

100 years of Zonta
100 years of empowering women

In 1919, a group of forward-thinking executive women came together in Buffalo, New York, USA, to use their combined expertise in service to their community.

Not satisfied with the predominantly social nature of many women's organizations at the time, the women who founded Zonta envisioned a new kind of women's service organization—one that would promote professionalism among its members while serving the needs of girls and young women in the community.

Zonta's vision cannot be achieved by monetary donations alone. At the local, regional and national levels, Zonta clubs and individual Zontians are advocating for laws and policies that ensure gender equality and help every woman and girl realize her full potential.

Zonta International is a non-governmental organization with consultative status at the United Nations since 1969.

"We believe in making the world a better place by empowering women and we find joy by working together toward gender equity in a supportive community of like-minded professionals that even extends to other countries and cultures."

—Susanne von Bassewitz
Zonta International President 2018-2020

Are you interested joining Zonta?
Please visit www.zonta.org.



**100 years of
empowering
women
worldwide**





**Worldwide organization of professionals
Local engagement to benefit women**

■ **Zonta International** envisions a world in which women's rights are recognized as human rights and every woman is able to achieve her full potential. **In such a world**, women have access to all resources and are represented in decision making positions on an equal basis with men. **In such a world**, no woman lives in fear of violence.

Realizing this vision takes persistent and coordinated advocacy actions at the international, national and local levels. Driven by our approximately 29,000 members in 63 countries, Zonta International's efforts are making a difference on many levels.

On a local level, every Zonta club is free to address regional challenges and engage in local projects. Measures are financed by fundraising and individual donations.

Zonta members drive:

- **Advocacy efforts** to empower women and girls to improve their situation in every aspect needed
- **Education programs** to award more than US \$600,000 every year for educational scholarships
- **Service projects** to support local shelters, institutions and initiatives empowering women and girls. Zontians have contributed US\$28.7 million to our international service projects.
- **Campaign activities**, such as Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women, to create awareness and advocate for human rights.

Zonta is nonsectarian and nonpartisan.



**Zonta International Centennial:
100 years of proud tradition for the future of women and girls**

■ Over 100 years, Zonta's actions have been far-reaching and effective. Read an excerpt from Zonta's record of achievements:

- 1919** Zonta is founded in Buffalo, New York
- 1923** Near East Relief efforts to care for 115,000 orphan children and women in Smyrna, Turkey
- 1930** First European Zonta club is founded in Vienna, Austria
- 1938** Amelia Earhart Fellowship established to empower women in aerospace-applied sciences or engineering
- 1948** First student club is organized in Burbank, California, USA
- 1968** Zonta's service contributions reach US\$1,000,000 total
- 1969** Zonta receives consultative status at the United Nations
- 1983** Zonta receives participatory status at the Council of Europe
- 1986** Zonta becomes the first non-governmental organization to support UNIFEM (later UN Women)
- 1990** Young Women in Public Affairs Award established
- 2008** Began supporting the Liberia Fistula Project, to which Zonta contributed more than US\$2.5 million over 10 years
- 2012** Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women campaign is introduced
- 2018** Commitment to child marriage results in US\$2 million contribution and partnership with UNICEF USA and UNFPA

**Our past is our responsibility for the future,
serving as role models for the world.**

www.zonta100.org