UNICEF USA and Zonta International
Building a More Equitable World for Women and Girls

Founded in 1919, Zonta International is a global organization of professionals empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy. Zonta has over 29,000 members in 63 countries working together to improve the lives of women and girls. Zonta International and UNICEF USA have been in close partnership since 1972, helping UNICEF advance the status of women and children worldwide through education, health and protection services.

Together, UNICEF USA and Zonta International are building a more equitable and just world, one in which girls are able to exercise their rights to survival, safety and well-being, and as Zonta celebrates its centennial biennium, we are poised to make an even bigger impact together.

Since 2016, Zonta has supported Let Us Learn Madagascar, a program that creates opportunities for vulnerable and excluded girls to realize their right to an education in a secure and protective environment. In the 2016-2018 biennium, over 13,000 girls benefitted from this program and over 600 teachers were trained. Zonta’s support in 2018-2020 will enable more than 40,000 children to access a quality education thanks to new classrooms, teacher and school director training, cash transfers to households in extreme poverty, catch up classes, violence prevention and services, and communication and messaging promoting school enrollment and retention.

Zonta International is also the first private sector supporter of the UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage. Zonta International’s commitment to this program will enable UNICEF and UNFPA to implement activities in 12 countries with the ultimate goal of ensuring that girls fully enjoy their childhood free from the risk of child marriage. Zontians will be able to harness their collective voices to raise awareness about the issue of child marriage and continue to ensure its prioritization on the global agenda.

Together, Zonta International and UNICEF USA are positively impacting tens of thousands of women and girls, building brighter, safer and healthier futures.

History of Partnership
UNICEF USA and Zonta International’s long history of partnership has produced a global impact supporting a wide range of UNICEF Programs:

1982-1988: UNICEF Sri Lanka providing safe drinking water to 350,000 people
1998-2002: UNICEF programs in Burkina Faso focused on reducing the incidence of female genital mutilation and cutting, resulting in a 40% decrease in the practice over the course of a decade
2000-2006: The vaccination of more than 800,000 women of reproductive age against maternal and neonatal tetanus in Afghanistan (‘02-‘06) and Nepal (‘00-‘02)
2008-2016: For eight years Zonta supported UNICEF Rwanda to enable programming that virtually eliminated mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS and allowed UNICEF Rwanda to pilot a one stop center model of providing services to victims of violence that has now been scaled up nationally

To learn more, please visit: unicefusa.org/zontainternational