



DISTRICT CONFERENCE REPORT

Vivienne Shen, Director



**GREETINGS FROM YOUR
2024-2026 INTERNATIONAL BOARD!**

BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTION



SALLA TUOMINEN

President

Zonta Club of Helsinki I, Finland

District 20



BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTION



FERNANDA GALLO-FRESCHI

President-Elect

Zonta Club of Milano Sant'Ambrogio, Italy
District 28



BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTION



SANDY VENN-BROWN

Vice President

Zonta Club of Stanthorpe Inc, Australia
District 22



BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTION



SOUELLA CUMMING

Treasurer/Secretary

Zonta Club of Wellington, New Zealand
District 16



BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTION



MARGARET AKOFIO-SOWAH

Director

Zonta Club of Accra II, Ghana
District 18



BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTION



OFELIA "LIA" BAUTISTA

Director

Zonta Club of Greater Rizal I, Philippines
District 17



BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTION



CHRISTINE DERSCH

Director

Zonta Club of Marburg, Germany
District 28



BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTION



UNNA HUH

Director

Zonta Club of Seoul III-Nam Seoul, South Korea
District 32



BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTION



PHILLIPPA JACOBS-LORY

Director

Zonta Club of Christchurch-Canterbury
New Zealand, District 16



BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTION



ELA PANDYA

Director

Zonta Club of Porterville, USA
District 9



BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTION



VIVIENNE SHEN

Director

Zonta Club of Hsin Chu, Taiwan
District 31





STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS

Ending Violence
Against Women

Climate Justice

Women in Decision-
Making Positions

Education Equity

GLOBAL CHALLENGES



**Rollback of
women's rights**

**Governments
decreasing funds
for foreign aid**

**Global
conflict**

**Climate
crises**

Zonta Spirit, Sustainability and Speaking up for Human Rights

RECENT ZONTA INTERNATIONAL STATEMENTS



**Zonta International
partnerships more
important than ever.**

March 2025



**Zonta International
calls for reaffirmed
commitment to the SDGs.**

March 2025



**Zonta International
remains steadfast in
mission to build a better
world for women and girls.**

February 2025



BIENNIAL GOALS: CELEBRATING SUCCESSES!

GOAL 1



**Credible
and Visible
Voice**

Zonta acts as a credible and visible voice on gender equity, driving change for gender equality.



SHARED MOMENTS FOR ZONTA ACTION

11
OCT

In honor of
International
Day of the
Girl

Flip the
narrative
and send
a message
of hope



**International
Day of the Girl**

25 NOV
10 DEC



**Zonta Says NO to Violence
Against Women**

**16 Days of Activism
Campaign**

8
MAR



**International
Women's Day**

Zonta Spirit, Sustainability and Speaking up for Human Rights

22
APRIL



Earth Day



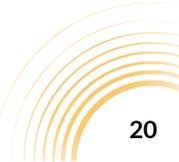
WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

First new country-level advocacy group established in Australia



Quarterly virtual advocacy series

Launch of internal advocacy training program





WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED



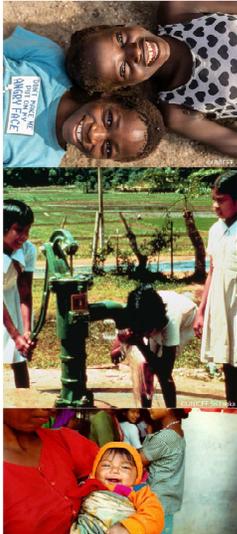
Inspiring Impact: Zonta Foundation for Women Quarterly Report

The 2024-2026 Biennium will celebrate a momentous occasion—the Zonta Foundation for Women’s 40th anniversary. This milestone is not just a marker of time but a testament to the enduring power of the collective action and generosity of thousands of Zonta members and friends. As we look back on four decades of remarkable achievements, we are reminded of the countless lives transformed, the women and girls uplifted and the future improved through the unwavering support of our Zontians and loyal supporters.

Since the Foundation’s inception at the Sydney Convention in 1984, the mission has remained clear: to build a better world for women and girls. From funding international service projects that provide life-changing opportunities to working toward gender equality in education by supporting scholarships, fellowships and awards, our journey has been one of continual growth and transformation.

This anniversary year is an opportunity for us to reflect on the Foundation’s history and celebrate the incredible achievements made possible by your support. Additional issues of the Zonta Foundation for Women Quarterly Report will highlight stories of impact and feature past education awardees, international service projects and key Foundation supporters. Is there a program or project that has resonated with you or inspired you to give more? We invite you to share why you support the Foundation. Email us at zfoundation@zonta.org and you could be featured in a future issue.

As we mark 40 years of making a difference for women and girls, we extend our deepest gratitude to you—our donors, partners, members, and advocates. Thank you for being a part of our journey. Here’s to building a better world with a strong Foundation.



Remarkable Women, Powerful Stories

Inspiring Impact Zonta Foundation for Women Quarterly Report

Zonta Spirit, Sustainability and Speaking up for Human Rights



Lisa Blair

Zonta International Honorary Member

5 June World Environment Day



“I am incredibly honoured to be awarded an honorary membership to Zonta International, they are taking strong climate action for women and girls, and I am proud to work with them so that together we can amplify the need for sustainability and protection of our planet.”



Lisa Blair at the 2024 Brisbane Convention

GOAL 2



Club Successes

By focusing on club success, Zonta maintains a strong membership base to support the work we do to build a better world for women and girls.

CORE VALUES AND CODE OF CONDUCT



**Global
Community**



Friendship



**Equality &
Inclusion**



Respect



Integrity

Our Core Values Statement provides us with the fundamental or guiding principles that are the foundation for our membership. It represents our beliefs and frames how we behave toward each other, our supporters, friends and communities. This statement was developed through feedback from members from across the Zonta world.



WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

Chartering of 18 new clubs this biennium

Membership strategy in progress

Twinning program launched



WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED



First Virtual Share Your Story Festival



**Zonta Community Give Back Grant
Feasibility Study completed**

GOAL 3



Leadership and Sustainability

Zonta manages its resources, including both time and money, to meet Zonta's vision and ensure Zonta's long-term viability and success.



WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

- Governance review work ongoing.
- Environmental, Sustainability and Governance (ESG) review work has started.

GOVERNANCE WORKING GROUP

Objective: Identify options to streamline and modernize Zonta's governance structure.

Key Focus Areas

Voting

District role and composition

Board composition

Board operations

Convention /
District Conferences

Approach

- Examine existing governance arrangements.
- Identify areas where change is required.
- Propose/evaluate options.
- Recommend a preferred option.
- Develop roadmap to transition to future governance arrangements.

Supported by:

- Three Workstreams
- Governance Advisory Team

Those involved to date:

- Board members
- Past International President
- Past International Directors
- Past District Governors
- Past Committee Chairs
- Headquarters team

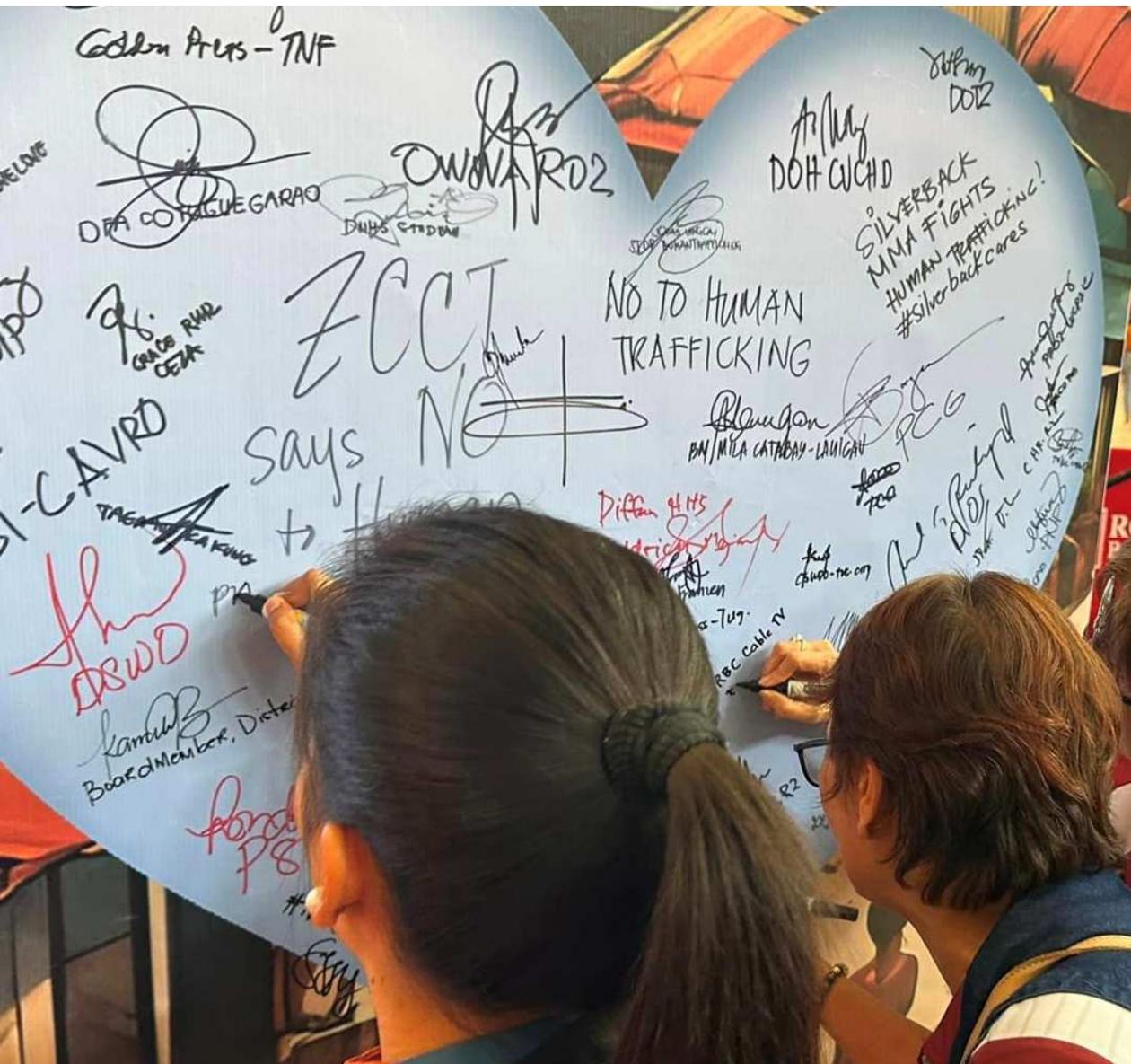


PROGRESS TO DATE – ON TRACK

**Governance
Blueprint
for the Future**

- Examine existing governance arrangements. COMPLETE
- Identify areas where change is required. COMPLETE
- Propose options. COMPLETE
- Evaluate options. IN PROGRESS
- Recommend a preferred option. Q1 2026
- Develop a roadmap to transition to future governance arrangements. Q1 2026





WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

- ❑ Implementation and monitoring of the strategic plan.
- ❑ 10-Year Forecast updated.
 - Alternative revenue working group for ZI.
 - Diversifying support for the Foundation.



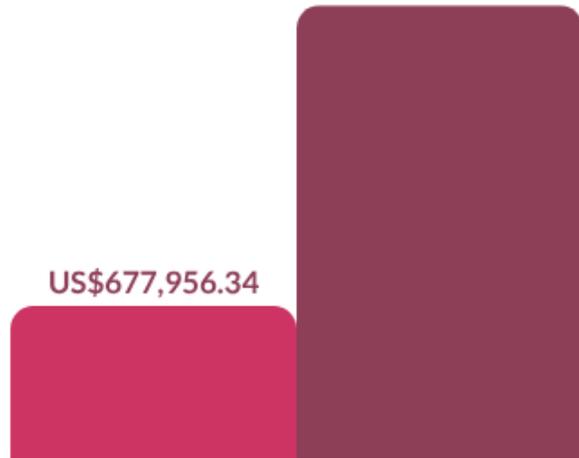
40 YEARS

BUILDING A BETTER WORLD
BEGINS WITH A STRONG FOUNDATION

Campaign Update

HELP US REACH OUR GOAL

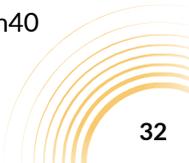
US\$2,000,000



*As of 1 August 2025



www.zonta.org/Foundation40



General Endowment Fund

We reached our US\$10,000,000 goal this biennium!

**Current Total:
US\$10,065,145!**



GOAL 4



Engagement of Audiences and Allies

In order to further Zonta's mission and extend voice, Zonta develops collaborations with like-minded organizations.



WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

Greater focus on work at the Council of Europe and national-level advocacy

69th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women was a success!

District XX Biennial Achievements

Chartered [#] new clubs this biennium!

Have given [US\$XXX] to the Zonta Foundation for Women this biennium!

[Insert Additional Achievements]

LOOKING FORWARD





WHAT WE HAVE LEFT TO DO

- ❑ Complete first cycle of two new awards.
- ❑ Climate justice education and action.



WHAT WE HAVE LEFT TO DO

- Finalize membership strategy.
- Assess clubs and ensure they are fit for the future.
- Engage youth members – involve your student clubs.
- Diversify membership by asking others to “Add Your Voice!”



WHAT WE HAVE LEFT TO DO

- Meet 40th anniversary and biennial fundraising goals.
- Zonta 1919 Legacy Giving Circle.
- Report to members on governance review.
- Complete ESG review.



WHAT WE HAVE LEFT TO DO

- Increase knowledge of Zonta's work at the United Nations.
- Announce global advocacy partnership.
- Secure corporate sponsorships.

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE PROJECTS



**Ending Child Marriage:
A Program to Accelerate
Global Action Phase III**

*Zonta International
Signature Project*



**Climate Empower:
Empowerment and Innovation
for Gender-Transformative
Climate Action**



**Laaha:
A Virtual Safe Space
for Women and Girls**



VANCOUVER

Zonta Convention 2026



11-14 JULY 2026

#ZONTAVANCOUVER

2026 ZONTA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION



**Celebrate
successes.**

**Engage in important
conversations about
the future.**

**Have fun with
purpose!**

#ZONTAVANCOUVER

Zonta Spirit, Sustainability and Speaking up for Human Rights

#ZONTAVANCOUVER



Zonta Spirit, Sustainability and Speaking up for Human Rights



AIR CANADA

We are excited to welcome Air Canada as the Preferred Airline Partner for the 67th Zonta International Convention.



Take advantage of Air Canada discount offer and book your flights today!

Thank You!



QUESTIONS?

