

LONGMONT BRANCH ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24

Branch:	Longmont		
Co-Presidents:	Linda Davies and Cheryl Spraetz	Date:	6-2-24
Administrator:	Kathy Hall		
<p>AAUW Longmont’s overall theme for 2023-24 was <i>Boundless Learning, Endless Growth</i>. Branch leadership focused on the areas identified in our updated 2024-26 Strategic Plan. Overall, the Branch’s goals are in alignment with the latest national strategic plan and consistent with our members’ interests. Our current strategic plan can be found at the end of this report.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Education & Training</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Addressing the barriers and implicit biases that hinder advancement of women.</i></p>			
Goals:	<p><i>What goals did your branch set this year that are in alignment with this macro area of National’s Strategic Plan? Please prioritize your list and indicate after each goal what the current status is (i.e. completed, % completed, estimated completion date, etc.).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Strategic Plan 2.0 Goals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Champion equal access in education, emphasizing STEM - Ensure education at very level is free from sexual discrimination 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See our Strategic Plan - attached 			
Programs:	<p><i>Did you identify and/or hold any programs/activities/events that were in alignment with this macro area of National’s Strategic Plan? If yes, please give a brief description of each and the date in which it was held/conducted.</i></p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education Committee - continued to focus on expanding our connection with the local Front Range Community College (FRCC) campus. Have provided food and personal items for their student Pantry three times this year - August, November, and early spring. The committee is interested in being able to secure opportunities for members to tutor and mentor FRCC students, but it has proved difficult due to the college’s requirements. (Ongoing) • Exploring Racism and Anti-Racism Study Group – met monthly and expanded their study focus to Indigenous Peoples and our Hispanic population this year. (Ongoing) • All Branch Read Program – with author Erika Krouse to discuss her book <i>Tell Me Everything</i> which focuses on the intriguing story of a landmark Title IX sexual assault investigation involving the University of Colorado and the female private investigator (Erika) who helped crack it open. 			

- **Early Childhood Education** – Branch members provide ongoing support for this community alliance which is moving toward putting an initiative on the ballot in November 2025.
- **Holiday Open House** – in addition to our fundraising for the Greatest Needs Fund, over 120 children’s books were collected and donated to the TLC Learning Center to support early childhood reading.
- **Joint Meeting with Delta Kappa Gamma** – hosted a highly informative discussion on Artificial Intelligence with panelists from the media, education, and law enforcement.
- **Housing in Longmont** – Community panel focusing on the “great” local debate on housing density and location.
- **\$3,600 in Scholarships Awarded** – to support college women (June 2024)
 - ~ \$2,600 – **Mohika Nagpal** – 2nd year medical student at University of Michigan Medical School
 - ~ \$1,000 – **Lucy Rothe** – Undergraduate at University of Alabama in Political Science with plans to attend law school
- Routinely posted information on our Facebook page supporting this national strategic area.

Economic Security

Ensuring livelihoods for women.

Goals:	<p><i>What goals did your branch set this year that are in alignment with this macro area of National’s Strategic Plan? Please prioritize your list and indicate after each goal what the current status is (i.e. completed, % completed, estimated completion date, etc.).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Strategic Plan 2.0 Goals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shrink Gender Pay Gap - Bolster inclusive career pathways for women
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- See our Strategic Plan - attached

Programs:	<p><i>Did you identify and/or hold any programs/activities/events that were in alignment with this macro area of National’s Strategic Plan? If yes, please give a brief description of each and the date in which it was held/conducted.</i></p>
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- **\$3,600 in Community Action Grants** awarded to community projects that support advancement for women and girls (June 2023)
 - ~ \$1,300 to **Brújula Comunitaria** to support a financial workshop for Latino women
 - ~ \$1,300 to **PEARLS Promise** to help single mother become self-sufficient
 - ~ \$1,000 to **Open Door** to support academic ESL (English as a Second Language classes)
- Routinely posted information on our Facebook page supporting this national strategic area.
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Leadership

Closing the gender gap in leadership opportunities.

Goals:	<p><i>What goals did your branch set this year that are in alignment with this macro area of National's Strategic Plan? Please prioritize your list and indicate after each goal what the current status is (i.e. completed, % completed, estimated completion date, etc.).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Strategic Plan 2.0 Goals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expand number of women in leadership, particularly in STEM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See our Strategic Plan - attached 	
Programs:	<p><i>Did you identify and/or hold any programs/activities/events that were in alignment with this macro area of National's Strategic Plan? If yes, please give a brief description of each and the date in which it was held/conducted.</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interaction with City Officials – For numerous months members represented our branch at the <i>Coffee with the Council</i> discussion group to weigh-in on local issues. Worked with the City of Longmont officials to improve the hearing assistance provided to members of the public. • Co-President Linda Davies and Public Policy Chair Darcy Juday took state leadership roles, as State Treasurer and Public Policy member, respectively. • Collaborated closely with other community organizations such as the Women's Coalition of Boulder County and the League of Women Voters on projects of community importance. 	
<p><u>Governance & Sustainability</u> <i>Ensuring the strength, relevance, and viability of AAUW well into the future.</i></p>	
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See our Strategic Plan - attached 	
Programs:	<p><i>Did you identify and/or hold any programs/activities/events that were in alignment with this macro area of National's Strategic Plan? If yes, please give a brief description of each and the date in which it was held/conducted.</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated the Branch's 3-year Strategic Plan as our guide into the future. • Updated the Branch's Bylaws and Policies to reflect the changes from the national organization and local operating practices. • Developed a summary of the history and intent of the Funds, Local Scholarship and Community Action Grants, held at the Longmont Community Foundation. • Continued with our Gold Transparency rating from the GuideStar Nonprofit oversight group. 	

- Received a **3-star designation** from National for our ongoing efforts.
- Continued our **Membership Committee** focus on successfully growing our membership and branch involvement. Were able to recruit several members from the Boulder Branch after it ceased operation.
- In addition to providing a monthly newsletter which encourages members to become more involved, a special edition **“Pay It Forward”** highlighting ways to get involved in our Branch committees and make a difference.
- As a result of popular demand, continued the twice-a-month frequency of our **Coffee and Conversation** members get-togethers.
- For a third year, **offered enhanced fundraising opportunities**, such as the International Dinner “raffle” to support our local programming and our FRCC Pantry project.
- Donated \$1,759 to the **Greatest Needs Fund** in 2023.
- Other Branch fundraising and giving (as of May 2024) – donated \$4,500 to the AAUW Longmont Local Scholarship Fund at the Longmont Community Foundation; and raised \$775 from grocery programs, \$850 from the food auction, and another \$1,947 from member donations (both in-kind and in cash). These funds support our programs and special projects such as the FRCC Food Pantry, allow assistance for renewal fees, and supplement the Shape the Future program.