

Branch Development: Using AAUW's Mission to Gain Community Recognition

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Naperville Area Branch
Issues Action Team (I-ACT)

Background

Lifelong Social Justice Warrior /
Armchair Activist

Joined AAUW in 2019

2019-2020 started I-ACT team with
Elaine Fisher

2020-2021 Chaired I-ACT

2021-current active member of I-ACT



Issue Action Team

Leads efforts to advance policies that break through educational, societal, and economic barriers.

Monitors, educates, and provides advocacy actions for effective local, state, and national policies.

Evolution of I-ACT

2020 - Educational Engagement

2022 - Federal Legislator Meetings, Coalitions, Rallies, State Legislative Work



Paid Family and Medical Leave Bills in Illinois – An Update

Paid Family & Medical Leave Update

Many of you participated in our May 2021 webinar featuring the movie, **Zero Weeks**, which showcases America's paid leave crisis and the cost of doing nothing. If you missed this presentation highlighting the dramatic realities of the United States being the only developed country not offering any paid family or medical leave, there are different options to watch:

- Free with Hoopla through your public library,
- borrow the DVD from us,
- or rent it from Amazon Prime Video.

After watching the movie, be sure to watch our speakers who presented the case for new legislation with the YouTube recording at <https://youtu.be/yYZuAVEf8jk>.

Our branch continues to be active participants in the state-wide coalition for passage of an IL Paid Family and Medical Leave Act. The current news is mixed, but determination to move forward remains. A bill was introduced in the Illinois House that mirrors the bill previously introduced in the Senate. Both of these bills provide a comprehensive new program for all workers in Illinois.

The Family and Medical Leave Insurance Act, SB 835/HB5029, creates a state-run insurance program that allows Illinois workers to use up to 26 weeks of job-protected leave a year:

Actions to take:

- Contact your elected officials to pass Paycheck Fairness Act – <https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/paycheck-fairness/>
- Write a letter to the editor – <https://www.aauw.org/resources/policy/pfa-toolkit/le/>
- Engage in the conversation on social media with #PaycheckFairnessAct, #EqualPay, and #wagegap be sure to tag @AAUW and @AAUWNapervillearealL
 - Be sure to include photos and personal stories
- Talk to your friends and family to raise awareness about this issue

Working for Voting Equity

This year many of our I-Act Team members have served on ally group coalitions to amplify our collective voice and advocacy efforts.

One of the groups that a member has served on is the Promote the Vote / Voting Equity coalition which includes individuals and organizations from the Greater Chicago Area.

Our branch member shares that she has attended these weekly meetings for several months. It's a dynamic umbrella organization that includes representatives from many organizations and chapters in the Chicagoland area. Among them are the League of Women Voters, Common Cause, NAACP, Courts Matter IL, and the National Organization for Women. One of its primary goals is to use the power of its coalition to protect the vote in Illinois. This election year is huge: 100% of the State Legislature is up for re-election, there will be judicial races, and US House Reps are up for re-election as is Sen. Tammy Duckworth. Currently, Promote the Vote is gearing

Rallies

Visible in your community,
creates a warm environment
for younger generations



Coalitions

Build connections across the
state with like minded
organizations





Join AAUW-Naperville's Issue-Action (I-Act) Team

Through advocacy, education,
and alliances we work to
fulfill the mission of
advancing gender equity
locally, statewide, and nationally.

Contact Elizabeth Carroll, Chair,
for more information and to join
elizabethbcarroll@gmail.com



PLEASE USE YOUR PHONE CAMERA TO SCAN THIS QR CODE

YOU WILL RECEIVE A LINK ON YOUR PHONE TO TAKE YOU TO THE AAUW TWO
MINUTE ACTIVIST SIGN UP FORM

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING ADVOCACY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS



AAUW: Take Action

www.aauw.org

Shoshana Frank: frank.shoshana@gmail.com





QUESTIONS

The word "QUESTIONS" is rendered in a large, white, 3D sans-serif font with a slight drop shadow. It is centered and surrounded by a dense, colorful collage of question marks and geometric shapes. The question marks appear in various colors including blue, yellow, green, pink, and orange. The geometric shapes include circles, squares, and triangles in the same color palette. The entire composition is set against a plain white background.