



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Friend,

"What can one woman do? A lot!"

This was the text I received on my cell from our young vice president, Mrs. Katarina Connery, as an answer to my question as to whether she was presently attending a session at the CSW events, I took this sentence as her response to my question, and I thought to myself, "Yes, go, Katarina! You can do it!" Only to find out later that this was actually the title of a session she was attending at that moment. Well, we got a good laugh out of that!

Most recently, on a (business) trip to Las Vegas, I sat next to a young lady on the airplane, a college student majoring in international relations. We immediately struck up a conversation about what each other was doing, and before I knew it, she was talking about her plans to make a difference in the lives of women, getting involved with the UN, or whatever it would take. I was quite impressed. And she is but one of many other women, young and older, I have come across recently in various places and gatherings who feel an inner stirring or calling to DO SOMETHING in addition to what they are already doing.

In case you yourself have such a stirring in your heart, please act on it! Don't let it pass! Given the many issues and challenges we are facing locally and globally, including natural disasters such as the recent earthquakes in Japan and Ecuador, there is plenty to do, and there are not enough "workers in the field" or leaders.

Please know that you are already a leader just by being a woman -- and even more so if you're a mother, young or older. Through your own good example of service, love, kindness, and compassion, or through your expertise and passion in any given field, you can make a difference. Just like the WFWP women whose articles you will read below.

You too are a woman leader, and you are needed at this time more than ever. And remember what the answer is to the question, "What can one woman do?"

A LOT!

With love,
Angelika

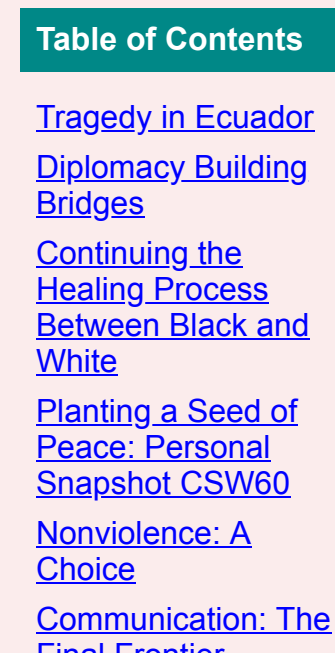


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TRAGEDY IN ECUADOR

Just days after the initial 7.8 magnitude earthquake on Saturday April 16th, Ecuador was hit with another devastating 6.2 magnitude earthquake this morning, April 20th, 2016. The initial earthquake has already taken a total of 525 lives, left more than 4,600 injured, and destroyed about 1,500 homes and buildings.

In addition, the 7.8 magnitude earthquake has inflicted between \$2 and \$3 billion of damage to an already fragile economy, and the 6.2 magnitude earthquake is sure to deepen the situation.

These events have left a staggering 23,500 people without homes, and sleeping in shelters. Survivors in smaller communities continue to struggle to acquire water, power, and transportation.

In order to show our love, concern, and support for the victims and families in Ecuador at this time, we invite you to join us in solidarity and action. WFWP USA has created a fundraiser specific to the victims in Ecuador, providing access to those who would like to donate and spread awareness.

Source: Reuters, 4/20/16

[DONATE HERE!](#)

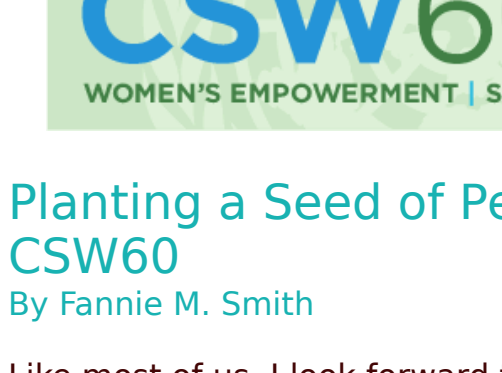


FEATURE

Diplomacy Building Bridges

By Ms. Kiyomi Schmidt

During a panel on diplomacy (the skill of managing international relations) at the WFWPI Young Women Leader's Retreat that occurred from March 18 to 20, this year, International Educator and Training Specialist, Mamie J. Thompson, presented on building bridges towards peaceful coexistence. Below is a summarized account of her presentation, for your thought, awareness, and deliberation.



Ms. Thompson began her presentation by highlighting the point that every country and culture places limitations on how they view others and the world. And while people continue to prove that they are susceptible to change, through technology for example, adapting to cultural differences has proven to be problematic.

In order to move towards peaceful coexistence, Ms. Thompson brought up two connected areas that need to be worked on: education and awareness. She emphasized the need to educate our leaders, children, families, and communities to recognize the culture-based issues. These are needed to invoke a desire for change, and to bring possible solutions to light. She added that women are an important part of this process.

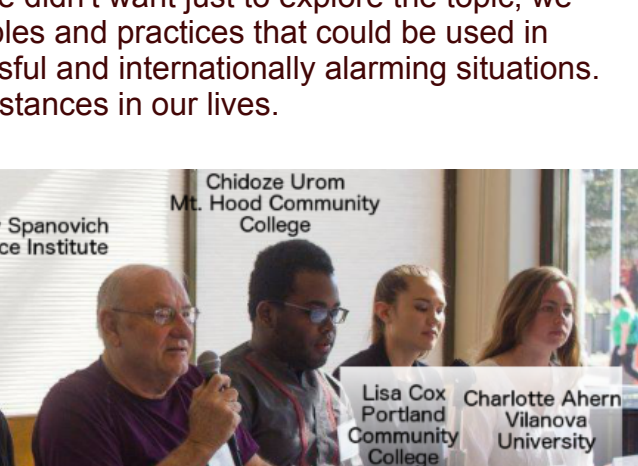
[Continue reading on our website!](#)

NEVADA -- Las Vegas

Continuing the Healing Process Between Black and White

By Mrs. Mary Hida and Mrs. Sera Hirano

Two years ago, in the city of Las Vegas, Nevada, March 26th was proclaimed, "Moulin Rouge Agreement Day," by Mayor Carolyn Goodman of Las Vegas. The original agreement, signed on March 26, 1960, was the first agreement to allow African American entertainers or guests to stay in or be served in the casinos. Prior to this agreement in 1960, African Americans could neither be guests nor work in the casinos.



Today, with the pressing issues of division and ill-feeling between races becoming of greater national concern, Ms. Katherine Duncan, on behalf of the Ward 5 Chamber of Commerce and Harrison House, wanted to see a program to once again affirm this agreement, putting it in the context of reconciliation and healing. To commemorate that event, she requested the participation of the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) and Women's Federation for World Peace to hold a panel discussion, culminating in a Bridge of Peace Ceremony on that date this year. [Continue reading on our website!](#)

CSW60



Planting a Seed of Peace: Personal Snapshot of CSW60

By Fannie M. Smith



Like most of us, I look forward to the new spring season with all the beauty and freshness that comes with it. Likewise, I was also inspired by the anticipation of spending a few days in New York City at the United Nations for the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW60). This year's conference with the theme "Women Empowered to Implement the Sustainable Development Goals" held from March 14 to the 24, was in no way a disappointment.

I arrived in New York as a representative for WFWP USA, the Midwest Region. New York City was on fire with the energy created by the thousands of women from around the world intent on visiting this women's Mecca. While making arrangements for this exciting trip, I was in awe of the special accommodations for "CSW" travelers: hotels & restaurants, tours, and the like that "pop-up" as I maneuvered to finalize my plans. This is a huge indication of just how influential women have become and have evolved over the years toward the world's economy and other benefits. [Continue reading on our website!](#)

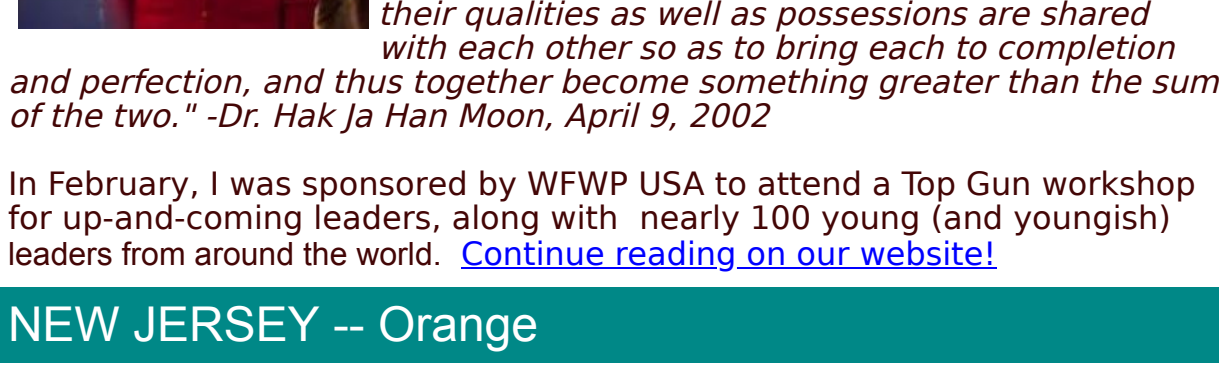
OREGON

Nonviolence: A Choice

By Ms. Christine Edwards

Yes, nonviolence is a choice. Violence exists in the world, but how do we respond to it? Can we overcome it? Is it taught, or is it an innate characteristic of certain individuals? These were some of the questions explored during the April 6th conference on Peace in Oregon.

But as we planned for the conference, we didn't want just to explore the topic; we wanted to present some concrete stressful and practices that could be used in everyday life to address personally stressful and irritating alarming situations. We realized there are many such circumstances in our lives.



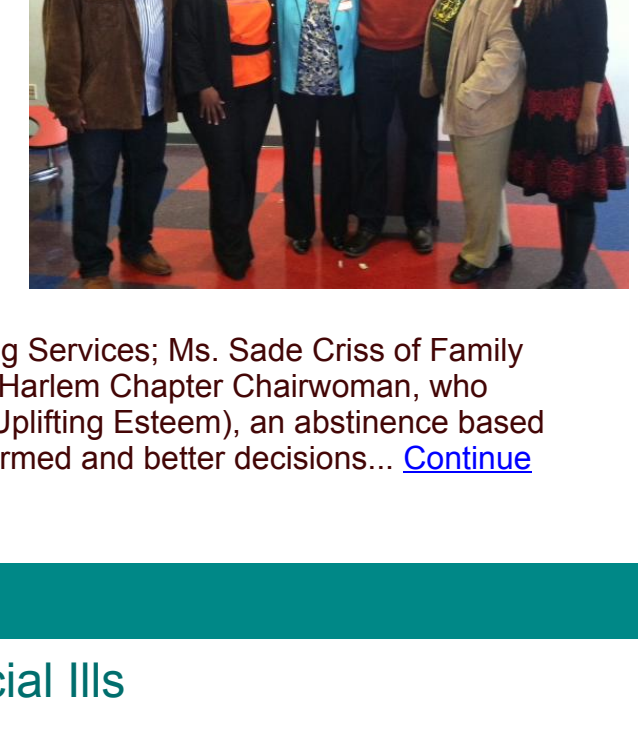
[Continue reading on our website!](#)

INSIGHT

Communication: The Final Frontier

By Caryn Olsson

What is Communication? How do we let someone know our needs and wants? With whom should we be focusing to communicate? We often do take our ability to talk for granted. Why do we have a voice anyway? I used to think that we all could just sense what others need, and respond accordingly! Yet, we live in a world that is dominated by verbal sounds. How do I belong to a society that is geared towards the spoken word? How should I proceed to teach someone how to talk, to communicate?

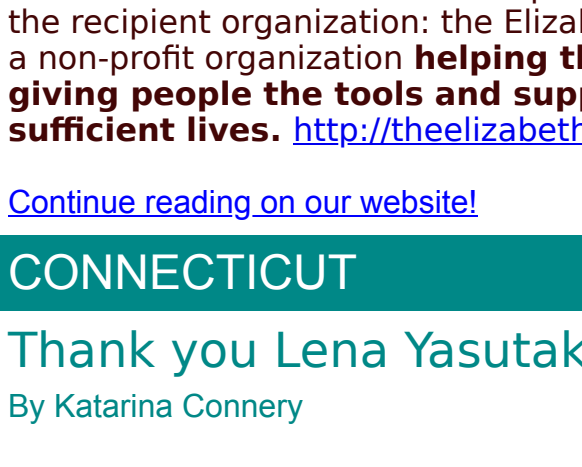


The ability to talk is just not a verb. It is an all-encompassing part of our lives. When one is not communicating, an easy task is extremely hard. I do not attach any blame to those who cannot communicate due to a disability. However, it is quite frustrating at times! What does he or she want? [Continue reading on our website!](#)

ILLINOIS -- Chicago

Making New Friends, Standing Up for Families

By Mrs. Patricia Fliginger and Min. Fannie Smith



On Saturday, March 19, at the Life Center Church C.O.G.I.C. in Chicago, 120 people attended the American Clergy Leadership Conference (AACL) Women in Ministry event with the theme, "Standing in the Gap for Families." The Chicago Chapter of WFWP proudly co-sponsored this event again this year, sharing the vision of Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon and President Angelika Selie.

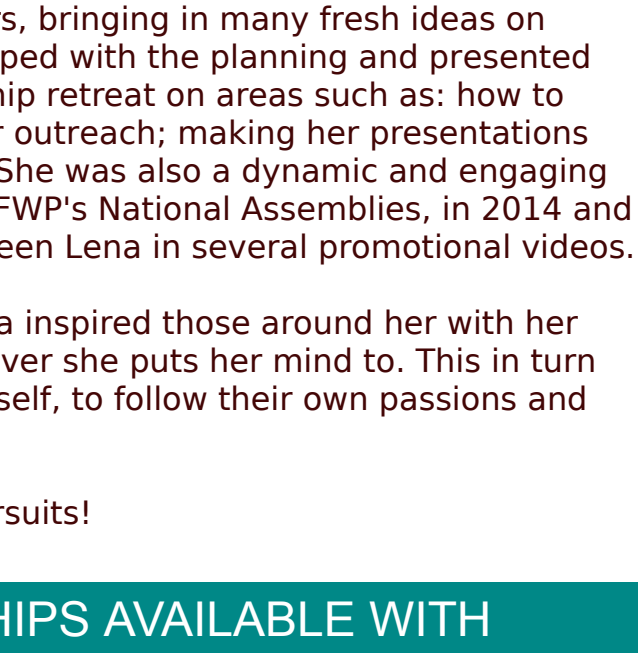
WFWP's efforts to bring this victory in Chicago included sending invitations to our friends and families and selling \$30 tickets. Min. Fannie Smith, Director of WFWP USA Schools of Africa Project, graciously offered to be the Mistress of Ceremony for the event and to be responsible for decorations. [Continue reading on our website!](#)

NEVADA -- Las Vegas

Seven Steps to Harmony

By Mrs. Mary Hida and Mrs. Sera Hirano

The Las Vegas Chapter of WFWP hosted an acclaimed parenting course taught by Mrs. Karen Ryce, founder of Happy Kids Co. and author of several books on parenting, on Sunday, March 20. Mrs. Ryce, who has over 40 years of experience working with parents and children, spoke of the "Seven Steps to Creating Harmony in the Family," as ways to resolve parent-child, teacher-child and child-child conflicts.



The 18 workshop participants listened as Mrs. Ryce imparted a wealth of knowledge derived from her own experience. The foundational theme in her presentation was that the most important point in resolving issues among children is to show them that there is nothing to fear. According to Mrs. Ryce, as a teacher or parent involved in a conflict with a child or arbitrating a conflict between children, the value of creating a space of security, safety, and calm through our own presence and inner peace cannot be understated. [Continue reading on our website!](#)

FEATURE

True Woman and Leader of the Heart

By Mi Young Eaton

"According to the principle through which God created the universe, all things exist in couples, as an initiating subject and a responsive object team. A woman is thus a whole and perfect partner through whom a man can achieve harmonious unity in the ideal of God's principle.... [A] man and woman should not exist in a relationship of hostility or opposition, where the characteristics and qualities of the other are to be mimicked or coveted. There is no need for that, because man and woman belong to each other. Their relationship is designed to be one where all their qualities as well as their passions are shared with each other so as to bring each a completion and perfection, and thus together become something greater than the sum of the two." -Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, April 9, 2002

In February, I was sponsored by WFWP USA to attend a Top Gun workshop for up-and-coming leaders, along with nearly 100 young (and youngish) leaders from around the world. [Continue reading on our website!](#)

NEW JERSEY -- Orange

Treasure Yourself!

By Mrs. Cynthia Nakai

Have you ever wondered how to talk to your child about drugs? About teenage pregnancy? And what to do to avoid it?

The city of Orange, New Jersey, held a very informative program at the Lincoln School on Saturday, March 5 to discuss how to present such topics to one's children. Students, grandparents and parents were there to learn about the different counseling services and programs to guide teens to more productive, healthy life-styles.

Among the presenters were Mrs. Lillie Moore, Executive Director of the YWCA, Mr. Thomas Wright and Mr. Thomas Johnson of the Greater Essex Counseling Services; Ms. Sade Criss of Family Connections, and Nandi Bengu, WFWP Harlem Chapter Chairwoman, who presented C.L.U.E. (Creating Love and Uplifting Esteem), an abstinence based program to help young people make informed and better decisions... [Continue reading on our website!](#)

NEW JERSEY-Elizabeth

A Step Toward Solving Social Ills

By Mrs. Christine Rapada

Care Package Project
In honor of Women's History Month
WFWP Elizabeth Chapter is collecting essentials and personal necessities to be donated to women in shelters
Date: March 9 - 30, 2016
Drop Off Location: 47 Geneva St. Elizabeth, NJ
Suggested Donations:
Toothbrush, Soap, Sanitary Napkins, Hand Sanitizer, Scarves/Hats, Gloves, and others
Beneficiary: Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless, 118 Division St. Elizabeth, NJ

In honor of Women's History Month, the Elizabeth Chapter of WFWP initiated the "CARE PACKAGE PROJECT." The idea was to start a collection and fundraising drive to help homeless women in the community by donating personal hygiene and accessories such as hand sanitizers, tissues, toothbrushes, toothpaste, face towels, deodorant, soap, and scarves. The Association of Christian Evangelist immediately sent their financial donation together with several families and individuals. Others donated items to include in the packages. WFWP USA also donated items and brochures.

The campaign started at the beginning of March and lasted until the 30th. Then the drop-off was made at the end of the month to the recipient organization: the Elizabeth Coalition To House the Homeless, a non-profit organization helping the homeless and near homeless by giving people the tools and support they need to live healthy, self-sufficient lives. <http://theelizabethcoalition.org>
[Continue reading on our website!](#)

CONNECTICUT

Thank you Lena Yasutake!

By Katarina Connery

To me, Lena Yasutake truly represents an empowered and influential woman leader. After more than a year of service as the WFWP Connecticut Chairwoman, Lena will be moving on to other pursuits and projects. We would like to sincerely thank her for her tremendous contribution to WFWP in many areas of the organization.

After representing WFWP USA at the WFWP International conference in Korea in 2014, Lena returned to Connecticut with a passionate drive to restart the chapter from scratch and she quickly inspired several other young women to join the leadership team. Together they conducted many successful and empowering events including two black-tie fundraisers for WFWP's Schools of Africa project. These evenings of food, music, and art were not only financial successes, but they brought tremendous awareness to the Schools of Africa, due to Lena's compelling passion for educating children in Africa.

Lena's incredible service was not limited to the local chapter. She served on the WFWP USA Board of Directors, bringing in many fresh ideas on improving the organization. She helped with the planning and presented several times at the WFWP leadership retreat on areas such as: how to dress for success, yoga, and tips for outreach; making her presentations informative, fun, and participatory. She was also a dynamic and engaging Mistress of Ceremonies at two of WFWP's National Assemblies, in 2014 and 2015. Many of you may have also seen Lena in several promotional videos.

No matter what she was doing, Lena inspired those around her with her heart to make a difference in whatever she puts her mind to. This in turn has motivated others, including myself, to follow their own passions and challenge their limitations.

Good luck Lena with your future pursuits!

ANNOUNCING INTERNSHIPS AVAILABLE WITH WFWP USA

Internship Opportunities Available!

Are you a passionate, creative individual seeking to apply your skills toward making the world a better place? Looking for hands-on experience working in an international non-profit organization?

WFWP USA is seeking motivated, committed interns who are interested in WFWP's work and would like to get involved in a substantial way. Interns are an integral part of our operations and your contribution will have a direct impact on what we do and how we do it. The following internship positions are currently open:

- Administrative Assistant Intern
- Graphic Design Intern
- Program Development Intern
- Public Relations Intern

Membership Assistant Intern

For more information, including how to apply, or if you have any questions, please contact Katarina Connery at kconnery@wfwp.us. We would love to hear from you!

UPCOMING EVENTS AROUND THE COUNTRY

WFWP USA Happenings Around the Country

May 22: WFWP Hackensack, New Jersey: Heritage Diner, featuring Carol Pobanz trip to Africa, Art as a medium for healing

May 29: Southern California: Bridge of Peace Event

July 14-17: WFWP USA "Compassionate, Sustainable Leadership Retreat" in Tampa, FL

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