

District 12 Outreach

May 2022



ZI Convention

There is still time to register for the Zonta International Convention June 24-28 in Hamburg, Germany. You can attend in person or virtually. Virtual attendance is only \$210 and Convention planners have worked to make it an exciting experience with opportunities for networking, workshops and viewing of ceremonies and presentations from the main stage. See details on zonta.org under News and Events//Events/Convention,



The Club Mailing with Convention information and materials is available on the ZI website under My Zonta/Tools/Club Mailing. There is lots of good information in it even if you are not going to Convention. For example, it contains:

- Proposed changes to Bylaws and Resolutions – the bylaw changes include many made as a result of the Overall Review of Zonta International adopted at the 2020 Convention
- Descriptions of Proposed Service Projects for the next biennium
- Candidates for the Board and Nominating Committee and how they think their experience and knowledge will help fulfill the goals of Zonta International.

A new Zonta tag line will be introduced at Convention: “Building a Better World for Women and Girls”, replacing “Empowering Women through Service and Advocacy.”

Incoming District 12 Board

The incoming District 12 Board will begin its biennium in June, 2022. They are:

Governor: Bridget Masters

Lt. Governor: Debbie Sundberg

Secretary: Cathy Cathcart

Treasurer: Christie Maurais

Area 1 Director: Connie Camino

Area 1 Vice Director: Karen Kierstead

Area 2 Director: Judith Barth

Area 2 Vice Director: Marcie Woolworth

Area 3 Director: Katie Wienecke

Area 3 Vice Director: Colleen Farrell

Area 4 Director: Elizabeth Whitham

Area 3 Vice Director: Samantha Bruzan

Zonta App

The Zonta app is now available for your phone. Keep up to date on news, and events. Join forums and groups to share information on topics in which you are interested. Get it in the App store.



Colorado Creates Office for Missing and Murdered Indigenous People

Colorado has created an office to address the crisis of missing and murdered Indigenous people in Colorado within the Colorado Department of Public Safety.

Indigenous women in particular face heightened rates of violence, advocates and researchers say. Those crimes are too often not properly tracked or understood. The murder rate of Indigenous women is three times that of white women; more than half of Indigenous women experience sexual violence in their lifetime, and 96% of victims face it from non-Indigenous people, according to the National Congress of American Indians. When Indigenous women go missing, the disappearances are not always properly tracked or investigated, advocates say.

USA Caucus Priorities



The USA Caucus is an organization supporting Zonta International's mission in the United States at the national and state level. The Caucus's areas of priority in 2022 are:

- End Child Marriage
- Women at Work
- Equal Rights Amendment
- Zonta Says No! Ending violence against women
- Women's Health
- Climate Change

USA Caucus Statement on Roe vs Wade

The Zonta USA Caucus is deeply disturbed by the recently leaked draft opinion of the Supreme Court of the United States, which would overturn the settled case law, *Roe v. Wade*.

If this decision and rationale is ultimately issued by the Supreme Court, it would represent a break with established precedent impacting all women in the USA and would bode poorly for the protection of other rights currently guaranteed in our Constitution.

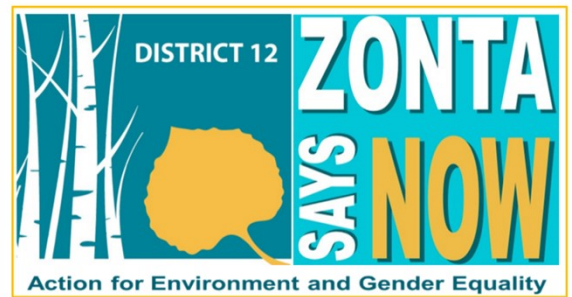
Zonta International believes every person should have the freedom to make decisions about their bodies and to safely and privately access all healthcare.

In order to keep its promise of ensuring that women have access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights under UN Sustainable Development Goal #5, the US must not turn the clock back by overturning the *Roe v. Wade* decision. *Goal #5 Gender Equality*, expressly states that women must have access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights.

By issuing this ruling, the Supreme Court would once again establish a state's right to discriminate against all women and perpetuate inequality among women who can afford access to healthcare and those that cannot.

The Zonta USA Caucus deplores the rescission of rights held by women in the United States for more than a generation. Congress should now take action to expressly codify into law the rights obtained in *Roe v. Wade*.

Catching Up with the Action for Environment and Gender Equality Committee



Since late fall, 2021, the Action for Environment and Gender Equality (aka AEGE) committee members worked together to create a new webpage on the district 12 website called 'Zonta Says Now District 12'. With many thanks to our district webmaster, Susie Nulty, this webpage can be found under 'What We Do' and 'Advocacy'. There you will find many resources for clubs to learn about this issue and expand their advocacy plans to reflect the need to engage in climate action and gender equality.

We invite Zontians to take a look at the 'state-by-state' resources on the webpage to learn what environmental improvements are happening in your community (Colorado, Montana, South Dakota, and Wyoming).

Our committee discussions about what climate related and gender equality issues Zontians and their communities can benefit from led us to our first state-by-state climate issue, water. As we all know water is a very precious resource in our often parched communities. Pending next month is our second topic, disaster risk management. There will be essential, state-by-state resources for families in our communities to help those who may have to evacuate quickly due to a devastating wildfire or other disaster.

The AEGE committee has also launched a new Zonta Says Now District 12 Facebook page. Zontians from all over the world have 'liked' this Facebook page. Members can stay in touch with current news about the environment and gender equality occurring in our district and states; the link can be found on the new webpage.

Our committee members have been busy this spring giving presentations about Zonta Says Now District 12 at club meetings and area meetings. If you are interested in scheduling a presentation at one of your club meetings, please let us know.

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We welcome Zontians to reach out and join the AEGE committee. If you are interested in learning more about the AEGE committee work or want to become part of our AEGE committee please contact the committee chair, Julie Trone – julie.trone@hotmail.com

In addition to our focus within the district we are also involved with the ZontaUSACaucus subcommittee on climate change. This active group, along with the Think Tank subcommittee, has produced a Climate Think Tank presentation series with in-depth information by experts in the field of climate action and gender equality. The first two Think Tank presentations were focused on the availability of fresh water and our future. More Think Tank presentations will be offered beginning in the fall of 2022. If you want to attend a Think Tank and do not know where to get the link, please reach out to someone on our AEGE committee or visit the ZontaUSA.org webpage 'Climate Action Zonta Says Now' for more information. Previously recorded Think Tank presentations are available on this link.

In June at the Zonta International Convention in Hamburg, Germany a few AEGE members will be attending and some presenting a workshop about Zonta Says Now alongside Zonta Says Now founders from District 23, Zontian Errik Elavia at District 25 in Bombay, members of the ZontaUSACaucus subcommittee on climate change and more. If you are attending, we hope you will register to join one of the two workshops on Saturday, June 25.

Julie Trone, District 12 AEGE Chair

District 12 Supports Zonta Foundation for Women

- Members from every club in District 12 donated to the Zonta Foundation for Women this year. Zonta International has 32 districts and our district was one of only 7 to do this.
- The Zonta Club of Denver was one of only nine clubs gave over \$20,000 in the biennium.



Z Club Celebrates 10 Years of Advocacy (from an article in the Boulder, CO Newspaper)



When the Zonta Foothills Club of Boulder County approached Boulder High teacher Michelle Carpenter about starting a high school chapter, she wasn't sure how the idea for the club would turn out. But Carpenter, a Spanish teacher, agreed to take a chance and sponsor the new Z Club. In fall 2012, she joined six student members as they met to plan how to support their school and local communities through service projects and advocacy.

The Z Club was officially chartered in 2013 and celebrated its 10th anniversary last week, inducting new members and hearing from club alums. "I had no idea what this was going to be," Carpenter said. "There is this amazing, beautiful team that has formed. You have made such an impact at Boulder High and communitywide."

Along with service, the club emphasizes leadership skills and understanding issues that impact women and girls, as well as helping members explore careers and apply to college. While the club is open to all students, most Boulder High members are Latina.

In the last 10 years, the club worked with the Emergency Family Assistance Association, Safe House Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence, Moving to End Sexual Assault, The Reentry Initiative, Mother House, Share-a-Gift and Community Food Share.

The club also has been active in the prevention of violence against women. For the last eight years, the club has created a "Silent Witness" display in the Boulder High library to convey the tragedy of violence and support victims by promoting local resources.

In 2020, the group produced a video urging community members to be counted through the U.S. census. They also went door to door, delivering flyers and talking with community members about why the census was important. In 2021, the group created a school-based campaign urging fellow students to get the COVID19 vaccine.

"It's driven by the kids," Carpenter said. "They see a need and meet it." Along with service work, the club brought in speakers to talk about careers, from medicine to criminal justice to education to social work. Before the pandemic they also visited local colleges, universities and businesses. The club has a 100% graduation rate, and many graduates continue as members of the college club.

Z Club President Monce Dominguez, a junior, said the club this year focused on service projects they could do at school and bringing in virtual guest speakers. Next school year, she's looking forward to the return of field trips and projects outside the school. She added she was inspired by the stories of the club's graduates. "I want to be a part of that big Zonta community," she said.

ZONTA Women In Careers New Initiative In Zonta Pikes Peak Area



In 2019, Zonta Club of the Pikes Peak Area (Zonta PPA) introduced a new initiative entitled **ZONTA Women In Careers (#ZWIC)**. Spearheaded by Zonta PPA member Lynette Jones, this highly successful program is designed to inspire, inform and empower women and teenage girls in the Pikes Peak region and beyond!

#ZWIC is a free workshop available to audiences interested in understanding women in the careers they have chosen. Delivered either virtually or in-person, the facilitated panel-discussion format:

- Introduces participants to a variety of available career options, provides information about required education, skills, earning potential and demand for jobs in the field
- Motivates participants to explore different career possibilities
- Provides an opportunity to interact with established professionals/workers
- Provides support and encouragement for participants' goals
- Introduces avenues for working toward self-sufficiency
- Helps participants recognize what it takes to be successful in the work arena

#ZWIC panels typically consist of a moderator and five Zonta PPA members representing a variety of business industries and career professions. It typically takes one hour: 45-50 minutes of panelists answering questions about their specific industry, sharing insights, etc., followed by 10 minutes of Q&A with the attendees.

#ZWIC received the Zonta 12th District Governor's Award in the Service category in 2019.

#ZWIC has been presented to more than 100 women and teenage girls at organizations and institutions of higher learning either in-person or virtually and has received high praise from each of them. Zonta PPA continues to be invited to present the initiative at new organizations throughout the region. Additionally, Zonta Club of Fort Collins is planning to implement a **#ZWIC** program in their community.

Other clubs can take this idea and make it their own! They may also use the **#ZWIC** logo/hashtag as somewhere on their website or Facebook page they include the following language:

ZONTA Women In Careers (#ZWIC) was originally created in 2019 by Zonta Pikes Peak, District 12 in Colorado, USA.

Club Annual Reports

Every year in May, our clubs report on their activities and accomplishments for the past year in their Annual Reports. These reports will be posted on the District 12 website the first part of June. The information in them is used by the district leadership team for planning and awards. It is also a source of ideas to be used by club officers, committee chairs and members.

Check out your club's report to admire all you did in the past year and look at the reports of other clubs to see how much the district has done for women and girls in the past year!
