



ZONTA

CLUB OF
QUABOAG VALLEY

Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley
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Zonta Club Awards Service Grants to Local Nonprofits

Western MA - Grants ranging from \$100 to \$2000 are awarded biannually, in May (4/1 deadline) and November (10/1 deadline) by the Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley, as part of Zonta's mission to make a better world for women and girls.

Service Committee Chairs Dr. Mary Ann Rubis of Chicopee and Liz Reeves of Ludlow are proud to announce that the Spring 2025 Service Grants have been awarded to four organizations:



Girls on the Run Western Massachusetts

Celebrating its 10th anniversary this spring, Girls on the Run is the only national out-of-school-time program of its kind, underscoring the important connection between physical and emotional health and empowering adolescent girls to build healthy physical and mental habits that last a lifetime. Program Manager Coleen Ryan shared how Zonta's gift will help support youth who could not otherwise afford to participate. Zontians and supporters are encouraged to volunteer for GOTR. There is something for any time



commitment available.



Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force

This community-driven, community-led task force covers Ware, Warren, and Hardwick. Its is to prevent and respond to domestic violence through community-led projects. Deb Shepard from BHN spoke about how Zonta's gift will help support the Library Book Project on Consent and Boundaries for ages 0-8.



goal

The book list for the project is published at: www.zontaqv.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/WRV-Consent-0-8yrs.pdf



YWCA of Western Massachusetts

With a mission to eliminate racism, empower women, and promote peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all, the YWCA serves women and children who are survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, and homelessness. CEO Liz Dineen, JD, and Communications Director Tiera Wright shared that the grant from Zonta would boost their efforts to educate families in the Y's shelter about eating locally-sourced, fresh fruits and vegetables—and to show that it's not just healthier, but more affordable too.





Girls Inc. of the Valley

A positive youth development organization serving Hampden County girls and young women ages 5-18, Girls Inc. provides hands-on programs that focus on long-term academic/literacy support and enrichment, social emotional skill-building, college and career readiness, and leadership training to empower youth and prepare them for successful futures. Executive Director Suzanne Parker and Lakisha Coppedge, Director of Licensed School Age Program, shared how Zonta's gift will underscore the girls' connection to the organization, increase their safety, and increase the visibility of the organization in the community.



The Zonta Club of Quaboag Valley partners with nonprofits serving women and youth from Sturbridge to Westfield and has contributed over \$150 thousand in cash and in-kind donations in the area since its inception in 1991. The club raises funds for Service Grants by sponsoring an annual Golf Tournament in September, selling Poinsettia plants in November and doing a calendar drive in the spring. **The next round of Service Grants will be announced in November. Grant applications are available at www.zontaqv.org/service-grant or by emailing info@zontaqv.org.**

Zonta International and club members work at the international, national and local levels to realize our vision of a world in which women's rights are recognized as human rights and every woman is able to achieve her full potential, where women have access to all resources and are represented in decision-making positions on an equal basis with men, and where no woman lives in fear of violence. Do you want to make the world a better place by working toward gender equity? Contact info@zontaqv.org to learn how.