

Zonta Club of Findlay 2017-18 Advocacy Activities

Here are the activities we're looking at doing during the 16 Days of Activism, in no particular order:

- Write a Letter to the Editor regarding trafficking and domestic violence
- Set up a display at the Findlay-Hancock County Public Library
- "Light the Town Orange": Working with the Social Work Department at the University of Findlay to highlight the issues surrounding human trafficking. This will entail requesting donations of or discounts on orange lightbulbs to put in porch or window lights. A booth will be set up at UF to distribute the bulbs as well as information about Zonta and trafficking.
- Observe a moment of silence for those caught in the web of domestic violence or trafficking
- Hold a silent walk through downtown Findlay; try to recruit more participants
- Set up a window display in Main St Deli
- Create an online quiz to gauge one's knowledge of trafficking issues. May be done on the local Zonta Facebook page and distributed on our individual pages.
- Partner with Heidi Mercer at The Northwest Ohio Rescue and Restore Coalition of Hancock County. This may take the form of a public presentation, or them hosting an open, public meeting.
- Facebook profile picture: Change your picture to the UN image for the first week, then Zonta Says NO for the second week of Activism.
- At the trafficking conference in Columbus in February, Janet Zale took part in the Legal Panel discussion. She is a detective with the Oregon, OH police department focusing on digital forensics and social media investigation. She speaks often at schools to educate students on the pitfalls of the internet and how to protect themselves. Our advocacy chair is going to contact Van Buren Schools to see if they would be interested in bringing her in during the 16 Days. Their auditorium seats approximately 780 people, so this could potentially be open to multiple schools.
- A few months ago, our advocacy chair and co-chair went to a presentation by Becky McDonald from Women At Risk International. She mentioned that they put on seminars to educate the general public on how to spot a potential trafficking victim. We have reached out to them requesting detailed information

on how to go about bringing them to the area. If this is a viable program, but not possible during the 16 Days, we'll look into doing it later in the year.

- We're contacting Steve Dillon at the Courier to do an article for us. We're also contacting Findlay Magazine for an article.
- Have a Wear Orange Day
- Have a day to write a letter to our elected officials at all levels
- Set up a display at The Findlay Village Mall in conjunction with Open Arms

Other ideas for the year:

- If the WAR International training isn't available, we will contact the Nurse at Blanchard Valley Hospital ER who deals with their sexual and domestic violence victims to see if she can do a presentation for us.
- Reach out to local law enforcement for information regarding local levels of trafficking and the possible connection to the local heroin/drug industry, and what we might be able to do about it.
- Use some information from the Ohio Domestic Violence Network to highlight not only trafficking but DV as well.
- Look into ways to highlight some of the ZI projects, be it through print media or social media, posters, etc.

These things will be discussed further as plans for the 16 Days are solidified.