Annual Report, project updates show Zonta's global impact

Zonta International and the Zonta International Foundation are proud to announce that the 2015-2016 Annual Report is now available.

"I am proud of the work we achieved last year, and I am looking forward to what we will achieve in the 2016-2018 Biennium," said International President Sonja Hö nig Schough. "Through our partnerships with United Nations agencies, we are continuing to reduce early marriage and early pregnancy in Niger and are contributing to the elimination of obstetric fistula and the reduction of maternal mortality, morbidity and sexual violence in Liberia. We are also working to create opportunities for vulnerable and excluded girls to realize their rights to an education in a secure and protective environment in Madagascar and to create sustainable foundations for addressing the link between human trafficking and foreign labor migration of women and girls in Nepal."

Zonta has received progress reports for three of our projects this biennium, which you may read below.

- Nepal Project Update | A4
- Niger Project Update | A4
- Let Us Learn Madagascar: Expanding and improving girls' education | A4
- Let Us Learn Madagascar Case Study: Becoming a better teacher | A4

Additionally, we have published a final report and two human interest stories from the HIV and gender-based violence project we supported in Rwanda for eight years.

- Rwanda Final Report | A4
- Rwanda Human Interest Story - Angelique Mukamana | A4
- Rwanda Human Interest Story - Marie Goretti Mukasine | A4

"PMTCT has helped us achieve a lot. I believe the PMTCT program will end the HIV epidemic, because the majority of newborn babies are negative."

—Marie Goretti Mukasine, participant in Rwanda HIV-prevention program

Thank you for your continued support

Niger has the highest child marriage rate in the world with 77 percent of girls married by age 18 and 30 percent married by age 15. Thanks to your support, nearly 25,000 adolescents completed the UNFPA-led program from 2014 to 2016. In the 2016-2018 Biennium, an additional 11,000 adolescent girls will be able to enroll in school programs.
the program because of Zonta's US$1 million contribution.

Your gifts to the Zonta International Foundation empower women and girls worldwide. Thank you for your generosity and continued support.

Please note that for your gift to be counted in the 2016-2017 fiscal year and recognized in the Annual Report, it must be received by 31 May 2017. For donations via wire, please initiate your wire transfer by 20 May.

Recent Foundation campaigns bring in more than US$58,500

In January, Zonta celebrated the life of Zontian and famed aviator Amelia Earhart by asking its clubs to honor her life and promote the Amelia Earhart Fellowship Fund. In response, the Zonta International Foundation received US$17,057, an increase of more than US$1,200 over last year's campaign.

Zonta Rose Day and International Women's Day are celebrated each year on 8 March. Zontians and supporters of Zonta are encouraged to recognize and thank the women and men in their lives who have been steadfast advocates for the rights of women and girls with a donation in their honor to the Zonta International Foundation Rose Fund. The Foundation saw 48 first-time gifts and raised nearly US$41,500, which supports projects and programs that help women achieve a life free of violence and empower women and girls to overcome gender barriers to the health, education and professional resources they need to realize their full potential.

Recognizing remarkable gifts

The Foundation would like to recognize significant gifts received between January and March from the following clubs (listed in order of contributions from largest to smallest):

Gifts more than US$20,000:

- Zonta Club of Munster, Germany, District 29
- Zonta Club of Sanibel-Captiva, USA, District 11
Gifts more than US$15,000:
- Zonta Club of Denver, USA, District 12
- Zonta Club of Newport Harbor, USA, District 9

Gifts more than US$10,000:
- Zonta Club of Santa Clarita Valley, USA, District 9
- Zonta Club of Kitchener-Waterloo, Canada, District 4

Announcements

Zonta International supports UNFPA
Click here to read a statement in which Zonta International reaffirms its commitment to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)’s life-saving work for women and girls in light of the United States’ decision to deny future funding. Zonta is currently supporting two UNFPA projects in Liberia and Niger.

Fundraising Ideas posted online
Click here to see club fundraising ideas such as cinema showings, craft items and more on our Foundation Tools webpage.

Important dates to remember
- 1 May: Deadline for districts to submit Young Women in Public Affairs Award applicants to Zonta International Headquarters
- 23 May: International Day to Eliminate Obstetric Fistula
- 31 May: End of the 2016-2017 fiscal year; last day for contributions to be recognized in the 2016-2017 Annual Report