, and care.

Located in the Harambee neighborhood, HeartLove Place relies on Christian principles and teachings to uplift our community and beyond in the Greater Milwaukee area. <https://heartloveplace.org>

HeartLove Place is a nonprofit that was established in 1989, through the ministry of dedicated individuals who recognized the huge challenges facing Milwaukee's low-

income population. Fractured families, unemployment, struggling schools, increasing crime, and teen pregnancy plagued our urban families and youth. To overcome these challenges, the leadership of HeartLove Place relied upon Christian principles and teaching to uplift individuals and communities within the Greater Milwaukee area.



Awesome Member Support: Allies for Teens in Foster Care

Thank you for your great support of Allies for Teens in Foster Care's Annual Art and Poetry Contest! We raised \$540 to purchase art supplies for the kids and fund the awards to be given to the winners. A Zonta member also donated \$500 from her employer's "matching gifts" program, bringing our total contribution to more than \$1000!! Thank you so much!



This is our second year supporting this Art Contest. At our September 2024 meeting Allies' Director Allison Byrne shared with us some of the award-winning art & poetry from the 2024 Contest, which generated continued support for this year.

Allies for Teens in Foster Care is one of the three agencies that our club members voted overwhelmingly to support in our Service Plan. They are an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit whose main objective is to provide a secure channel for connecting goods and services to teens in the over 35 foster care group homes in the Milwaukee community

Club Updates



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Zonta 100-Year Anniversary: Planning Is Underway!

Save the Date – November 7, 2026

We're excited to announce that the planning for our **100th Anniversary Celebration** is officially underway! With heartfelt thanks to the Core 4 Team and Deb's support, we have secured the date and location for this historic event.

📍 **Venue: *The Garage at the Harley Davidson Museum***

📅 **Date: *Saturday, November 7, 2026***



This stunning space was selected for its beauty, functionality, and accessibility. With high ratings for service and cuisine, it's the perfect place to honor 100 years of Zonta's legacy and look ahead to the future.

Securing the venue is a huge first step, very exciting! At our April 1st Core Team meeting, we also outlined the committees that will help bring our celebration to life.

🎯 **Event Committees**

We'll be forming the following committees to ensure every detail shines:

- **Venue:**
Coordinates food, beverages, room setup, and liaises with the Harley-Davidson event planner.
- **Program & Entertainment:**
Plans music, speakers, a live/silent auction, and a "Wall of History".
- **Logistics:**
Manages invitations, RSVPs, seating, and related event coordination.
- **Fundraising:**
Oversees corporate sponsorships, donations, and onsite fundraising efforts.
- **Publicity:**
Develops promotional materials, videos, press releases, and posters.
- **History:**
A cross-team effort highlighting our rich past and legacy throughout the event.

We've already brainstormed some fun and meaningful ideas for each area, which we'll share once committees are formed.

📌 **Get Involved!**

A **committee sign-up sheet** will be circulated at our next in-person meeting on **April 23rd**. If you're unable to attend, don't worry, a digital version will be sent out to ensure everyone has the opportunity to participate.

Let's make this milestone celebration unforgettable—together!



Advocacy

Advocacy: Postpartum Medicaid Expansion

According to the CDC, over 80% of U.S. deaths during pregnancy, delivery, or up to one year after pregnancy in 2020 were preventable. Wisconsin has sharp racial disparities in maternal health. One DHS report found that from 2016 to 2023 Black women were at the highest risk for severe maternal morbidity — unexpected outcomes of labor and delivery that result in significant short- or long-term consequences to a woman's health. Another study found that between 2006 and 2010 the maternal death rate for Black women in Wisconsin was five times that of white women — outpacing the national disparity during that period.

The Medicaid program finances about 4 in 10 births in the U.S. Federal law requires states to provide pregnancy-related Medicaid coverage through 60 days postpartum. After that period, some postpartum individuals may qualify for Medicaid through another pathway, but others may lose coverage, particularly in Medicaid non-expansion states.

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 gave states a new option to extend Medicaid postpartum coverage to 12 months via a state plan amendment. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released guidance on December 7, 2021 on how states could implement this option. The option was made permanent by the Consolidated Appropriations Act in 2023.

Of our 50 States, only Wisconsin and Arkansas have not implemented a 12-month extension of coverage. For the second time in two sessions, a bipartisan group of lawmakers are advocating for a bill to extend the mother's postpartum coverage period to a year. During the last Wisconsin legislative session, a bill to extend Medicaid coverage to certain low-income mothers after they give birth was passed in the State Senate but never made it to the Assembly for a floor vote because the Assembly Leader Vos opposed the bill, saying "we give away too much free stuff". During a press conference in early January, Vos said it was "unlikely" that the proposal would become law this session. "Our caucus has taken a position that expanding welfare is not a wise idea for anyone involved," Vos said. But many Republicans in the State Assembly and the Senate, in fact, are co-sponsors of the bill.

Currently, there are two Wisconsin bills (Senate Bill 23 & Assembly Bill 97) that would extend coverage to 12 months. If the bills pass, it would mean about 5,000 more women per month would be covered by BadgerCare Plus.

✓ **This Session, let's help to pass these bills.**

<https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/medicaid-postpartum-coverage-extension-tracker/>

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2025/01/31/lawmakers-again-propose-extending-postpartum-medicaid/>

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2025/02/13/wisconsin-lawmakers-renew-effort-to-extend-medicaid-coverage-for-moms/78520195007/>

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2025/proposals/sb23>

Diane S. Lindsley

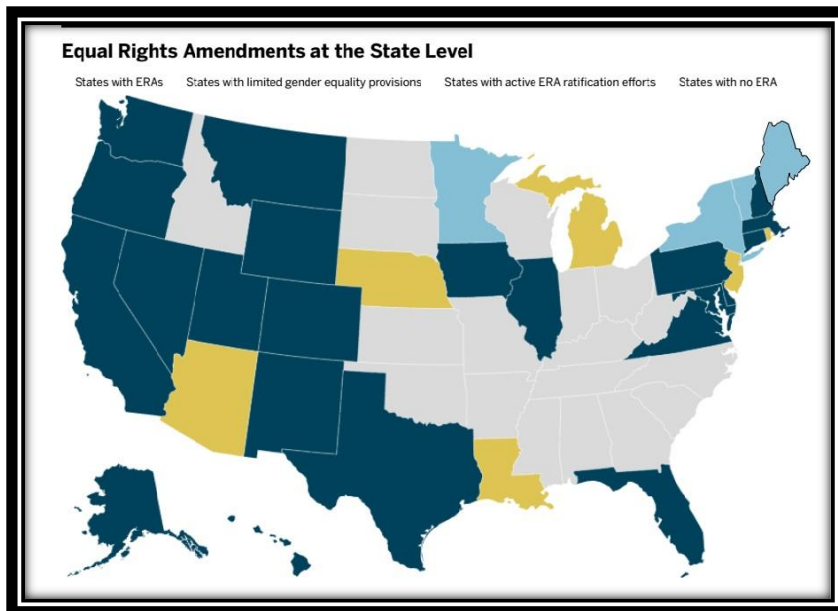


Advocacy: Update on the Equal Rights Amendment

On March 24, 2025, Rep. Ayanna Pressley (D-MA) introduced House Joint Resolution 80 – Establishing the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. There were 138 co-sponsors, including Rep. Gwen Moore (D-WI-4) and Rep. Mark Pocan (D-WI-21)

“Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That notwithstanding any time limit contained in House Joint Resolution 208, 92d Congress, as agreed to in the Senate on March 22, 1972, the article of amendment proposed to the States in that joint resolution is valid to all intents and purposes as part of the United States Constitution having been ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States.” It was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

On March 25, 2025, Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) and Sen. Mazie Hirono (D-HI) introduced Senate Joint Resolution 38, with the same wording as the House version. It was referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.



Legislators at the federal level will continue the fight to ratify the ERA. However, 29 States have chosen to pass their own versions. "State constitutions and state court systems are vastly under-used as protectors of individual rights," Sue Frietsche, executive director of the Women's Law Project, told Axios. "For the last 50 years, we've been relying on the U.S. Supreme Court and federal Constitution as the first line of defense when individual rights are under attack. There was a time when that made a lot of sense, but that time has passed."

Have any efforts been made toward an equal rights amendment to Wisconsin's Constitution? An amendment was introduced

in 2021 but did not pass. On March 6, 2024, Joint Resolutions were introduced by State Reps. Lori Palmari and Lee Snodgrass and by State Senators L. Johnson, Agard, Larson, Smith, Spreitzer and Wirch. By mid-April, neither A.J.Res.140 nor S.J. Res. 133 were adopted because both the House & Senate ended their business sessions at that time. Any amendment would need to pass through two sessions and go to a public referendum to be voted into law.

Sue Frietsche's remarks excerpted from: <https://www.axios.com/2025/03/22/equal-rights-amendment-state-constitution>

For more details: <https://msmagazine.com/2025/03/27/state-era-equal-rights-amendment-ting-ting-cheng/>



UN Report

On March 28, 2025, the following update on our International Service projects was posted under “News” on the Zonta International website. While an extensive article, your committee chairman felt it important news. For those of you new to Zonta, our Milwaukee club forwards to International one-third of the service funds raised. In the past, it has been given to the Rose Fund, an international fund allowing the money to be applied against projects as needed.

ZONTA PARTNERSHIPS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER

Since January, Zonta International has been closely following the news of the USAID stop work orders and decreased government funding for development and humanitarian assistance and has been in dialogue with our partners regarding any impacts to our international service projects. During the sixty-ninth session of the annual Commission on the Status of the Women in New York last week, Zonta International leadership had the opportunity to meet in person with our partners at UNFPA, UNICEF USA and the UNFPA-UNICEF Global Program to End Child Marriage to discuss our current projects and hear the latest developments.

Following is a summary of what we know today about each of our international service projects for the 2024-2026 Biennium; however, one thing is abundantly clear: Funding for programs benefiting women and girls, which were already underfunded, is now even more vulnerable. That is why support from the private sector and organizations like Zonta International is more important than ever before to ensure they have access to critical services and their rights are protected.

CLIMATE EMPOWER: COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND INNOVATION FOR GENDER-TRANSFORMATIVE CLIMATE ACTION

UNFPA's programming has been significantly affected by the USAID stop-work orders and funding cuts, as seen in several countries. In Afghanistan, over 9 million people will lose access to essential health and protection services as nearly 600 mobile health teams, family health houses and counseling centers shut down, resulting in the loss of jobs for more than 1,700 female health workers. In Yemen, more than 220,000 displaced individuals will no longer receive emergency relief. In Ukraine, programs supporting 640,000 women and girls—offering gender-based violence prevention, psychosocial support, safe spaces and economic empowerment—are now at risk. While these examples illustrate the significant impact of funding rollbacks on UNFPA's services in vulnerable regions, Zonta's partnership with UNFPA to prevent climate-induced gender-based violence and other harmful practices like child marriage in Madagascar, Mozambique and South Sudan has not been directly impacted. The situation, however, is changing on a weekly or daily basis. Zonta International will continue to monitor the situation; and, with UNFPA, will be hosting a webinar in April/May to provide an update on this project and will share any further developments at that time. Watch for more information to be released soon.

UNFPA-UNICEF GLOBAL PROGRAMME TO END CHILD MARRIAGE

The Global Program to End Child Marriage anticipated US\$5 million from the U.S. Government for Phase III of the Program (2024-2030), which they will no longer receive. In fact, all major bilateral donors to the Global Program: the UK, Norway, Netherlands, with the exception of Canada, have also indicated significant cuts to their foreign aid budgets since the start of this year. However, due to the “interlinkages with other programs, a decreased funding for sectors such as education, health, and social and humanitarian, particularly GBV and protection, will also have impacts on efforts to end child marriage. These rollbacks come on top of already existing funding shortfalls of at least 25% for 2025, consequently impacting program delivery.

UNFPA country offices were leveraging on the investments in GBV prevention and response both in development and humanitarian settings. The current termination of humanitarian funding will risk the continuation of GBV services for women and girls, including safe spaces, maternal health and contraceptives supplies in humanitarian crises.

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For 2025, the Global Program had planned to mobilize US\$40 million, but now it is looking likely to be at most US\$30 million in 2025. The Global Program is looking for alternative sources of funding, including the private sector, individual philanthropists and domestic financing; however, at the same time, they have revised their 2025 targets and prioritizing investments to ensure the greatest impact. The Global Program remains committed to delivering services in the 12 targeted countries.

LAAHA

UNICEF is committed to serving the needs of women and girls, even in the toughest humanitarian crises. One of the most innovative and exciting features of UNICEF's gender-based violence in emergencies program is Laaha, the first-ever digital web-based platform created by UNICEF with women and girls from crisis-affected regions, strives to increase knowledge on gender-based violence and sexual and reproductive health and to reduce isolation by building safe online spaces of support for adolescent girls. Digital tools like Laaha are more critical than ever as gender-based violence in emergencies is an area that has been hit especially hard by recent humanitarian funding cuts.

According to our partners at UNICEF USA, the funding shortfall for Laaha is US\$1.5 million. This shortfall is impacting staffing and UNICEF's ability to achieve its goal of expanding to 15 languages and reach 1 million girls by the end of 2025. Thanks to the generous support of Zonta, Laaha is able to continue this important work and still reach half a million women and girls across 10 different languages this year. Zonta International and UNICEF USA will be hosting a virtual Laaha experience in the coming months. More information will be released in the upcoming months about the program's progress, in the meantime here is a link to the [Laaha newsletter](#) with current updates.

THE WAY FORWARD

Zonta International and Zonta Foundation for Women do not receive any government funding, and our contributions to UNFPA and UNICEF will continue to support these three critical programs to prevent violence against women and girls, advance climate justice and end child marriage as approved by our members at the 2024 Zonta International Convention. We will continue to diligently monitor the situation to ensure that the projects can proceed as planned and will update our members and donors of any new developments.

Thank you to all our donors for supporting this life-changing and life-saving work and for your trust and confidence. With your unwavering support and generosity, Zonta International will remain a steady and reliable source of funding for essential programs to build a better world for women and girls.

 News and Events 2026 Convention Vancouver, Canada	 VANCOUVER Zonta Convention 2026	Save The Date Join Zonta International for our 67th Convention 11-14 July 2026 Vancouver, Canada
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Club Updates



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Book Corner

Club Sharing of Outstanding and Inspirational Women

"The Diamond Eye" by Kate Quinn 2022 Historical Fiction

The Diamond Eye is a fictional account of the true story of Lyudmila Pavlichenko, nicknamed Lady Death, a Soviet sniper fighting the German Wehrmacht during World War II.

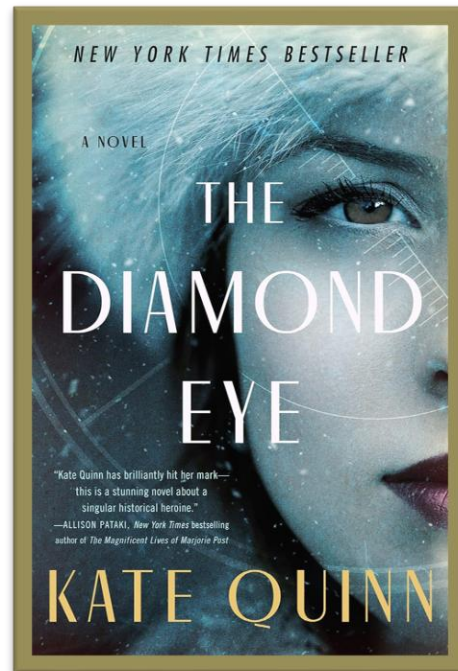
Born in Ukraine in 1916, Lyudmila Pavlichenko was a quiet student majoring in history at Kiev University and a young mother when she volunteered to join the Red Army after Germany invaded the Soviet Union in 1941. She declined to volunteer as a nurse and instead joined the infantry where she excelled at shooting and was accepted in the Red Army's 25th Rifle Division. She was likely one of the top five snipers of all time and one of 2000 female snipers in the Red Army. During the war she was wounded four times in battle. In 1942, during the war, she was sent to the United States and Canada as part of a Soviet delegation advocating for the Western Allies to support a second front in Europe.

Pavlichenko was invited to the White House by President Franklin Roosevelt and later toured the U.S. with Eleanor Roosevelt. In 1957, during the Cold War, Eleanor Roosevelt visited Pavlichenko in the Soviet Union. Woody Guthrie wrote a song, "Miss Pavlichenko" as a tribute to her.

Kate Quinn is the author of other historical fiction featuring courageous women such as The Alice Network, The Rose Code, The Huntress, and others.

Carol Mangold

Book suggestions and write-ups can be sent to Carol for inclusion in the newsletter.



Club Updates

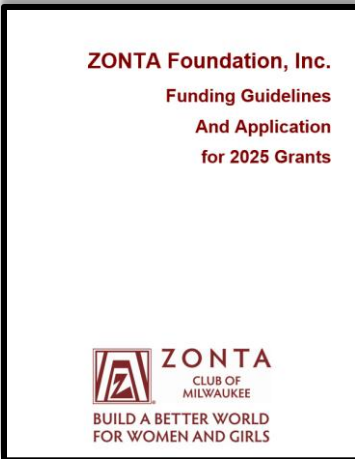


ZONTA
CLUB OF
MILWAUKEE

Foundation

Now Accepting Applications for 2025 Grants!

The Foundation Board is soliciting requests from agencies now with a due date of July 31, 2025. The [2025 Application](#) for funding is now available on our website.



Please share with worthy agencies in the Milwaukee area that are a good fit for our mission and goals.

We are seeking Applications from 501(c)(3) non-profit agencies/organizations for specific programs, projects, or services that are designed to empower women and/or girls in the greater Milwaukee area, in keeping with the mission and goals of Zonta International and the Zonta Club of Milwaukee. Individual grants typically range from \$1,000-\$3,000 per year, with commitments of up to 3 years. However, the Foundation Board will consider requests for larger awards. Preference is generally given to funding requests for specific programs, projects, or services versus unspecified contributions to a general operating fund.

The Board will review and make decisions by August/September timeframe. Awards will be given at the Zonta Fashion Show Fundraiser scheduled for

November 15, 2025.

Club Contribution of \$10,335 to Zonta Foundation for Women

Our Club's foundation recently completed the donation of \$10,335 to Zonta Foundation for Women, the foundation arm of Zonta International. The amount was 1/3 of the funds raised at our 2024 Fashion Show Fundraiser. The funds were directed to ZI's Rose Fund, an unrestricted fund, which enables the funds to be directed where needed. Zonta Foundation for Women funds international service projects as well as educational scholarships, fellowships and awards to women and girls. Club members approved this at our February 26, 2025 meeting.

Completing Federal & State Filings to keep our Non-Profit Status

Required Federal IRS form 990-EZ and WI#308 are underway. Thank you to Treasurer Donna Neal!

Zonta Foundation, Inc. is the charitable arm of the club. All members of the Club are members of Zonta Foundation, Inc. The Foundation of the Zonta Club of Milwaukee, a 501 (c) 3 non-profit, exists to raise and disburse funds. One third of funds raised are used to support Zonta International Service Projects in several parts of the world. Two thirds of funds raised remain in the greater Milwaukee area and have been used to help other 501 (c) 3 non-profit agencies, fund our scholarships/awards and support service activities.



Club Updates



ZONTA
CLUB OF
MILWAUKEE

Club Finance: March 2025 Bank Reconciliation Summary

For March 2025, we started with **\$7,683.21** and ended with a **balanced account of \$7,173.92**. Expenses totaled **\$646.25**, and income was **\$136.96**. No outstanding disbursements or deposits remain. We also hold a **CD worth \$5,633.70**, maturing on **April 13, 2025**.

All records have been successfully reconciled.

Please remember to pay your membership dues before May 5th!

**ZONTA**
CLUB OF
MILWAUKEE
BUILD A BETTER WORLD FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

ZONTA Foundation, Inc.

Zonta Club Dues for Fiscal Year June 1, 2025 – May 31, 2026

Dear All,

We appreciate your membership and we're sure you will want to continue to empower women and girls through service and advocacy.

Dues and fees total \$185.00. PLEASE send your payment by **May 5th**.

Dues are as follows:	Amounts
Zonta International	\$ 88
North America Liability Insurance	\$ 3
Annual dues to Zonta District 6	\$ 34
Annual Club dues	\$ 60
TOTAL by May 5th, 2025	\$185

We have two ways to pay:

1. Square via emailed invoice **which I will send to you individually.**
2. Or -Mail by May 05. Mail your check, payable to the Zonta Club of Milwaukee

Lauren Ward
1172 Kerechun Rd
Hubertus, WI 53033

Please note any changes/additions for name, address, phone, fax, email, birthday along with your payment.

Zonta membership dues are not tax-deductible as a charitable contribution; but may qualify as a business expense. Consult your tax advisor. If we do not receive your check on time, we cannot submit your name on the roster. Zonta International will not recognize you as a club member. If your check arrives 45 days after the June 1st, 2025, deadline, you will be charged a late fee of \$15.

Lauren Ward
Club Treasurer

Zonta Club Board:
President
Carol Mangold
President Elect
Open Position
Vice President
Ruth Robertson
Treasurer
Lauren Ward
Secretary
Shari Januszcwski

Club Directors:
Lynda Jackson Conyers
Gloria Jones
Christine Todd
Barbara Wyatt Sibley
Open Position

Foundation Board:
President
Cheryl Nowak
Vice President
Joni Reese
Treasurer
Donna Neal
Recording Secretary
Donna Conant
Corresponding Secretary
Janet Kloser

Foundation Directors:
Joann Harris-Comodore
Donna Kahl-Wilkerson
Debra Koller
LaToya Sykes

Upcoming Meeting Event Dates

D6 Area 2 Spring Workshop
May 17, 2025
Milwaukee –MRA (Pewaukee)

Zonta North American Inter-District Meeting (NAIDM)
June 20-22, 2025
Novi MI

District 6 Fall Conference
Oct 10-12, 2025
Bloomington, IL

Zonta International 67th Convention
July 11-14, 2026
Vancouver, Canada



Ignite Your Passion

June 20-22, 2025

Novi, MI
Hosted by Zonta District 15





Zonta Club of Milwaukee Meeting Minutes Minutes Wednesday March 26, 2025

In person meeting at the New Berlin Library was called to order by Vice Present Ruth Robertson at 5:55 pm.

Spring Workshop: Area 2 Director, Cathy Myers provided an update on the upcoming Spring Workshop:

- May 17, 2025
- Electronic invitations will be sent out shortly
- Program:
 - Continuation of work on strategic planning;
 - Update on Leadership and Core competency training;
 - Discussion on Core Values
- Committee needs assistance and Ruth will be sending an email to the club asking for volunteers to assist in particular areas.

Treasurer's Financial Reports:

- Treasurer Laureen Ward gave the February Treasurer's report.

Nominating Committee: Karen Smith presented the report of the nominating committee. The report is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

Committee Annual Reports and Budgets: Annual reports are due to secretary Shari Januszewski by April 4, 2025 to be reviewed at the Club Board meeting on April 8. The annual report will be presented at the April club meeting.

Service Committee: Donna Conant reported:

- Committee is continuing to collect funds to support Allies for Teens Art Service project.
- At the April club meeting, there will be a collection of diapers and wipes for HeartLove Place.
- Volunteers will be need to work at the HeartLove Place "Back to School Rally" on August 23. More information will be provided.

Centennial Birthday Event: Dawn Zehren reported that the committee has begun working on the event which will be scheduled for November 2026.

Fashion Show: Pam Knackert reported:

- Chicos will be the vendor;
- The committee has begun taking donations for the wine pull and gift card tree;
- Corporate solicitation letter will be sent to all members within the next week. Everyone is encouraged to forward it to any of their individual contacts.

Membership: Pam Knackert requested that members invite any prospective members to the April annual meeting.

Club Updates



ZONTA
CLUB OF
MILWAUKEE

Program: Karen Smith reported:

- April meeting is the annual business meeting to be held at the New Berlin Library;
- May meeting will feature speaker Carmen Pitre from Sojourner.
- August meeting will be held at the Sojourner Family Peace Center.

Scholarship: Deb Koller reported:

- Young Women in Leadership recipient has been chosen
- Women in Business award has changed and is now open to women 18 -35 years old. Funds may be used to assist in reaching professional goals, not specifically for education. The committee is asking members to forward any contact, groups, organizations that may be used to distribute the information in order to solicit applications. Deb will send an email to the club.

Z-Club: Kate Gay reported that the girls are working on a fundraiser to assist girls in Rwanda.

New Business:

- Deb Koller reported that Florence Eiseman, who gave its profits on Giving Tuesday to our Foundation, is looking for volunteers to help at its warehouse sale. She will find out more information and send an email.
- Christine Todd presented photos to the historian from an African project that the club assisted several years ago.

Next Board Meeting: April 8, 2025 at 6:00 via Zoom.

Next General Club Meeting: April 23, 2025 at 6:00 at the New Berlin Library.

D6 Area 2 Spring Workshop: May 17, 2025 at MRA in Pewaukee.

Zonta North American District Meeting: June 20 – 22, 2025 in Novi, MI.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20.

