

AAUW Longmont Branch Report 2017-18

The following Longmont Branch activities, programs and events support our Strategic Plan, which aligns with the mission of AAUW.

Program Goal: To develop programs that address the needs of women and girls in our community.

- Our speakers this year included Amy Blackwell, AAUW-CO President and Dr. Ian Feinhandler, Professor of Geography and International Affairs at Front Range Community College and CU Boulder.
- The annual joint meeting with Chapter MU, Delta Kappa Gamma focused on **Mental Health in Our Community**.
- We participated in Front Range Community College's **Take Back the Night**, a program to end sexual violence and tabled at the **Community Resource Fair**.
- We offered **Conscious Conversations**, two workshops presenting techniques to successfully discuss challenging topics.
- We sponsored **Great Decisions** for members and community.
- We facilitated two **Start Smart** workshops at Front Range Community College.

Membership Goal: To serve our members in ways that attract, maintain and increase a diverse membership; to increase involvement of existing members; to demonstrate a level of communication between members that expand their knowledge and support of the AAUW mission.

- The Branch has 67 members.
- Interest groups and social events retained members.
- New members came from Great Decisions, from encouraging friends to join, and from reaching out to members of organizations we belong to as well as issuing invitations to community groups.
- Six members attended the State Convention, whose theme was "Exploring Community Involvement and Collaboration".
- Letters were sent to individuals who had not renewed membership during the past 5 years. Handwritten notes will be sent to members not renewing as of June 30th.
- The Board instituted a "buddy System" so that each member receives a personal reminder for each event.
- We are using the Membership Payment Program for 2018 renewal.
- Fifty-nine percent (59%) of members responded to an on-line survey that will help in refining and implementing the Strategic Plan.

Public Policy Goal: To be a powerful advocate on issues that help achieve educational and economic equity and civil rights for women and girls, particularly at the state and local levels where members of the Affiliate are considered a local resource on women's issues.

- Six members attended Public Policy Day.
- Members met with the Title IX Coordinators for the St Vrain Valley School District and Front Range Community College.
- Members were encouraged to use such AAUW resources as "Two-Minutes Activist" (30% of members are signed up), "Washington Update", and "AAUW in the Statehouse".
- A new Public Policy and Advocacy page was added to our website.

Our newly formed Current Issues and Advocacy interest group supports Public Policy goals and plans advocacy-related programs.

Communications Goal: To use effective, multichannel communications to expand the awareness of AAUW and its missions with our membership and throughout our local community.

- Our Facebook page and website have been updated extensively, adding information on Public Policy, Start

Smart workshops, monthly programs and membership renewal.

- The monthly newsletter has been completely reformatted, based on feedback from the branch survey.
- Timely reminders of events are sent via e-mail and reinforced by phone and email contact from buddies.

Governance Goal: To attract, develop and retain diverse leaders to facilitate the goals of our Affiliate.

- Branch bylaws and policies have been amended to clarify roles and responsibilities and more recently, to reflect our new status as a 501(c)(3).
- Committees for programs, membership, leadership development, public policy and communications meet routinely to implement the new Strategic Plan which outlines Branch goals and the means to realize them.
- Monthly Board meetings are held August through June.
- Six members attended the Fall Leadership Conference.
- Board members hosted an evening meeting to acquaint members with programs, committees, developing activities and opportunities for involvement and service.

Finance Goal: To establish and maintain strategies that provide expanded understanding of Affiliate finances; to support local community programs and the level of philanthropy desired by our members.

- The Branch awarded three scholarships totaling \$3,930 and \$3,250 in Community Action Grants.
- We received a \$500 Eugenia McClure Grant, to be used for Start Smart.
- The Branch received the nonprofit 501(c)(3) designation.
- A summary of the Finance Officer's report is published in the newsletter.

Nan Andersson, President 2018