





**Zonta International** just celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. ZI has been affiliated with the United Nations since 1969 and uses its voice to advocate for gender equality and women's human rights worldwide. The Roseburg club was founded in 1947 and participates in global activities to end violence against women and children, end child marriage, plus local projects such as:

Human Trafficking will soon replace drug trafficking as the most profitable illegal activity in the US. Drugs can only be used once, humans can be used multiple times per day. The average age of recruitment is 12. Kids are trafficked for sex, pornography, drugs and labor. Social media and childhood insecurities are a boon to traffickers who use fake friendships/job offers, or blackmail and coercion to entrap the youth. Thus Zonta partnered with the Douglas County Human Trafficking Task Force to protect our youth by offering our schools training to acquire a free anti-trafficking curriculum. Zonta also helps the task force with community education programs about trafficking.

Ending Child Marriage is a global issue, but also occurs in the US. Girls who marry before they are 18 have no legal ability to rent an apartment or file for a divorce, and shelters consider them runaways and return them to their spouse. Yet they are 3x more likely to be beaten by their spouse, 23% more likely to suffer physical and mental problems, more apt to drop out of high school, less apt to ever go to college, thus frequently live in poverty and fail to gain financial security. Only 3 states prohibit child marriage and most states with a minimum age still allow exemptions that tend to benefit the family reputation more than the child.

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HandUp is designed to help women navigate difficult transitions in life. The women receiving HandUp assistance have a vetted track record of improving their lives. However, they may need funds for legal advice, completing coursework, obtaining their certification, having appropriate clothes or transportation to a job interview, bus passes to a job so they can get a paycheck so they can afford their own housing/vehicle/childcare/education. Zonta works with Peace At Home, ADAPT, and UCC to identify these women who are seeking improvement and financial independence.

The **Dignity Drive** is used to collect undergarments and hygiene products for women forced from their homes with little more than the clothing on their backs. The items collected are distributed to Safe Haven, Peace at Home, Samaritan Inn, and similar partners to give these women the dignity of having undergarments and toiletries.

To **Honor & Empower Women,** Zonta provides grants to encourage women to become involved in public affairs, seek an education in technology, obtain a PhD in aerospace engineering. Zonta also recognizes the local groups and individuals who help women through its annual Rose Day and Woman of Achievement awards.

For more information on Zonta check out our Zonta Club of Roseburg Facebook page or our webpage at: https://www.zontaroseburg.org



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