



OUR MISSION MATTERS--WE ARE MAKING AN IMPACT!

The impact of the AAUW-Ann Arbor Branch, Inc. in 2016-2017 is explained in the answers to seven questions below.

1. Did you support sending candidates to the National Conference of College Women Student Leaders? (Indicate what your support entailed.)

Since 2009, AAUW-Ann Arbor has supported 74 women to attend the National Conference of College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) in College Park, MD. In 2017, we will support five more college women from two of our three partner institutions: Eastern Michigan University (4) and the University of Michigan (1). We pay for UM Dearborn charter bus transportation and, as needed, partial or full registration scholarships. Our annual NCCWSL support of \$2,000-\$3,000 comes from our dues, directory advertisements and individual member donations when needed. We expect this year's May 31- June 2, 2017 Leadership Conference to be fun, exciting, and inspiring, and a transformational training experience for our future women leaders.

2. Did your branch implement or continue a mission-based program or project or a philanthropic effort, such as a book sale? (Include up to a 150 word description of each event.)

A. For 15 years, we supported **Brains Rule!** with an annual \$500 grant and by serving as guides for the 400 children attending from area middle schools. This "reverse science fair" is designed and run by graduate students in the University of Michigan's Neuroscience Graduate Program. The kids participate in fun and educational hands-on experiments designed to teach them about their brains. Held on March 15 on the U-M campus in 2017, it conflicted with our March branch program, and we declined to serve as guides for the first time.

B. We added a STEM initiative in 2017: The **Digital Divas program** of Eastern Michigan University's College of Technology. Our Mah-jongg Tournament earned the needed \$2,000 to allow us to become a full sponsor of three events: **(1) Digital Divas Day for 500 high school girls** in April 2017 and **(2) for 300 middle school girls** in November 2017 as well as a new **(3) a week-long Digital Divas Camp for girls** in August 2017. The program is free. Girls choose among 22 breakout sessions where they practice the latest technology in encoding computer software related to architecture, drones, fashion, music and microphones, wind energy, etc. Breakfast, lunch and an inspirational keynote speaker are included. Five of our branch members attended the April High School Digital Day at EMU and felt it was a highly effective STEM program worthy of our support.

C. A branch philanthropic effort is **our annual AAUW-AA Used Book Sale** which we have run successfully for 64 years. We like to say that *our members transform used books into college scholarships!* Members clean, organize and box the generous donations for weeks, readying them for the three-day September sale, organized and run by our members. Proceeds from the book sale endow AAUW national and international fellowships for women and fund local scholarships and endowments at all three of our C/U partners: Eastern Michigan University, University of Michigan and Washtenaw Community College. We work closely with **Recycle Ann Arbor** and also collect at least 20 boxes of puzzles, games, VHS tapes, and other novelties, annually, to provide a good start to our biennial **AAUW Garage Sale** which supports AAUW National Convention member attendance.

3. Did you invite a speaker from the AAUW of Michigan state board to present to local branch members? (Briefly explain.)

We invited two speakers from the AAUW of Michigan state board and one from the board's Student Advisory Council to speak at our Winter Luncheon on December 12, 2016. **Amy Everhart**, the new College/University Director described her activities and the *Start Smart* and *Work Smart* salary negotiation workshops. **Janet Watkins**, Program Vice President, described the upcoming State Convention on June 2 and 3. Student Advisory Council member **McKenzie Campbell** (one of our former NCCWSL awardees!) described her activities and plans for work with the Student Advisory Council and cooperation with EMU and UM campuses.

4. Did you network with another community organization that supports the mission of equity for women? (Include up to a 150 word description of this event.)

We networked with the following organizations in 2016 and 2017 that support the mission of equity for women. (1) In November 2016, **the League of Women Voters of the Ann Arbor Area** attended a branch meeting discussing the outcome of the November election; AAUW members had earlier been invited to a League meeting on election reform. (2) In January the **Michigan Organization on Adolescent Sexual Health** partnered with our branch, U-M and several other Michigan organizations to win a 2-year AAUW Community Action Grant beginning July 2017. (3) On January 21, 2017 **The Women's March on Washington** inspired 59 Ann Arbor members to march for women's rights in Washington, D.C., Chicago, Lansing, Brighton, Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor, Michigan. (4) In March we met with **The Women's Center of Southeastern Michigan** to explore a wider network for publicizing our events and for sharing and supporting the Center's resources and contacts to further our common woman-focused missions.

5. Did you participate in an activity to support Equal Pay Day in 2016 or 2017? (Briefly explain.)

In April 2016, fifteen dozen cookies (with a bite out of each) were baked and delivered by our members to fifteen destinations with a brief explanation of "Equal Pay Day" including: Ann Arbor City Hall, *The Ann Arbor News*, *Ann Arbor Observer*, and The Women's Center of Southeastern Michigan as well as units in our partner C/Us: EMU, UM, and WCC. Kathy Stroud, Public Policy Co-chair, attended Equal Pay Day activities in Lansing in 2016 and 2017.

6. Did you engage in a philanthropic activity that supported outreach to the community? (Briefly explain.)

The AAUW-Ann Arbor branch encourages our 33 Interest Groups to carry out “Service Projects” (philanthropic activities) which involved outreach to nine community organizations as follows:

1. **Children’s Literacy Network:** *Classic Books* and *History Book Discussion* gave new books.
2. **Food Gatherers of Ann Arbor:** *Genealogy* and *Healthy Appetites* delivered non-perishables.
3. **House by the Side of the Road:** *Travelogue Interest Group* donated toiletries in Jan & May.
4. **Jewish Family Services:** *Eclectic Gourmands* donated items for refugees in Ann Arbor area.
5. **Little Dresses for Africa:** *Healthy Appetites+Eclectic Gourmands* donated material & dresses.
6. **Northside Community Center:** *Travelogue* donated toiletries in January and in May.
7. **Safe House:** *Scrabble Afternoon* provided new Scrabble sets and Scrabble dictionaries.
8. **St. Joseph Breast Imaging Center:** *Creative Arts* knit prostheses for breast cancer survivors.
9. **Veteran’s Hospital:**
 - (a) *Bibliomaniacs* collected+delivered 400 new 2017 calendars.
 - (b) *International Dining Out* prepared and delivered 48 snack kits.

7. Did your branch contribute to AAUW funds: Educational Foundation, Legal Advocacy, or the Leadership and Training Institute.? (Briefly explain.)

AAUW Funds: Ann Arbor AAUW is currently working to endow the AAUW Ann Arbor Branch International II Fellowship Fund. Substantially supported by Ann Arbor’s Annual Used Book Sale, the completion of this fund in 2025 will be the fifth AAUW Fund supported by the Ann Arbor Branch. Ann Arbor’s Past Presidents also supported this fund with their individual donations at their annual fall luncheon gathering and each December and May, members generously support this fund **as well as LAF** at special branch winter and spring luncheon meetings. In addition, Book Sale funds annually support AAUW’s **Eleanor Roosevelt Fund.**