## WHAT DOES AAUW NATIONAL DO?

AAUW operates at both the national and local branch levels, each with distinct roles and responsibilities.

## AAUW National

- **Policy Advocacy**: Focuses on national issues affecting women and girls, such as education equity, pay equity, and reproductive rights.
  - We coordinate our Public Policy Committees, participate in coalition work and partner with other prominent National organizations to raise awareness about our policy priorities (such as the YWCA for our Gen Z Town Hall in Philadelphia).
    - AAUW National provides monthly opportunities for cross-state collaboration and information sharing between our public policy chairs. We've been sharing training resources on voter engagement this summer & fall, and will be providing peer-to-peer capacitybuilding trainings for members who want to get more engaged in legislative advocacy (after the election!).
      - In addition to supporting the work branches and states are doing in-state, the national policy team will also be sharing state-by-state data on the pay gap and providing targeted actions that our members can take to support federal solutions.

Subject Matter Expertise: We have historically produced in-depth studies on topics like the gender pay gap and women in leadership roles.

 While we haven't produced reports recently due to limited funding - we have done high level analysis of pay gap data recently released. We are frequently asked to comment on topics related to pay equity, student loan debt and other issues related to gender equity. You can see our recently updated page on Latinas and the pay gap for example here: <a href="https://www.aauw.org/resources/article/latinas-and-the-pay-gap/">https://www.aauw.org/resources/article/latinas-and-the-pay-gap/</a>

 We have tens of thousands of social media followers across all platforms and have well over 1million website viewers ensuring that our brand remains prominent and relevant. Gloria has been invited to White House events on at least three occasions recently.  On a Global level – CEO Gloria Blackwell is AAUW's representative to the UN - and our work in this capacity provides great reputational value related to global gender equity work.

• **Salary Negotiation and Financial Literacy Training:** Offers training and resources for women to develop skills to be financially empowered.

 In particular our Work Smart, Start Smart and Money Smart trainings provide valuable resources and tools for women to become economically empowered. Nationally we work with organizations such as the HBCU Career Center, Tri Delta, Coca Cola Foundation, Finra Foundation, SAGE and others to bring these trainings to thousands of women across the country. These trainings were developed and are updated and managed by the National office. They have been independently evaluated by two separate entitles and continually receive very high ratings from participants.

• **Fellowships & Grants:** We award and administer over \$6M in fellowships and grants each year to hundreds of women in the US and Internationally.

• We also connect our members and branches to these awardees and alumnae and have an Alumnae Relations team charged with growing and maintaining relationships with our thousands of distinguished Alumnae.

• **Membership Services**: Provides support and resources for local branches and members, including access to national networks and events.

• We host all <u>aauw.net</u> websites, process dues, support 990 filings, and maintain our history and globally recognized brand. Without AAUW National - AAUW branches would instead be independently organized entities who would not be networked with one another or have the ability to utilize the AAUW name.

In essence, while AAUW National sets the strategic direction and focuses on broader issues, local branches implement programs and initiatives that directly benefit their local communities. Together, our aim is to work towards the common goal of advancing gender equity!

Katrina Sun Breese, AAUW Senior Director of Institutional Advancement October 15, 2024