ZONTA INTERNATIONAL USA CAUCUS
EMPOWERING WOMEN THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

SERVICE & ADVOCACY PROJECT IDEAS

The Clothesline Project

Bearing Witness to Violence Against Women

Supporting Zonta International's mission to build a better world for women and girls through service and advocacy

Anderson County Family Justice Center
Oak Ridge, TN

Ursuline College, Cleveland, Ohio

Clothesline Project Boundaries

Violence Against Women must be the foundation and focus of all *Clothesline Project* events.

Only shirts are to be used – no other types of clothing.

Do not name the perpetrator on the shirts.

There can be no charge or fee required at any of the events for making a shirt and hanging it on the line.

For more information, go to:
https://www.theclotheslineproject.org/

Submit your project photos to:
webmaster@theclotheslineproject.org
Send large full-size images of individual shirts with legible messages plus an overall project photo. Include basic facts who/when/where.

WHAT IS *The Clothesline Project?*

The Clothesline Project began in 1990 in Cape Cod, Massachusetts. A coalition of women's groups decided to develop a program that would educate, break the silence, and bear witness to Violence Against Women. Rachel Carey-Harper was a visual artist who suggested using shirts to allow each woman to tell her story using words and / or art. The shirts were then to be hung on a clothesline.

The use of shirts incorporates Art Therapy which can help battered women and children deal with their physical and emotional scars. It may also allow survivors of violence to reconnect with parts of themselves that were silenced in order to survive the violence.

The shirts become an educational tool for those who view them. They come a healing tool for those who make the shirt. It allows those suffering in silence to understand they are not alone.

HOW TO IMPLEMENT THIS PROJECT?

This project may be done on its own or in combination with another event – such as a "take back the night" or other awareness event.

Event organizers will need to decide whether to simply have an event where shirts are displayed for others to view, or if the event incorporates the creation of the shirts to be displayed.

Shirts may reflect messages of

- HOPE for the elimination of violence against women
- ACCOUNTABILITY and hope for change for perpetrators of family violence
- EDUCATION about the impact of violence against women and children
- PROTEST about the prevalence of violence against women.

Organizers may wish to have hotlines or help available at the event in case any participants or attendees have a strong emotional or psychological reaction to the display.