

AAUW Annual Report 2024

International Chair

Jackie Vierno

My priority this year was making sure members were aware of events related to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women and International Women's Day in March. Several articles and eblasts informed and encouraged participation in the NGO CSW68 Forum which took place March 10 – 22, 2024. This year's priority theme was "Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective."

"The NGO CSW Forum is organized by and for global civil society, non-governmental organizations, and feminists to connect them with the official United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UN CSW) process. With over 750 events, the NGO CSW Forum informs, engages, and inspires grassroots efforts and gender equality advocacy around the world. While the NGO CSW Forum runs parallel to and complements the UN CSW, it is a separate process with separate organizers." Several members participated in the forum and had the opportunity to report out what was learned in the sessions they attended.

Additionally, I publicized opportunities for engagement when multicultural events happening in the Hudson Valley presented themselves. In 2023 that included Poughkeepsie's Oaxaca Week and La Guelaguetza Festival last summer. In the spring Rural and Migrant Ministry helped asylum seekers relocated to the Hudson Valley, and the Race Unity Circle of Poughkeepsie hosted a potluck and game night to welcome them.