



Zonta USA Caucus

A caucus is a group of people united to promote an agreed-upon cause.

The Zonta USA Caucus is the Zonta clubs and districts in the USA united to support Zonta International's mission to empower women and girls through service and advocacy. It shall promote Zonta International's vision of a world in which women's rights are recognized as human rights and every woman is able to achieve her full potential, where women have access to all resources and are represented in decision-making positions on equal basis with men, where no woman suffers from violence.

Working under the direction of the International Advocacy Committee, the Zonta USA Caucus will be used as a platform for advocacy actions within the United States. The caucus will ensure that all advocacy actions are in accordance with the Zonta International Advocacy Policy and strategic plan.

Zonta USA Caucus' goal is to:

1. Encourage policy development by the United States of America's legislature and its committees and individual members which promotes and sustains women's access to all resources;
2. Assist in the development, consideration, and passage of legislation which facilitates every woman's ability to achieve her full potential and to live in a society free of violence;
3. Promote women's representation in decision-making positions on an equal basis with men;
4. Take action in support of, or in opposition to, proposed or enacted legislation and executive orders and regulations, implemented by the executive branch of government, that directly or indirectly impact the lives of women and girls.

Process:

- Zonta clubs and districts in the US can propose advocacy actions to the Caucus and shall send a copy of the proposal to the International Advocacy Committee at advocacy@zonta.org and to Zonta International Headquarters at programs@zonta.org.

- The International Advocacy Committee Chairman shall inform the President and ensure that the proposals are in accordance with the Zonta International Advocacy plan for the biennium.
- After approval by the Advocacy Committee, the Caucus will plan and conduct the advocacy actions and will report results back to the International Advocacy Committee at advocacy@zonta.org and to Zonta International Headquarters at programs@zonta.org.
- If an urgent action is needed, and the activity is not included in the biennial advocacy plan approved by the International Board, the International President may give approval for a special action.

Representation and organization of work:

The members of the International Advocacy Committee based in the USA are **ex-officio** members of the Zonta USA Caucus.

They have the right to

- Consult with governors in the US biennially, to name one representative (preferably the District Advocacy Chairman) from each district to represent the district in the Caucus.
- Prepare and conduct the plan of work to achieve the goals of the Caucus following the process indicated in this document.

They have the obligation to

- Inform the chairman of the International Advocacy Committee of all ideas and plans before any action is taken.
- Follow the process indicated in this document.