



**BRANCH ANNUAL REPORT 2019 - 2020**

Due: \_\_June 30, 2020\_\_\_\_\_

<b>Branch:</b>	Aurora, Colorado		
<b>President:</b>	Joan Brown	<b>Date: 6-29-2020</b>	
	Aurora Branch did not formally set goals for the year 2019-2020. Informal goals		
	were discussed at the beginning of the season, hence praises for our		
	Program vice president. I think this form should be sent out in the fall for the Boards to discuss and the president has more to go on for next year's report.		
<b>Education &amp; Training</b>			
<i>Addressing the barriers and implicit biases that hinder advancement of women.</i>			
<b>Goals:</b>	<i>What goals did your branch set this year that are in alignment with this macro area of National's Strategic Plan? Please prioritize your list and indicate after each goal what the current status is (i.e. completed, % completed, estimated completion date, etc.).</i>		
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Support the education and training for the membership through the Branch monthly programs</li> <li>2. Raise money for college scholarships</li> <li>3. Education and enhancement through some of the small Interest Groups and fellowship through a couple of other ones</li> <li>4. Large group at February Public Policy Day</li> </ol>		
<b>Programs:</b>	<i>Did you identify and/or hold any programs/activities/events that were in alignment with this macro area of National's Strategic Plan? If yes, please give a brief description of each and the date in which it was held/conducted.</i>		
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Just about all of the Branch meeting programs were in alignment with the AAUW National guidelines. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sept. 14, 2019: Suicide Prevention by speaker Jeff Ongo, PhD., Aurora Mental Health Center</li> <li>• Oct. 12, 2019: Aurora Mayoral Candidates and Ballot Issues</li> <li>• Nov. 9, 2019: Topic of 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Women's Right to Vote by Colo. League of Women Voters</li> <li>• Jan. 11, 2020: Title IX by Sarah K. Fields, JD, PhD., Professor and Associate Dean, University of Colorado Denver</li> <li>• Feb. 1, 2020: AAUW Colorado Public Policy Day</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p>The rest of the year was cancelled due to COVID-19 but our programs would have been:</p> <p>Topic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• March: Actors Portraying suffragists, Emily Griffith, 1<sup>st</sup> Governor, and Others by the Legendary Ladies</li> <li>• April: Community College of Aurora and an Update on Programs and Future Plans by President Betsy Oudenhoven, PhD.</li> </ul>		



- May: Annual Spring Luncheon with the main speakers being the scholarship winners.
2. Our biggest effort is raising money for scholarships for Aurora address people who are sophomores going into the junior year, or juniors going into the senior year of college. The scholarship committee is in charge and they decide primarily how to divide up the \$5,000 - \$7,000 collected annually through fund-raising efforts.
  3. Education and Training can come within the small group experiences also: (a) Culture and Cuisine toured the studio of Jane DeDecker and then Benson Sculpture Park in Loveland, CO.; Monet Exhibit at the Denver Art Museum; Tour of Byers-Evans House Museum. .... Two book groups..... Meeting of the Minds Group where education and topics of the current day and past are discussed covering about 3 topics per meeting .... Memoirs group where members write about their own lives or topics of interest.
  4. Aurora Branch had one of the largest groups represented (if not the largest) at Public Policy Day

**Economic Security**  
*Ensuring livelihoods for women.*

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1. We kept encouraging the membership and anyone they know to take the Work Smart online
  2. We kept encouraging the membership to follow the National webinars
  3. We kept encouraging the membership to become a 2-Minute Activist
- Most of this was done through the newsletters and speeches at the General meetings
4. Donated travel goods, etc., to the Women's Shelter

**Leadership**  
*Closing the gender gap in leadership opportunities.*

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	<i>macro area of National's Strategic Plan? If yes, please give a brief description of each and the date in which it was held/conducted.</i>
<p>1. Through the work of Carol Tobiassen and Su Ryden, Aurora Branch was able to obtain Star #1 from AAUW National.</p>	
<p><b>Governance &amp; Sustainability</b> <i>Ensuring the strength, relevance, and viability of AAUW well into the future.</i></p>	
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<p>1. Efforts were made in the area of gaining back membership lost from 3 years ago when the membership decreased by about 20 people due to illness, death, and moving away. Treat bags and information handed out to any visitors to the general meetings was instituted this season..... Quick response to inquiries.</p> <p>2. General meeting programs advertised on the web sites, Hub newspaper, and word of mouth</p> <p>3. Attendance at the general meetings was up by about 20% this season.</p> <p>4. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, program decisions changed in a hurry in March. The Board voted not to have a phone tree to keep members connected, so I, as president, started a weekly chimpmail one-page newsletter called "Keeping In Touch" with a little bit of national news, some local Branch updates, and quoted responses that members made back to me. This seems to have gone over well.</p> <p>5. Donated hand-made holiday wreaths to be sold at the Aurora History Museum fundraising event</p>	
<p><b><u>Five Star National Recognition Program</u></b></p> <p><i>Programs</i></p> <p><i>Advancement</i></p> <p><i>Communications and External Relations</i></p> <p><i>Public Policy &amp; Research</i></p> <p><i>Governance &amp; Sustainability</i></p>	