

March 8, 2025

Dear ACWW USA Area members,

Happy International Women's Day! Wherever you are I hope you are having a great day! International Women's Day (IWD), marked annually on March 8, is a global day of recognition celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women while also calling for increased gender equality. This day has evolved from its early 20th-century socialist roots to a worldwide observance embraced by the United Nations and countless organizations globally. ACWW is one of those organizations!

Spring is in the air where I am! Even though we will more than likely have more winter weather before Spring actually arrives, the sun and lack of deep snow on my deck and in my yard are so welcome!

I am so excited to be sending you information about the ACWW USA Area Conference. The conference is being hosted by the National Association for Family and Community Education, one of the three National Societies in the USA Area.

National FCE will be holding their National Conference on Monday the 21st of July. All are welcome to attend their meeting. Please note on the registration form that you plan on attending. I appreciate their willingness to host and all the work they and other members are putting in to make this a very successful conference.

One of my goals as the Area President has been to bring the individual ACWW Societies in the USA together, not as one society, but one in purpose as ACWW Societies. That is one reason I wanted the learning sessions to be a showcase of what each society has accomplished on the ACWW Resolutions.

It is exciting to bring this conference to fruition and I hope that each of you will attend! Please come to learn, to make new friends and get to know how other societies in the USA Area work to spread the word of ACWW in their own way! There is so much we can learn from others.

I asked each umbrella Society to serve on the conference planning committee. Jane Chapman, NVON President, Judy Fullmer, National FCE President, Kay Engelhart, Women's National Farm and Garden, and Debbie Mote, CWC Chair. Denise Smith, National FCE 2025 Conference Chair, has also been serving on the committee and her input and help is so welcome. I appreciate all their ideas, their work on the committee and their willingness to make this conference a success for all the USA Area members.

The conference committee and societies have been working hard on the planning and determining the learning sessions that will be presented at conference this year. They sound amazing!! Some sessions will be addressing ways we can use Public Policy to spread information and act on the ACWW Resolutions, Projects and Programs.

Learning Sessions include information on:

Pollinators

Horticulture Therapy

Student Conservation Association

Public Policy-Contacting your Elected Officials

Environmental Wellness

16 Days of Activism

Other speakers' information includes:

How to Grow Your Organization

Wreaths Across America

Women's Shelter/ how they use the donations we will be making

And of course, the wonderful messages and a question and answer time from ACWW World President Magdie de Kock and Executive Director Tish Collins

On the National FCE website, www.nafce.org you will be able to download the registration form, the hotel registration information which is attached to the registration form, and information on the area and places you can do some extra sightseeing! Hotel room prices are good for three days prior and three days post conference!

Remember to bring items for the service project donations of small hygiene items, new socks, and individually wrapped sanitary supplies for the women's shelter, and the silent auction items for the sales room.

I am excited to see you at the conference and hope you are planning to attend! If you have any questions email, text, or call!!

I hope you celebrate you today and all other wonderful women in your life!

Bonnie Teeples-ACWW USA Area President

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