



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Ladies, Friends, and Families,

Looking back on this year 2016, which is coming quickly to a close, we are grateful for the many successes and new developments we were able to accomplish together!

This last year truly was a challenging and "transitional" year on many levels-maybe also in your own life and in your own families-as the entire globe seems to be in confusion, shaken up by terrorism, the thousands of displaced refugees, political strife, and wars.

Without going into further detail and listing more terrible trends and events, it is now that we need to hear other voices, voices of goodness, peace, and encouragement.

And as we look into 2017, we are hopeful that there are indeed many "voices for peace" in the world, such as Pope Francis, who in his annual "Urbi et Orbi" Christmas address called for peace when he said that "...the yearning for peace should be stronger than that for war... weapons need to be stilled forever...the international community actively seeks solutions to restore peace and civility" in all war-torn countries and among people who are suffering. Also, Queen Elizabeth II, in her annual Christmas address, gave words of hope and consolation, saying, "I often draw strength from meeting ordinary people doing extraordinary things: volunteers, carers, community organizers, and good neighbors; unsung heroes whose quiet dedication makes them special.

"They are," she continued, "an inspiration to those who know them, and their lives frequently embody a truth expressed by Mother Teresa. She once said, 'Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.'" (You can watch the queen's entire speech on Youtube at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h1Zq1s6kSf8)

Another "voice for peace," WFWP International co-founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, initiated the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace this past month. With the aim of making peace a reality in the coming years, she convened a special inaugural gathering of this organization in the nation's capital on November 29. In her speech on Capitol Hill, she called on the assembled legislators from around the world, including current members of the U.S. Congress, to be role models of goodness and peace. Dr. Moon called for a cooperative spirit among all political leaders to address the serious global issues at hand, which, she said, cannot be solved by one person, organization, or country alone but only with the assistance of the Creator and the good collaboration among leaders who take a sincere interest in the people they are responsible for.

WFWP USA is inspired by these examples and is determined to redouble our resolve and efforts in 2017 to not only be a voice of goodness and peace in the midst of all the troubles, but also to continue to practice "Leadership of the Heart" (see the speech by Aimmee Kodachian, a panelist in the 2016 WFWP assembly) and "Be the Standard of Goodness" (the speech by Aneta ThinkofAI, another assembly panelist).

We are counting on your continued support and involvement in 2017, which we dedicate as a "Year of Actions for Goodness" rather than just words.

Have a happy and successful 2017!

With love, Angelika



Table of Contents

Happy New Year 2016!

Leading with Love & Compassion

Small Things Create Big Differences

Giving Back to the Community

Chi-Chi's Song

Educate a Child Today: Build a Brighter Future Tomorrow

Rwanda Gratitude

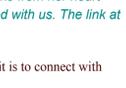
Achieving Healthy Family Traditions

Self-CPR Can Save You

A Chain That Cannot Be Broken

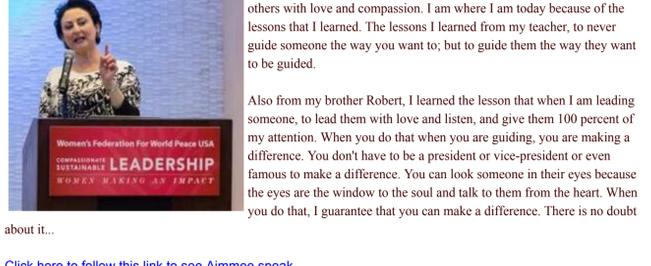
Providing for Those Without

Upcoming WFWP Events



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HAPPY NEW YEAR 2017 from WFWP USA!



WFWP wishes you and your family, friends, and colleagues a most exciting, successful, and healthy New Year 2017!

We sincerely thank you for your ongoing support in 2016 which allowed us to accomplish much. Please take a look at the 2016 Year in Review and see what you helped accomplish in 2016.

We at WFWP USA are determined to pursue our goals for 2017 with hope and determination, put our vision and mission into action daily, and collaborate with others to create a greater impact for goodness.

Therefore, we dedicate 2017 to be the "Year of Actions for Goodness."

Let's create a great NEW YEAR, 2017, together!

Angelika Selle, Katarina Connery, Juanita Pierre-Louis

ASSEMBLY GWPN

Leading With Love and Compassion

By Ms. Aimmee Kodachian

Editor's Note: Following is an excerpt of Aimmee's presentation at the Assembly. She spoke from her heart about her story as a refugee in the Lebanese War and the lessons she learned and shared with us. The link at the bottom takes you to the video to experience her deep presentation.

If you want to make a difference in the world, if you want to change the world, the best way to do it is to connect with one another.



about it...

Love each other. If we want to stop wars, if we want to stop violence, if we want to move forward in life; the best way to do it is to guide yourself and others with love and compassion. I am here I am today because of the lessons that I learned. The lessons I learned from my teacher, to never guide someone the way you want to; but to guide them the way they want to be guided.

Also from my brother Robert, I learned the lesson that when I am leading someone, to lead them with love and listen, and give them 100 percent of my attention. When you do that when you are guiding, you are making a difference. You don't have to be a president or vice-president or even famous to make a difference. You can look someone in their eyes because the eyes are the window to the soul and talk to them from the heart. When you do that, I guarantee that you can make a difference. There is no doubt

Click here to follow this link to see Aimmee speak.

ASSEMBLY FOLLOW - UP

ASSEMBLY Follow-up

Small Things Create the Big Differences

By Min. Fannie Smith

The Women's Federation for World Peace National Assembly for 2016 has come and gone; but one aspect of that very successful event still resonates with me: Honoring Veterans. Dennee Nelson, New Jersey Chairwoman offered me a ride to the airport after the Marriage Blessing Celebration on Sunday. She asked if it was okay to make a stop along the way. She wanted to visit the home of Mrs. Ethel Gordon, who is the caregiver for Ms. Kathleen F. As a veteran of the United States Air Force, she served as an officer in the Beirut, Lebanon forces from 1979 until 1989.



Kathleen was one of several veterans invited to the WFWP Assembly as a recipient in the Veteran's Award Ceremony. Unfortunately she was not able to attend. As we entered the premises, Dennee retrieved a small package from the car. We were welcomed by Mrs. Gordon and escorted to an area where a woman of short stature greeted us with a big smile. She obviously had some physical challenges but her enthusiasm, energy, and humor overshadowed any shortcomings.

Continue to the website to learn more...

WFWP USA 2016 WRAP-UP

WFWP 2016 In Review:

Giving Back to the Community

By Ms. Kiyomi Schmidt

Women's Federation for World Peace USA (WFWP) has had an eventful 2016, filled with upliftment, action, leadership, and the strengthening of bonds and relationships, all in the pursuit of peace. Notable highlights from this year include the development of our



about it...

educational programs; service and relief work both locally and abroad; and reconciliation through the development of peace.

1. Education: Our theme for 2016 has been "Compassionate, Sustainable Leadership." As a community of women, we are passionate about raising authentic, compassionate, and conscientious leaders who practice what we call "Leadership of the Heart."

To accomplish this, we are developing a Leadership of the Heart educational three-part series; and have featured the first seminar, "Finding the Heart Within," in several states including during our leadership retreat in Tampa this past July. This series highlights the importance of leading by example, and provides insights on the importance of women initiating positive change in their own lives, in their families, communities, and beyond.

This year, WFWP has hosted 14 leadership and women empowerment activities and eight Family Life education seminars, for a total of 22 empowering programs.

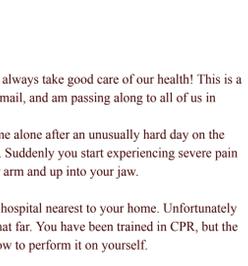
WFWP did a lot more. Click here to read more!

BOOK REVIEW

CHI-CHI'S SONG

By Dr. Sandra Lowen

"When I was about seven years old, I chanced upon a photo album hidden under the 'good' linen and placemats we never used. I looked at the Model T cars, the fashions of the 30s, the quaint old ladies and little children spruced up for the occasion of a family photograph. Then I looked at other faces: chiseled faces, faces with eyes that bored into mine and awakened at once fear and familiarity. Who were these people?" When I inquired, I was told only, "They're family!"...(and) the albums disappeared, destroyed by overzealous relatives anxious to expunge painful family memories."



So read the first lines of my second book, Chi-Chi's Song, a NanoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month), project I completed in 2013, after participating in a walk sponsored by WFWP in June-July of 2013. Nine of us set out from New Echota, Georgia to Tallequah, Oklahoma to experience the Trail of Tears, the long march of the Five Nations People (Seminole, Cherokee, Muscogee-Creek, Choctaw, and Chickasaw tribes). These tribes were removed from their lands and forced to walk west during one of the bitterest winters on record. Without adequate food, clothing, or shelter, thousands of them, perhaps as many as one in every four people that set out, died along the bitter path. Hundreds more perished even before the journey began, succumbing to one of the hottest summers that area had experienced, as well as to disease, hunger and other maladies.

Continue to the website to find out more and see where to get a copy!

NEW YORK -- Westchester

"Educate a Child Today: Build a Brighter World Tomorrow"

13th Annual Benefit for the Schools of Africa Project

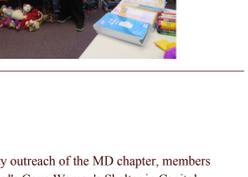
By Mrs. Renate Sato and Mrs. Lynn Walsh

For the third year the Westchester Chapter of WFWP was again blessed to hold our annual Schools of Africa Fundraiser right beside the beautiful Hudson River, in the lovely Eileen Fisher Hall in Irvington, NY. We are grateful for the generosity of Eileen Fisher, a very distinguished fashion designer, and her Fortune 500 company for allowing us the use of her venue.



Our warm and welcoming emcee, Ms. Grace Russo, opened the program by introducing the Belvedere Family Church Choir. Accompanied by pianist, Dr. Romko Isaacson, the choir performed "Silent Night" in perfect harmony, followed by a lively version of "Gentle Tell it" on the mountain."

Mrs. Renate Sato, WFWP Westchester Chairwoman, described the many facets of WFWP and showed a video of WFWP in action. The film showed the impressive service work and other activities of WFWP worldwide. Included in the video were many images of WFWP's Co-Founder, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, whose worldwide leadership and investment for over 24 years has resulted in WFWP International flourishing.



There's more! Click here to read and see more photos!

SCHOOLS OF AFRICA TESTIMONY



Children in a classroom



Children in a classroom



Children in a classroom

Heartfelt Gratitude from Rwanda: 2016 Report from New Hope Technical Institute

By Mrs. Katarina Connery, WFWP USA Vice President

Have you recently attended a WFWP USA Schools of Africa benefit? Perhaps you've donated to one of our local chapters in an evening of music, food, and stories from Africa. Perhaps you were even moved to join this worthy cause. This year, your donations went toward a total of \$5,000 which was sent to the New Hope Technical Institute in Kigali, Rwanda. The money went toward much needed equipment and materials for the school's courses in culinary arts and dressmaking. The school was also able to purchase several fire extinguishers and fans for the classrooms.



The New Hope Technical Institute currently has 117 students, 41 students enrolling in culinary arts, 38 in dressmaking, and 38 pursuing hairdressing/beautician courses. Many of these students also face economic hardships, which makes attending the school difficult. Thus, the school supported 55 students this year with scholarships.

Click here to hear more about the WFWP School in Rwanda...

VIRGINIA, Richmond



Words from WFWP Co-Founder: Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon

"In the era of women which has arrived, we must spread, to the whole world, a model movement of the realization of true love in which we embrace our husbands and raise our children properly. By doing so, we should gain the active support of our husbands and children, and develop the Family Federation for World Peace.



Achieving Healthy Family Traditions

Contributed by WFWP Richmond and Father Bayo Adrien

The Richmond, Virginia Chapter of WFWP joined together with International Family Center (IFC) Women and IFC Women United co-founder, presided over the program with welcoming remarks. Building healthy families and communities begins with the unity and partnership between men and women with a concerted focus to cherish and celebrate the role of women in the family, community, and the world as equal partners.

HEALTH TIPS FOR DECEMBER

Self-CPR Can Save Your Life

Shared by Min. Chi Mauuso

Designed by Asierromero - Freepik.com

Especially in the holiday season, we need to always take good care of our health! This is a very important reminder that I received by email, and am passing along to all of us in WFWP!

Let's say it is 7:25pm and you're driving home alone after an unusually hard day on the job. You're really tired, upset, and frustrated. Suddenly you start experiencing severe pain in your chest that starts to drag out into your arm and up into your jaw.

You are only about five kilometers from the hospital. You have been trained in CPR, but the only one who'll be able to make it that far. You've never to your home. Unfortunately, but the guy that taught the course did not tell you how to perform it on yourself.

How to survive a heart attack when you are alone? Click here to find out how...

MICHIGAN, Grand Rapids

A Chain That Cannot Be Broken

By Mr. Hebangia Kisile

On November 26, 2016, WFWP Michigan organized its first fundraiser for the Schools of Africa. About 30 people gathered to support the Schools of Africa project.

After the welcome remarks and presentation of the core values and activities of the Women's Federation by Donnette Konan, the event was animated by a lot of African songs and dances (as it is a tradition in Africa).

The event was also animated by the personal testimonies of the guest speakers from different African countries. They, in their testimonies, created in the guests a strong connection to the ultimate purpose of the donation--which is to eradicate poverty and suffering in the world.

Mrs. Urethra emphasized the difficulties she, herself, faced as she was growing up in Liberia. She spoke about having to miss school because of lack money, having to walk for hours to get to school without having eaten anything for breakfast, and also emphasized the high rate of primary and high school dropouts.

Continue to the website to read more

Participants and Presenters at the Grand Rapids Schools of Africa Benefit

MARYLAND

Woman in a store

Woman in a store

Providing for Those Without

By Ms. Pauline Eby

Thanks to the steadfastness of Dottie Chicquelo, chairwoman for community outreach of the MD chapter, members recently volunteered their time and effort at the "Santa Shop" of the Shepherd's Cove Women's Shelter in Capitol Heights, Maryland.

Generous donors and community organizations had already provided a multitude of toys, games, books, musical instruments, and clothing -- gifts for children ranging in age from infant to teen. On December 20, representatives of the WFWP Maryland chapter gathered at the shelter to assist staff in sorting and organizing these gifts in preparation for an orderly distribution.

Click here to read more!

UPCOMING EVENTS AROUND THE U.S.A.

Cary, North Carolina MLK Celebration

The MLK, Jr. Task Force of Cary's Annual MLK Celebration 2017

Honoring Compassionate Sustainable Leadership

WHEN: Saturday, January 14, 2017 from 7 to 11 PM

7TH Annual WFWP/WOA Gathering & the 1st WFWP/WOA

"Putting on the Rizk Gwala" Benefit VIP Reception

WHERE: Water Garden Park (A 100% Smoke Free Community)

8109 Marvino Lane, Raleigh, NC 27613

DRESS ATTIRE: Semi-Formal RSVP

EVENT CO-SPONSORED BY: WFWP of NC, MLK, Jr. Task Force of Cary, UPF of NC, & The Gifted Arts Inc.

WHEN: Sunday, January 15, 2017 from 10AM to 2PM

FREE Ambassador For Peace Reunion 2017

WHERE: Triangle Family Church 1414 Watts Street, Durham, NC

3. WHEN: Monday, January 16, 2017

10AM Gather to March

2PM MLK Day of Service

WHERE: Downtown Raleigh & Middle Creek Community Center Apex

For more information: call 919.307.4377 or email: pdefy1995@yahoo.com visit: mlkjuniorstaskforce.org

Paterson, NJ Winter Coat Service Project

Women's Federation for World Peace USA

New Jersey: Paterson Chapter

Help Spread the Warmth

WFWP Annual Winter Drive for the City of Paterson, New Jersey

Please donate your new and slightly used winter HATS, SCARVES and GLOVES for adults and children.

Contact: Mrs. Claire Haider at claireshaider@comcast.net for more information

Women's Federation for World Peace USA is a Federally recognized 501(c)(3) 509 (b) (6) exempt organization with 50 states and 100 countries of the United Nations.

New Jersey cares about the people who don't have what they need to keep warm this winter. To donate your still good warm items of clothing to Paterson, New Jersey, contact Mrs. Claire Haider for information how to get them to her to warm up the people in her community. She has been spearheading this project "Spreading the Warmth" for many years now, and needs all our help either to help her community or start a drive in your community to "Spread the Warmth" there as well!

We are Women Helping Those in Need wherever they may be located!

** HAPPY NEW YEAR 2017 FROM THE LOGIC OF LOVE EDITORIAL STAFF **

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