

III. International Service Project (ISP)

- **Zambia** is the location of the new ISP for 2025-2027. CFUW is partnering with the [Stephen Lewis Foundation \(SLF\)](#) in a school project, Young, Happy, Healthy & Safe (YHHS). This project will support girls learning about sexual and reproductive health in rural Eastern Zambia through health and rights information that can help protect them from early marriage and pregnancy, gender-based violence, HIV infection, caregiving responsibilities etc.
 - The YHHS project works with whole communities, and is accessed primarily through close collaboration with schools, to encourage students to value and protect girls' education. YHHS's work advances the status of women and girls in rural Eastern Zambia by addressing the multifaceted barriers that prevent girls from accessing and completing their education. This area is one where child marriage rates are high.
 - The full details for the project are currently being confirmed with the Stephen Lewis Foundation and a comprehensive overview of the project will be released in early June. We know, however, that we will be funding period supplies for girls and also clothing and school supplies for 60 girls and 60 boys.
 - Pat Patton, chair of the CFUW ISP sub-committee and her committee members Linda Sestock, Larisa Hutcheson, and Grace Hollett, are expecting this new project will garner Club support as did the 2024-2025 project in Nepal which exceeded the goal of \$15,000 to purchase Mobile Learning Labs.
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IV. Commission on the Status of Women (CSW69)

In March CFUW 's delegates, mainly self-funded, joined with thousands of other women around the globe to attend CSW 69 in New York City for in-person sessions during week one, and then followed up back home with virtual sessions during week two. Delegates, supported by national office staff, attended a series of preparatory meetings with input from Kenzie Zimmer, Mary Scott (attendee at Beijing 95), and Sandra Thomson, CFUW's UN Observer. The days were filled with sessions and all this is found in the report of CFUW at CSW69.

The CSW Planning committee with chair Dr. Linda Coles included representatives from WG-USA as they were hosting the presentation along with CFUW. In discussing the overall theme of the progress made and challenges remaining in fulfilling the Beijing 95 Program for Action, it was decided to focus on Education and the topic chosen was ***Educating Women and Girls: Advancing their Empowerment and Equality***".

Both WG-USA and CFUW found panelists and held a Zoom meeting with them to get acquainted and refine which aspect of the topic each would address. Before leaving for NYC

a final practice was held. We were delighted to have such a group of knowledgeable panelists.

The presentation room was filled to capacity with over 125 attendees, when our session was presented. The attendance sheets showed that over 37 organizations, mostly international, were represented. In addition, several Canadian Senators were in attendance. Emails have been saved for future contact.

The committee will meet later this month for preliminary planning for CSW70 in March 2026. Committee members are Dr. Linda Coles, Linda Sestock (CFUW President), Dr. Elise Russo, Dr. Fay Weber, Barbara DuMoulin, Sandra Thomson, Grace Hollett (VP International) Heather Oxman (VP Advocacy)

V. International Awards

Please check the Club Action newsletter for information about an extended deadline for applying for awards for international programs and activities your Club may have undertaken. The members of this sub-committee are Phyllis Scott (chair), Linda Sestock, Niki Carlan, Fiona Morrell Lhotka, and Grace Hollett.

While the year's program in many Clubs is beginning to wind down, the International involvement in the startup of a new ISP in Zambia continues, as does preparations for GWI Triennial of September 11-13.

Please watch for updates in Club Action News.
Thanks to all who have contributed to the international outreach of CFUW!

Grace Hollett,
VP International