

## **Celebrating 100 Years of Service to Women and Girls in Toledo and Globally**

Members of Zonta Club Toledo I, marked the club's 100-year milestone anniversary at its Centennial Celebration on Saturday, Nov. 6 at the Inverness Club of Toledo. The Zonta Club of Toledo 1, established on November 25, 1921, is one of the founding affiliates of Zonta International.

"100 years of service and advocacy for women and girls. That's quite a legacy of support and hope," said Catharine Harned, the Club's President. "This Centennial Celebration is an opportunity for us to honor the contributions and achievements our organization has made locally and globally since its founding,"

Since 2000, the Zonta Club of Toledo 1, and its affiliate the Zonta Club of Toledo 1 Foundation, have provided more than \$300,000 in financial support to local and global projects ranging from planning assistance, scholarships, financial and volunteer support to a variety of organizations that expand access to education, healthcare, economic opportunities and safe living conditions for women and girls.

Zonta International President Sharon Langenbeck was the evening's featured speaker. She spoke about Zonta's history, as well as the group's current global initiatives.

The evening celebrated the contributions and achievements of the Toledo club, but also honored 11 local Women of Achievement who have previously made or are currently making a sustainable difference in the lives of women and girls by advancing programs and activities that insure a positive future. Billie Johnson, president and chief executive of the Area Office of Aging of Northwest Ohio received special recognition for her more than 25-year leadership and support of Zonta Club of Toledo I.

Members of the club's Advocacy Committee provided an update of their work with members of Toledo City Council to pass the Cities for CEDAW initiative in Toledo.

Several elected officials including Ohio Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, State Senator Teresa Fedor, State Representative Paula Hicks-Hudson and Toledo City Councilwoman Cecilia Adams presented the club with proclamations of recognition

Representatives from other District 5 clubs, including Cleveland, Defiance, Sandusky and Findlay attended the celebration.