



AAUW COLORADO SPRINGS BRANCH GUIDELINES COMMUNITY SERVICE INITIATIVES – COLLABORATIONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

- 1 AAUW COS Branch is a 501(c)(3) charity and **must** follow IRS regulations that pertain to permissible use and donations of Branch funds to other organizations. This application process provides opportunity for proposed projects and collaborations to be brought to the Branch Board for review and discussion to ensure that they:
 - Clearly advance AAUW mission, purpose and policies and are non-partisan and voluntary
 - Involve no conflict of interest (i.e., the Branch members relationship to the organization)
 - Comply with IRS rules and regulations (i.e., tax status of organization; are donors seeking personal tax deductions) and, if any Branch monies are involved, assess compliance requirements. In general, the IRS prohibits financial donations (funds and other donations of material value, like stock, property, art, etc.) that are given by a 501(c)(3) organization to an organization that is not a 501(c)(3) organization.
 - Are not a solicitation of funds (fundraiser) to donate funds to any organization other than AAUW
- 2 AAUW recognizes the value of collaborating with other organizations, nonprofit and otherwise, to raise awareness of issues and/or achieve common objectives. All activities and operations of the Branch and its Board, committees, interest groups, collaborations with other organizations and community service initiatives must be consistent with and directly related to the mission of AAUW and non-partisan. Any lobbying efforts must be consistent with public policy positions taken by AAUW National and Colorado State. The Branch does not endorse, promote, or oppose political candidates or associated political activities of any political candidate.
- 3 Collaborations with other organizations and community service initiatives may be proposed by a Branch officer, Branch committee or Branch interest group. The proposed Branch activity is required to be documented in writing using the Branch proposal (application) format and submitted to the Branch Board for review and approval determination. All approved collaborations and community service initiatives must comply with Branch finance requirements and governing documents.
- 4 Fundraising proposals must include supporting details, the purpose for the fundraiser and how it supports the AAUW mission. Proposals must be submitted in writing to the Board for review, discussion, and approval determination.
- 5 AAUW policies **208 AAUW Fundraising Policy** and **210 Collaborations with Other Organizations** stipulate that Branch members may not be asked to contribute money to any organization other than AAUW. (Note: This is a blanket AAUW requirement the Branch is required to follow. A permissible caveat to this requirement is Board-approved collaborations that involve joint fundraising, dues payments or direct support. This is likely to involve issues of donor intent, non-profit status, and tax deductibility and therefore should be guided by these AAUW National policies and IRS regulations that pertain to the Branch's 501(c)(3) status. Questions regarding this may be submitted to the Branch president.)
- 6 The Branch can collect and donate in-kind donations to another charity as a community service initiative as long as the initiative is consistent with and directly related to AAUW's mission and approved in advance by the Branch Board. Examples are collecting books for a local education program, clothing for an organization that helps women entering the workforce, or personal care items for displaced women and children.
- 7 The Branch will retain control of the use of the name and logo of AAUW.
- 8 The term partner, partnering, and partnerships have specific legal meaning. AAUW National specifically forbids AAUW branches to use these terms to identify relationships with other organizations.