



Advancing Gender Equality Through UN Mechanisms: UNSCR 1325, CSW & CEDAW — The Role of Zonta in Local Implementation

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SESSION OBJECTIVES

1

Understand three key UN gender mechanisms: UNSCR 1325, CSW, and CEDAW

2

Explore the Cities for CEDAW initiative in the U.S.

3

Highlight the impact of Zonta members

4

Identify ways Zontians can further engage at local, national, and international levels

OVERVIEW OF UN GENDER EQUALITY MECHANISMS

**Definition of
international
gender
equality
mechanisms**

**The role of the
UN in setting
global norms
and standards**

**How global
policies
influence local
and national
actions**

UNSCR 1325 ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

- Adopted in 2000 – First resolution on Women, Peace and Security
- Calls for women's participation in peace processes
- Four Pillars: Participation, Protection, Prevention, Relief & Recovery
- Emphasizes international law and annual reviews
- U.S. progress and implementation
- Zonta relevance: Promoting women's leadership in peacebuilding

WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY:
FAST FACTS

What is UNSCR 1325?

This landmark resolution reaffirms the **important role of women** in:

prevention and resolution
of conflicts

peace negotiations

peacebuilding

peacekeeping

humanitarian response

post-conflict reconstruction



THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (CSW)

- Functional ECOSOC commission
- Annual sessions at UNHQ, New York (CSW70 March 9 – 20, 2026 tent.)
- Mandate: Global policy dialogue, Agreed Conclusions
- CSW Revitalization
- Tied to BPfA and Monitors SDG 5 progress
- Zonta involvement: UN Committee, parallel events
- Member opportunities: Attend, submit statements, support youth

CEDAW

THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

NOT RATIFIED BY THE USA!

1

**Adopted 1979 by UN
General Assembly**

2

**Principles: Legal
equality, non-
discrimination, state
responsibility**

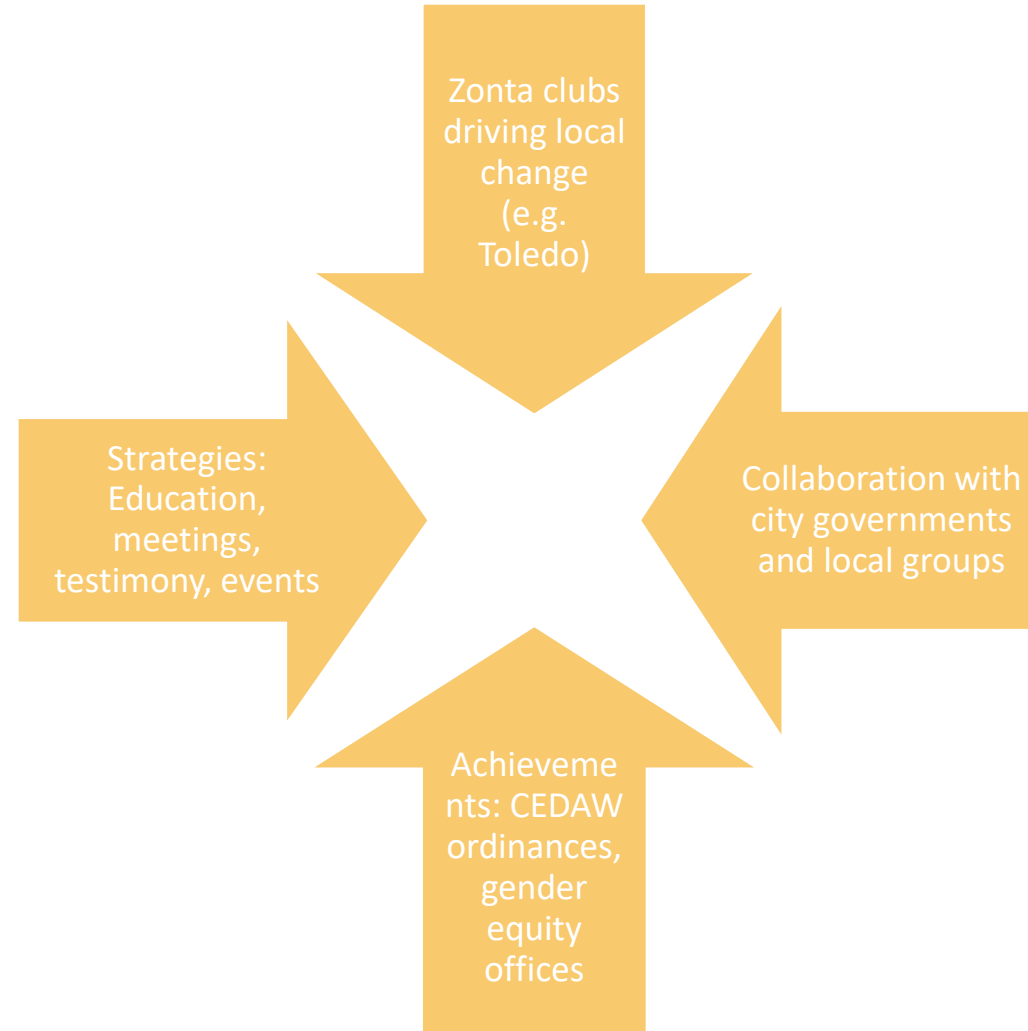
3

**Cities for CEDAW:
Localizing CEDAW in
the U.S.**

4

**Key elements:
Gender analysis,
budgeting,
accountability**

ZONTA'S IMPACT THROUGH CITIES FOR CEDAW



EXAMPLE: TOLEDO, OHIO

Toledo CEDAW Cities Milestones, 2017-2022



2017

June 2-5, 2017 - Linnie Willis (Zonta Toledo Club 1) and Dr. Ardenia Jones Terry (Zonta Toledo Club 1) attended the North America Interdistrict Conference in Washington DC at Tysons Corner.

June 3, 2017 - Dr. Lee Fogarty (Pittsburgh Zonta and Pittsburgh CEDAW Cities) presented a workshop on the UN Cities for CEDAW. Linnie and Ardenia both attended the breakout workshop.

Questions following the CEDAW Workshop:

- Is it possible for the City of Toledo to become a City for CEDAW?
- Can we do this?

Answers:

- Maybe?
- Not sure?
- Let's try....

June 7, 2017 - Ardenia Jones Terry sent letters to members regarding the possibilities of working on Cities for CEDAW (C4C).

June 21, 2017 - The June 2017 Zonta Newsletter was dedicated to information on C4C.

August 2, 2017 - Approach Tricia Fugee (Zonta Toledo Club 1) Advocacy Chair about working on the Cities for CEDAW Project

August 23, 2017 - Advocacy Committee Meeting were for the first time CEDAW officially became a goal of Zonta Toledo Club 1's. It was listed under Zonta International's Goal 1: End all forms of discrimination against women (See exhibit A).

September 19, 2017 - Cities for CEDAW was listed in the Zonta Goals as an Advocacy Committee project. It was a go from this point on...a green light.

October 15, 2017 - The US Conference of Mayors adopted a statement on Gender Equity related to CEDAW. The Toledo Mayor Paula Hicks Hudson signed the statement.

October 17, 2017 - First direct contact with Pittsburgh for CEDAW and Zonta Club of Pittsburgh requesting information was made by Adrienne Green (Zonta Toledo Club 1).

Ardenia Jones Terry contacted and talked with Joan Amupama the

Executive Director Pittsburgh Gender Equity Commission and obtained contact information for Dr. Lee Fogarty. An email was sent to Dr. Fogarty.

October 22, 2017 - Ardenia Jones Terry spoke with Lee Fogarty (Pittsburgh Zonta and Gender Equity Commission) and discussed the CEDAW Cities Project. Lee was excited.

Discussed Cincinnati CEDAW Cities with Diane Reamer-Evans, new Chair of Zonta Advocacy Committee. There was also a discussion at that time about the involvement of Cincinnati Zonta Club

October 23, 2017 - Ardenia Jones Terry discussed program/meeting dates with Sue Dybowski (President Zonta Toledo Club 1) who indicated February, March or April would be dates for the Cities for CEDAW Project public meeting. Eventually, Sue Dybowski offered April 4, 2018, the Zonta's Business Meeting for the Toledo Cities for CEDAW Public Meeting.

October 24, 2017 - Ardenia Jones Terry sent a letter to the Advocacy Committee members concerning Dr. Lee Fogarty's visit. (See exhibit B)

October 25, 2017 - Sue Rosenberg (Zonta Toledo Club 1) reserved the meeting space at the Toledo Club for the April 2018 public Cities for CEDAW meeting.

Invitations- who were we going to invite?

A lengthy discussion was had concerning which organizations and individuals should be invited to the April meeting. Diane Teamer-Evans took the lead on compiling the list and contacting members and women's organizations for names.

November 14, 2017 - Adrienne Green at a meeting at the Eberly Center presented the CEDAW Draft Document (See exhibit C)

November 28, 2017 - Lee Fogarty sent the Advocacy Committee via Ardenia Jones Terry Pittsburgh 4 CEDAW information encouraging us to review the ordinance and the Mayors Guide, "Accelerating Gender Equality, Strengthening Women and Girl's," (May 2016)

Toledo CEDAW Cities Milestones, 2017-2022

2017

2018



February 19, 2018 - Lee Fogarty connects Toledo Cities for CEDAW to the UN Representative, June Zeitlin.

February 20, 2018 - Ardenia Jones Terry received correspondence from June Zeitlin for participation in UN Cities for CEDAW Strategy Meeting.

February 27, 2018 - Ardenia Jones Terry arranged a Conference call for all Advocacy Committee members

March 1, 2018 - Conference Call was held with Dr. Lee Fogarty

March 2, 2018 - Examined the Pittsburg C4C Trifold Brochure (See exhibit D)

March 4 & 5, 2018 - Ardenia Jones Terry worked with graphic designer to produce the Toledo Cities for CEDAW flyer (See exhibit E).

March 5, 2018 - Asked to change the CEDAW Flyer Language to make it more palatable...from
- Join us in making Toledo a CEDAW City to Join us in exploring Toledo as a CEDAW City
- entities to support Toledo for CEDAW to entities to explore Toledo for CEDAW

March 7, 2018 - Public Announcement of Cities for CEDAW Meeting was

released (See exhibit F).

March 18, 2018 - Zonta of Toledo Club 1's Advocacy Committee met to discuss Cities for CEDAW and the upcoming public meeting.

March 27, 2018 - First notice to Toledo citizens-Diane Reams Evans released a press release on Cities for CEDAW. (See exhibit G)

Agenda for Toledo Cities for CEDAW was published (See exhibit H)

March 28, 2018 - Received Dr. Lee Fogarty's handout for the meeting. (See exhibit I)

April 4, 2018 - A Public Meeting on Toledo Cities for CEDAW was held at the Toledo Club with 125-150 individuals in attendance. Dr. Lee Fogarty was the keynote speaker. City Council members in attendance were Larry Sykes, Yvonne Harper and Sandy Spann.

May 18, 2018 - First Toledo for CEDAW Steering Committee Meeting was held at the Spaghetti Warehouse.

June 1, 2018 - Received speech from Lee Fogarty on Rochester Cities for CEDAW, Leslie Wright, Zonta UN Chair (See exhibit J)

June 27, 2018 - The Toledo for CEDAW Steering Committee received an invitation to attend CEDAW Training and Exchange in New York, NY from the Center for Women's Global Leadership, NGO CSW/NY and WEDO facilitated by UN Women (Soon-Young Yoon)

July 31, 2018 - The Toledo for CEDAW Steering Committee had City Council Members Nick Komives and Yvonne Harper as guest speakers. They came to tell the committee what they were working on that may relate to CEDAW.

Steering Committee members were assigned CEDAW Cities to research. They were Santa Clara CA, San Francisco CA, Honolulu HI, Los Angeles CA, Miami- Dade FL, Pittsburgh PA, San Jose CA, Santa Clara CA, Washington DC, Cincinnati OH, Berkeley CA and Long Beach CA.

August 1, 2018 - Diane Reamer-Evans sent local attorneys a question concerning the "Toledo" community-wide application of an CEDAW Ordinance

August 14, 2018 - Ardenia Jones Terry received email from Lee Fogarty concerning informational request on funding CEDAW from the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, Toledo Office, Joycelyn Groll and Inder Levesque

August 16, 2018 - First local Article on Toledo for CEDAW appeared in the Women of Toledo's, Women In The Glass City Newsletter

August 19, 2018 - The Toledo for CEDAW Steering Committee meeting dates were established from September through December at either 4pm or 12 noon

August 19, 2018 - The Toledo for CEDAW Steering Committee selected areas to research. The research areas for the City of Toledo were: Violence Against Women; Equal Pay and Economic Opportunity; Disadvantage Women(Poverty, Immigrants, Disabilities, Single Mothers); African American Women, Latinas, & Indigenous People; City Government & Political Representation (Employment Policies, City allocation of resources, Women in leadership positions) and Intersectionality.

September 13, 2018 - Violence Against Women & Safe Horizons presentation to the Toledo for CEDAW Steering Committee

October 8, 2018 - Sharon Barnes from University of Toledo's Women and Gender Studies Department discussed the possibility of a CEDAW Internship

Toledo CEDAW Cities Milestones, 2017-2022



2017

2018

October 12, 2018 - Diane Reamer-Evans drafted and mailed an Action Plan for CEDAW which included: 1) Engage the public, 2) Engage and develop city governments, 3) Identify planks that are to be addressed by CEDAW, 4) Prepare ordinance, 5) Develop support for ordinance, and 6) Publicity

October 31, 2018 - November 10 - Numerous discussions were held and Nicole Lynn Cooke was interviewed for the CEDAW Internships.

December 13, 2018 - The CEDAW Social Media Intern, Nicole Lynn Cooke was selected for January 14, 2019-May 3, 2019.

December 16, 2018 - Sister Mary Jo Toll presented a PowerPoint on Women Immigrants and Migrants.

FOR DISCUSSION

How can your club engage with Cities for CEDAW?

What local issues are addressable by Cities for CEDAW?

Let's talk about you, your Zonta Club and CSW engagement

Let's talk about you, your Zonta Club and UNSCR 1325 engagement

Call to Action

- Call to Action:
 - Advocate for U.S. ratification of CEDAW
 - Support local implementation
 - Attend CSW, and promote UNSCR 1325 awareness
 - Partner locally and celebrate peace in October

Resources

- [Cities for CEDAW Toolkit](#)
- [Cities for CEDAW Campaign](#)
- [Infographic: Human Rights for Women](#)
- [CSW Participation Guide](#)
- [Cities for CEDAW - Resources](#)
- [NGOCSW Advocacy Toolkit](#)



UN Security Council Resolution 1325

Women, Peace, and Security

What is UN SCR 1325?



UN Security Council Resolution 1925 is a groundbreaking international agreement that recognizes the unique impact of conflict on women and girls, and the critical role women play in building peace and security.

It is first time the UN Security Council formally addressed the role of women in conflict and peace processes.

Key Goals of UNSCR 1325



Participation

Increase women's participation at all levels of decision-making in peace and security



Protection

Protect women and girls from gender-based violence, including sexual violence in conflict



Prevention

Ensure the needs of women and girls are addressed in relief, repatriation, resettlement, and post-conflict recovery

Why It Matters



Conflict affects women differently – they are more likely to be victims of sexual violence

Peace is more sustainable when women are included

Real-World Impact



Since 2000, National Action Plans (NAPs) in over 100 countries

Greater awareness of sexual violence as a weapon of war

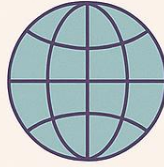
More women involved in peacekeeping and mediation

What You Can Do

- Advocate for women's participation in local peace and security



Hold governments accountable for implementing UNSC 35



WHAT IS UN CSW?

A global policy-making body dedicated to promoting gender equality and women's rights, bringing about change in international norms.



KEY FUNCTIONS

Setting global standards, monitoring progress, and advocating for women's empowerment, while representing the voices of diverse communities



ANNUAL SESSIONS

Held at UN Headquarters in New York, where member states, NGOs, and civil society gather to evaluate progress and set future goals



ACHIEVEMENTS

Advancing international norms on gender equality, influencing policy and engaging global stakeholders



HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

Attending sessions, joining advocacy groups, following online campaigns

UN CEDAW



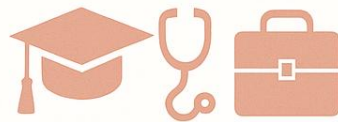
What is CEDAW?

The UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination+ Against Women is a key international treaty promoting women's rights and equality



Key Principles

CEDAW is based on principles of non-discrimination, equality, and state obligations to ensure women's rights



Main Goals

Eliminating discrimination in areas such as education, healthcare, employment and more



Impact

Ratified by most UN member states, CEDAW has influenced national laws and policies benefiting



How You Can Help

Advocate for women's rights, educate others, and support campaigns promoting gender equality

Cities for CEDAW Fact Sheet

What is Cities for CEDAW?

A nationwide campaign in advance of implementing the principles of the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women at the local level.

Core Principles:

- **Gender Analysis** of city programs and policies
- **Gender-Responsive Budgeting** to equitably allocate city resources
- **Oversight and Accountability** through designated agencies or task forces

Why It Matters:

- 1 Conduct a local gender equity assessment
- 2 Engage elected officials and community leaders
- 3 Draft and pass a CEDAW-based ordinance
- 4 Establish systems for monitoring and accountability

Zonta's Role:

- Educate and mobilize the community
- Build coalitions with women's organizations
- Advocate with local officials

Success Stories:

- Toledo, OH passed a 10-resolution with Zonta leadership
- San Francisco, a global model of local CEDAW implementation



THANK YOU!

