

**ZONTA INTERNATIONAL -- DISTRICT 12  
CLUB ANNUAL REPORT**  
Reporting Period: June 1, 2015—May 31, 2016

*Please email to Governor Marcy O'Toole ([motoole48@comcast.net](mailto:motoole48@comcast.net)) by **May 8, 2016** with a copy to your Area Director.*

Area 1 Director: Teresa Forbes ( <a href="mailto:tlarueforbes@hotmail.com">tlarueforbes@hotmail.com</a> )	Area 2 Director: Michelle Ammerman ( <a href="mailto:AmmermanZonta@gmail.com">AmmermanZonta@gmail.com</a> )
Area 3 Director: Ann Hodgson ( <a href="mailto:johnannhodgson@att.net">johnannhodgson@att.net</a> )	Area 4 Director: Linda Hawkins ( <a href="mailto:flowerboutique86@hotmail.com">flowerboutique86@hotmail.com</a> )

**Club Administration 2015-2016:**

Zonta Club of Denver II

Today's Date: May 6, 2016

Area: 3

President: Carol J. Leffler  
Secretary: Mary Moser

President-Elect (if appropriate): N/A  
Treasurer: Sharon Faircloth

Vice President: Debra Ureel

**Incoming Club Officers 2016-2017:**

President: Carol J. Leffler  
Secretary: Ginni Dickinson

President-Elect (if appropriate): N/A  
Treasurer: Sharon Faircloth

Vice President: Debra Ureel

Board of Directors: Pat Congleton, Carol Johnson, Judy Schwartz, and Ellen Fitzpatrick. Alternates: Kathy Dean and Terri Otley

**Leadership & Leadership Development 2015-2016:**

Describe the leadership training conducted for officers, board members and committee chairmen.

All officers, board members and committee chairs are encouraged to attend the District conferences and attend any training sessions held during the conferences. For the members who attend the conferences, it is planned among the group for each session to be attended by at least one member. Then the training received at District conference is summarized and shared with the officers, board members and committee chairs. All incoming officers, directors, and committee chairs are encouraged to attend the telephone training sessions held by District 12.

What training opportunities / workshops have your club officers participated in at area & district levels?

The attendees at the September 2015 District 12 Conference attended the following workshop sessions: Club Board Reality Show; Recruiting and Retention Members – the Younger Generation's Perspective; Grant Writing Basics – Success Strategies for your Zonta Club; Social Media: A Zonta Club's Voice to the World. At least one member from the Zonta Club of Denver II attended each session. The information received is then summarized and shared with the officers, board members, and committee chairs. All incoming officers, directors, and committee chairs are encouraged to attend the telephone training sessions held by District 12. At the Club's annual retreat held last July 2015, "Leadership" was the theme for the day. Also, after the Club's annual retreat, outgoing officers and committee chairs are encouraged to meet with incoming officers and committee chairs to review the responsibilities of their new position.

Does your club have a long range plan that includes success planning for future leaders in club? Yes No

If yes, please describe (or provide copy to Governor and Area Director).

The need for long range success planning is often discussed during election time, but a plan has not been put into place. At the present time, officers and board members are being recycled through past members until new members are "seasoned" enough to take on leadership roles.

Describe any leadership challenges and needs.

Recruiting "younger" members and/or finding members that are willing to take on leadership roles.

### **Nominating:**

Did the club suggest nominees for area, district and international office? Yes No

Please describe the process used by the nominating committee to prepare a slate of officers for 2016-2017.

A nominating committee of three members was elected in February 2016. The committee members discuss who they believe would be good candidates for leadership in the club. The committee members then email and/or call all members to see if they were interested in a specific position or if they are interested, in general, for an officer or board position for the upcoming year. Members are also asked if they wanted to nominate a member for a position, which then had to be approved by that person. The slate is then presented to the current board and to the membership at the March 2016 meetings. The slate is voted on by the general membership at the April 2016 meeting.

### **Fundraising:**

Please list the major fundraiser(s) your club held during 2015-2016. (Feel free to add additional fund-raisers.):

1.	15 <sup>th</sup> Candy Meininger-Johns Memorial Charity Golf Tournament	\$ 8,731.22
2.	Wine Tasting Event	2,398.80
3.	Holiday Sales	7,330.19
4.	Raffle Funds	974.97
5.	Donations	1,447.84
	Less: Sales Taxes Paid	<u>(1,085.00)</u>
	Total Funds Raised This Year:	\$19,798.02

### **Local Service & Scholarship Dollars Given:**

Please list the contribution amounts given by your club during 2015-2016.

Local Service Organizations: \$15,578.37

Local Scholarships: See Local Scholarship Information below.

Total Local: \$15,578.37

**Zonta International Foundation (ZIF) Dollars Given:**

Please list the total club & individual contributions given to the Zonta International Foundation during 2015-2016.  
(Jan Kirch at jankirch50@gmail.com can provide this information to you)

Total Club Contributions: \$6,592.74 (one third of net fundraising)

Total Individual Contributions: \$2,230.00

Total Club & Individual Contributions during FY 2015-2016: \$8,822.74

**Zonta International Scholarship Information:**

• **YWPA-Young Women in Public Affairs Awards**

Did your club participate in the YWPA program? Yes No

Please list the name of the candidate(s) forwarded by your club to the district for this award. N/A

• **Jane M. Klausman Women-in-Business Scholarships (JMK)**

Did your club participate in the Jane M Klausman program? Yes No

Please list the name of the candidate(s) forwarded by your club to the district for this award. N/A

• **Amelia Earhart Fellowships**

Did your club celebrate Amelia Earhart Day? Yes No

If so, please describe how your club celebrated this year.

Amelia Earhart Day was celebrated on January 23, 2016 with members of Zonta International, District 12, and Area 3 at the joint Area 3 Meeting and Amelia Earhart celebration hosted by the Zonta Club of Douglas County.

**Local Scholarship Information:**

• **Local Scholarships** awarded by your club

Name(s) & description(s) of scholarship(s):

Sue Burch Scholarship – Florence Crittenton School. This year the Club allocated \$500 to hold in the scholarship fund. The recipient who was awarded the scholarship last year needed to defer her education for family reasons. The Club voted to hold \$500 if she was accepted into an educational program no later than September 2015. Since the recipient did not, the funds were reallocated to a teacher grant.

Teacher Grants. During the FY2015-16 the Club awarded three teacher grants in the amount of \$500 each.

## **Membership:**

Please describe your club's recruitment and retention efforts for 2015-2016 in order to meet the *net +1* goal as of June 1, 2016.

Our Club has a very active Membership Committee this year with the goal of increasing membership. The Membership Co-Chairs respond to inquiries every month from prospective members, who often attend monthly business meetings and volunteer events, as well as send invitations and begin communicating with potential members referred by current members of the Club. While we continue to encourage existing members to tell AND sell the Zonta "story," we also have had success with potential members finding us via our website, PR initiatives, and fundraising events. We are happy to report that one new member was initiated during this year, and we have three individuals who are potential members.

If your club currently has fewer than 20 members, what plans do you have in place to increase membership in 2016 - 2017? N/A

Does your club have a new member orientation program? Yes No If yes, how many sessions did you hold this year? 1

Does your club have a new member mentor program? Yes No If yes, describe: The Membership Co-Chairs act as mentors for six to twelve months after member initiation.

How does your club measure membership satisfaction?

Membership satisfaction is monitored by a member's attendance at meetings or other events. If a member has missed a couple of meetings or events, the Membership Committee will reach out to that person to hopefully find out the problem and find a solution.

*The information below will be used to determine the District Service Award to be given out at the 2016 Governor Seminar, Deadwood, SD on Sept. 23-24, 2016*

**Local Service:** (Hands on work to help women & girls in the local community)

Please name and briefly describe your local service projects including for each item:

- (a) Category: improved the status of women in general (legal, political, economic, educational, health and/or professional) or helped prevent and fight violence against women and girls (VAW)
- (b) % of club members involved in the project
- (c) Contribution to the Zonta International Foundation is at least 1/3 of the dollars raised this year
- (d) Visibility and credibility to Zonta created by the project
- (e) Sustainability of the project (long lasting results, and could the project continue for a certain period of time)

**1. SafeHouse Denver, Inc.**—Service (Welcome Bags, Mailings), Fundraising, Funding. Category: SafeHouse Denver's efforts meet both service objectives by providing a positive impact on the lives of women and helping to prevent and fight violence against women. Almost every member of the Zonta Club of Denver II participates in these projects.

SafeHouse Denver serves women who are victims of domestic violence and their children through both an emergency shelter and a non-residential Counseling and Advocacy Center. Since its charter in 1986, Zonta Club of Denver II has supported SafeHouse Denver and continues to help them make a difference in the community where it assists over 1,400 women, children, and youth every year. The Club continues to provide Welcome Bags for clients of SafeHouse who arrive at the emergency shelter without needed necessities. Members contribute shampoo, conditioner, lotion, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, and other personal items for the Welcome Bags. A gift basket was donated for the SafeHouse Gala. Members also volunteer to stuff envelopes for multiple contribution solicitations made during the year. Finally, for the fifth year, our Club contributed service funds to support SafeHouse Denver's Realizing Your Economic Action Plan (REAP) curriculum at their emergency shelter facility. REAP provides an opportunity for professional growth and education and introduces women to supportive networks and advocacy services that connect survivors to self-sufficiency-related community resources to help them achieve their individual goals.

**2. Excelsior Youth Center**—Service, Fundraising, Funding. Category: Improving the status of women in general (legal, political, economic, educational, health and/or professional). One member of the Zonta Club of Denver II participated in this project.

Excelsior provides the treatment and education of young females to enhance their successful re-integration into their families and communities. Excelsior is the largest residential treatment facility in the country, and it is considered the expert in treating troubled girls between the ages of 11 and 18. In 2015 the Club adopted a cottage, which usually houses about 18 girls. Periodic activities are planned with the girls, including creative projects, outdoor activities, or pizza and movies. The Club was also instrumental again this year in helping Excelsior raise \$5,500 in two hours by using the Club's raffle license and selling raffle tickets. The Club's efforts were acknowledged at the annual Gala benefiting Excelsior Youth Center.

**3. Florence Crittenton Services for Colorado**—Service, Scholarship, Fundraising, Funding (Zonta Baby Bucks Store, Sue Burch Scholarship Fund, Spring Graduation, Miles for Moms Walk, Funding). Category: Improving the status of women in general (legal, political, economic, educational, health and/or professional). About one-half of the members participate in the graduation reception, presentation of the scholarship, and shopping for items to stock the Baby Bucks Store.

Florence Crittenton helps teen mothers become strong and self-sufficient through education, counseling, referral and temporary housing. Since the original Baby Bucks Store remodeled by our Club in 2009 was demolished to construct the new Florence Crittenton School, the Club designated service funds and service hours for the renovation of space for the new Zonta Baby Bucks Store which opened in October 2015. The girls earn "baby bucks" that are awarded by teacher for good citizenship, attendance, and educational goals. The bucks are redeemable at the store for a multitude of baby items, including new clothes, diapers, etc. The Club contributed service funds to purchase items needed for the Baby Bucks

Store, such as diapers and wipes, infant and child hygiene products, clothing, and other items. The Club awards Sue Burch Scholarship (see scholarships) to a graduate of Florence Crittenton and has underwritten spring graduation for many years. We are often acknowledged by Florence Crittenton through their website and newsletters.

4. **Empowerment.**—Service, Funding. Category: Improving the status of women in general (legal, political, economic, educational, health and/or professional). About one-third of the members of Zonta Club of Denver II participated in these projects. Empowerment provides education, employment, health, housing and support services to women who are in disadvantaged positions due to incarceration, poverty, homelessness, HIV/AIDS infection, or involvement in the criminal justice system. Columbine Community Center is a housing programs run through The Empowerment Program for mentally disadvantaged women. In 2010 the Club remodeled and furnished the clubhouse at Columbine Community Center for the women who live in the 18 residential units. This year, several members of the Club have committed to come periodically to Columbine to provide crafts, games, and food for the residents. The Club contributed service funds to Empowerment.

5. **The Learning Source**—Service, Fundraising, Funding. Category: Improving the status of women in general (legal, political, economic, educational, health and/or professional). About one-third of the members of Zonta Club of Denver II participated in these projects. The Learning Source promotes and provides educational opportunities through collaborative partnerships for adults and families to support their future achievements. Programs include family literacy, GED, English language acquisition, advanced English for college and career, and the learning collaborative. For many years, the Club has sponsored graduation receptions for GED graduates, the majority of whom are women. Members also volunteer at The Learning Source's annual fundraising events. The Club contributed service funds to support the Family Literary Program for the purchase of learning tools for pre-school aged children. Approximately one third of the members of the Zonta Club of Denver II participate in these events.

6. **Freedom Service Dogs**—Service, Funding. Category: Improving the status of women in general (legal, political, economic, educational, health and/or professional). About one-fourth of the members of Zonta Club of Denver II participated in this project. Freedom Service Dogs rescues dogs from shelters and trains them to assist Coloradans with impairments, to increase their independence by providing a custom-trained service dog and lifetime support to ensure the success of the team. Many of the clients of Freedom Service Dogs are women. The Club sponsors graduation receptions for clients and their dogs that have successfully completed the program. The Club contributed service funds to be used for basic medical care for the dogs.

7. **Women's Homelessness Initiative**—Service, Funding. Category: Improving the status of women in general (legal, political, economic, educational, health and/or professional). About one-third of the members of Zonta Club of Denver II participated in this project. The Women's Homelessness Initiative (WHI) is a consortium of churches that offer sanctuary and hospitality every night for women who are homeless. WHI is called to serve, to educate and to advocate on the issue of homelessness. A new project for the Club, members volunteer one night every other month to provide and serve dinner, and to set up sleeping quarters for the women. The Club also contributed service funds for client assistance.

8. **Central Visitation Program**—Service, Fundraising, Funding. Category: Prevention of violence against women, children, and youth. About one-third of the members of Zonta Club of Denver II participated in these projects. Central Visitation Program (CVP) provides a safe, supervised, and comfortable setting for court ordered visits between children and parents of low income families involved in high conflict divorce, custody, and/or restraining proceedings. Club members volunteer at CVP annual fundraising event by manning the silent auction. The Club contributed service funds to CVP's Caring Communities Fund. About one-third of the members of Zonta Club of Denver II participated in this project.

9. **Center for Work Education and Employment**—Funding. Category: Improving the status of women in general (legal, political, economic, educational, health and/or professional).

The Center for Work Education and Employment (CWEE) provides programs to help low income single parents/families develop and expand the skills and confidence needed to obtain continuous, meaningful employment and career advancement. Club members make personal donations of professional business clothing to CWEE's onsite clothing boutique. The Club contributed service funds for purchase of items not available through donations.

9. **Holiday Funding**—Excelsior, Florence Crittenton School, SafeHouse Denver, and Empowerment have all received special holiday funding each year from Zonta Club of Denver II. Typically, funds are spent on clothing, food gift cards, and toys. Shopping and wrapping are done by members and delivered to the agencies. The project promotes our Club in the community and provides those extra needs for women and children. Almost every member of the Zonta Club of Denver II participates in these projects.

### **Other Service Questions & Linking Service and Advocacy:**

Do all club service projects relate to Zonta's mission (advancing status of women / empowering women through service and advocacy)?

Yes No If no, describe: N/A

What like-minded organizations have you partnered with for service and/or advocacy. Please list and briefly describe how you partnered with them.

The Club supports Florence Crittenton Services, Excelsior Youth Center, The Learning Source, Freedom Service Dogs, CWEE, and the Women's Homelessness Initiative through service and funding, with a focus on by providing a positive impact on the lives of women and girls. The Club supports SafeHouse Denver and Central Visitation Program through service and funding, which furthers the goal of preventing root causes of domestic violence.

Mention examples of club service activities focused on "Prevention of Root Causes" of inequality and violence against women through education:

See the Zonta Says No section below.

*The information below will be used to determine the District Advocacy Award to be given out at the 2016 Governor Seminar, Deadwood, SD on Sept. 23-24, 2016*

**Advocacy:** The expression of support for or opposition to a cause, argument or proposal. Advocacy may include influencing laws, legislation, or attitudes. Zonta advocacy is an action taken in "the public interest" or for "the greater good" with respect to advancing the status of women and girls and their human rights.)

Does your club have an advocacy committee?  Yes  No

**(Do Not Include Zonta Says No Activities Here - See Below)**

Please name and describe your advocacy projects including for each item:

- (a) Category: improved the status of women in general (legal, political, economic, educational, health and/or professional), or helped prevent and fight violence against women and girls (VAW);
- (b) How closely the project coincided with the advocacy definition above;
- (c) Did the project reflect one of the District 12 Platform for Advocacy issues which are:
  - Achieving pay equity
  - Supporting measures to oppose gender based violence such as trafficking, rape & domestic violence
  - Ensuring equal rights under the law;
- (d) % of club members involved in the project;
- (e) Names of any community partners; and
- (f) Visibility and credibility to Zonta created by the project.

**1. Mile High United Way's Bridging the Gap Program.** Bridging the Gap is a program through the Mile High United Way that provides support and learning opportunities to young people who have aged out of the Colorado foster care system. These youth face challenges with housing, education, jobs, and a sense of community. Partnering with the staff of the Mile High United Way, we endeavor to find ways to help the participants build networks of support for themselves, teach them self-sufficiency and advocacy, and where to go for assistance. The Club's Advocacy Committee sponsored "Life Skills Bingo" for the Bridging the Gap youth. The Club's third annual Thanksgiving Event in 2015 welcomed over 80 guests for a free homemade Thanksgiving dinner at the Mile High United Way facility. Attendees were provided food bags and recipes to prepare their own meals. Everyone was encouraged to share their experiences and thankfulness, forming a sense of community. Almost all of the members of the Zonta Club of Denver II participated in this project.

**2. Women's Collaborative of Colorado.** <http://www.womenscollaborativecolorado.org/>. Sharon Faircloth represented Zonta with the Women's Collaborative of Colorado. Their mission is to educate and activate the women of Colorado by bringing together leaders of many groups to affect the future of the State. Participation in that group is an attempt to further pay equity, equal rights under the law, and opposition to violence against women and girls. Our role has been to disseminate information gained from members of the Collaborative to the community and other Colorado Zontians. The club participated in the Collaborative event, "The Raising of America" Affordable Childcare held September 30, 2015 at the University of Denver. A portion of the documentary, "Are We Crazy About Our Kids?" was shown and a panel comprised of Bill Jaeger of the Colorado Children's Campaign, Danielle Butler of the Early Childhood Council of Boulder County, Flor Marquez of Denver Early Childhood and Louise Myrland of the Women's Foundation of Colorado. Discussions included proposed legislation, childcare challenges to working parents including costs of service and available choices and County programs working in Boulder and Denver.

The Collaborative will sponsor additional programs in 2016 surrounding pay equity and advocacy.



3. **Women Powering Change.** This event held Thursday, July 9, 2015 brought together diverse groups working to find solutions to world problems including human rights, environmental sustainability, and social justice. The club joined other Area 3 Zontians with a sponsored table to display Zonta International Service projects and give out individual club information. Swanee Hunt was keynote speaker. The club will participate again this year.

4. **Cities for CEDAW.** Advocacy Committee members Sharon Faircloth and Suzanne Fasing were part of a group including Zontian Alexis Newton, Julie Arostegui, and UNA representative Ingrid Lanz working on strategies to incorporate Denver into the Cities for CEDAW. Numerous meetings were held with Kimberly Desmond of the City and County of Denver and several Denver City Council representatives. Although much effort was made on all sides, the City prefers to address the principles of CEDAW without signing on at this time. Although very disappointed, the group felt the most important thing is that issues affecting women such as housing and hiring practices are being addressed. It is possible that they may find they are following the principles already and therefore it would be easy to sign on in the future.

*(Feel free to add additional projects)*

### **Zonta Says No:**

Describe your club's Zonta Says No activities in 2015 - 2016:

To create awareness of domestic violence and to promote action by educating how to avoid, prevent and report domestic violence, the Zonta Club of Denver II created a "Silent Witness" display at the Auraria Campus Tivoli Student Union on December 1, 2015. The display remained in place through January 4, 2016. The "Silent Witness" exhibit featured life-size silhouettes, each with a story representing a woman who was murdered, injured or otherwise affected by domestic violence. Educational information was posted at the exhibit so visitors could learn about domestic violence through facts, myths, economic impact, and state-wide, local and on-campus statistics. Take-away information was also available providing "do's and don'ts," "what to do and say," and local resources.

The beneficiaries of the project were all students, staff, and other visitors to Auraria Campus who use the Tivoli Student Center. Auraria Campus in Denver is the largest campus in Colorado enrolling nearly 50,000 students. The University of Colorado Denver, Metropolitan State University of Denver, and Community College of Denver all share the facilities at Auraria Campus, including the Tivoli Student Union. With the Tivoli's many student services (study areas, eateries, administrative and student government offices, bookstores, etc.), the potential visibility is 50,000+ students, staff, and others who visit the Tivoli over the two week display period. Also, photos and information are included on the Zonta Club of Denver II's website and Facebook page.

For the "Silent Witness" project, the Zonta Club of Denver II partnered with SafeHouse Denver, The Phoenix Center at Auraria, and the Denver Metro Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee for the location, literature, and statistics.

### **Other Advocacy questions:**

What women's issues have been identified as the most important in your club?

Pay equity and high cost of childcare are of particular concern as they affect every group we assist. Educational opportunities are also of concern, which is one reason we support scholarship and teacher grants.

How have club members been made aware of legislation relevant to women in our country?

Members are made aware of legislation through the Advocacy Committee's reports published in the monthly newsletter or reports during monthly membership meetings.

Have statements/letters, etc. been sent to law-makers or government/officials at national/state/community levels? If yes, please send copy to [motoole48@comcast.net](mailto:motoole48@comcast.net) (and copy your Area Director). Members are encouraged to send individual letters.

### **United Nations:**

Please describe how your club informed its membership of Zonta's work with the United Nations.

On October 2, 2015, several members, including the Advocacy Committee, of the Zonta Club of Denver II attended a Special Event: 2030 Sustainable Development Goals Agenda which featured Leslie Wright, the International Committee Chair of Zonta International's UN Committee. Focus during the presentation was on Goal No. 5: Gender Equality. This information was summarized and shared with the entire membership of the Club.

List topics shared with club members regarding the UN (& Zonta's engagement) (i.e., CSW, Sustainable Development Goals, etc.):  
Zonta's engagement and the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (specifically Goal No. 5) were shared with the Club membership.

### **External Communications/Public Relations:**

*Please check box for the PR tools your club uses:*

Brochure ; Newsletter ; Club or Individual Business Cards ; Website ; Facebook ; Other (describe): Bookmarks. Our laminated bookmarks include information about ZI, our Club's contributions to our community and accomplishments, and our contact information. We include them when we deliver poinsettias and confections for our holiday fundraiser, include them in the golf ditty bags at our annual golf tournament, and distribute them when we host community events. Members are also encouraged to carry several bookmarks

Did the club submit a "Share your Story" through the Zonta International Website? Yes No If yes, describe: N/A

### **Internal Communications** (e.g., newsletter, directory, website):

Please describe how your club kept its membership informed & connected this year.

The Zonta Club of Denver II publishes a monthly newsletter and President's letter for our members on our website. The newsletter includes a summary of each committee's activities, announcements of volunteer opportunities, upcoming events, and information about guests and guest speakers at our monthly meetings. Our website includes a member's only page which lists committee chairs and the members on each committee.

### **ZIF Ambassador:**

Does your club have a foundation ambassador? Yes No

How has your club encouraged individual donations this year? Please describe.

One monthly meeting was designated to review Zonta International projects, and members were asked to make an individual contribution to ZIF at that meeting.

**Z-Club or Golden Z-Club:**

Does your club have a Z or Golden Z Club? Yes No

If yes, please describe key events held during the year. N/A

If no, please describe what steps taken or plans to add a Z or Golden Z Club. N/A

**Archiving & History:**

Does your club have an archivist/historian? Yes No

Please describe your club's progress to date in:

(a) finding & listing your club archives.

This is an ongoing process. Past materials continue to be found in members' possession. As materials are found, as well as current materials, the information is indexed and scanned and saved. Materials are stored in the Cloud, and are on the Club's website.

(b) arranging for safe storage of materials.

Club materials are being scanning, are in the Cloud and are on the Club's Website.

**Bylaws:**

Does your club have a bylaws committee? Yes No

Are your bylaws up to date in accordance with Zonta International bylaws? Yes No