



# ZONTA

## CLUB OF WARREN

MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL  
EMPOWERING WOMEN  
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY



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### January Meeting Highlights

Amanda Johnson from Second Harvest Food Bank was our guest for lunch. She presented information on the origin and growth of the food bank. It is one of 200 food banks nationwide. It serves 11 counties through 298 agencies. Ms. Johnson elaborated on the Back Pack Program, which is addressing the children of Warren County. This program serves grades 2-3 by distributing 348 bags of food per week. The cost of each bag is \$4.27 and this provides meals and snacks for the weekend. This program is funded by private donations only and is dependent on volunteers. Each semester, hundreds of volunteers pack over 3,000 bags of food.

### Update on advocacy posters:

Thanks to our members' dedication to reducing domestic violence and human trafficking advocacy project, we have our posters in 45 different places throughout Warren County. This includes agencies, churches, bars, gas stations, hospital, human service agencies, Assistance Office, restaurants, courthouse, a couple dept stores, police, Salvation Army, grocery stores, fire halls, laundry mats, social clubs and more. Also they are in the Forest Schools thanks to A Safe Place board member.

Members can get more posters from A Safe Place or a Zonta member.

### Impact Poverty

According to US Census Bureau in 2014, Warren Co. had a poverty rate of 14.1% Children under 18 was 24.1%. The population eligible for Medicaid Assistance was 19.7%. The population participating in Food Stamps program was 14.1%. Number of students eligible for free or reduce school lunches was 43.8%.

To continue the mission of improving the status of women and their families, Phyllis Wright represents Zonta on the IMPACT POVERTY group, which meets monthly to connect persons needing services to agencies and organization that can provide economic (food, clothing & shelter) and behavioral helps. (addictions, mental health, etc.)

### Examples of how Zontians help locally:

*Hands on* activities as:

- Salvation Army Bundle Up Days, Christmas "gifts for moms," and "Back to School" project
- Promoted a ½ day "poverty simulation community program" held last Oct for the purpose of recognizing the plight of persons in poverty.

*Financially* supporting local programs as:

- CASA - court appointed mentors for youth
- School to Work-Hi Ed programming for helping person to prepare for work
- Don Mills Achievements - children of families needing improved developmental skills
- House of Hope – women returning to work and home life who have been incarcerated.
- Four \$1,000 scholarships- for persons out of high school bettering their education for jobs.

Internationally we support:

*Hands on* – creating 100s of birthing kits for women to have sanitary conditions during childbirth in third world countries

*Financially* -

ZISVAW - to reduce violence against women world wide

Scholarship for aeronautics and business college students and others

It is great to be a Zontian and making a difference in lives locally and internationally. Think of that when we fund raise and ask for “hands on” help with projects.

### ***Lucky Numbers Luncheon***

***See attachment for all you need to know!***

## **mark your calendar!**

- *Advocacy, continue Safe Place Poster distribution*
- *January 24, Lucky Numbers Meeting at NW Community Room, 5:30PM, all are welcome to attend.*
- *February 1, Board Meeting at JDFC at 5PM*
- *February 9 meeting, 5:30PM at JDFC.*
- *April 22, Spring Workshop in Bradford*
- *April 28, The Silent Secret in Bradford*

### ***Remembering Zontian Amelia Earhart***

*To Amelia Earhart Earthbound, we watched,  
enthralled,  
As unafraid you climbed the cloud-strewn sky;  
Your flight a symbol of that great heart  
That dared apathy and prejudice defy.  
“Own your soul!” your voice rings clear.  
So gaily began your last long flight.  
Circling the globe, Electra’s gallant crew  
Through wind and fog, missed finding Howland  
light.  
For us, AE you’ll never die.  
The world, fleetingly, became less sad and  
drear  
For the courage and concern we saw In your  
brief, joyous sojourn here.*

Muriel Morrissey, sister of Amelia Earhart  
and charter member of the Zonta Club of  
Medford, Massachusetts

#### Zonta Club of Warren

#### Goals for the 2016-2018 Biennium

Passed at the October 13, 2016 Meeting

1. Zonta Club of Warren will be more visible in the community.
2. Zonta Club of Warren will take a stronger initiative in mentoring new members.