WFWP USA: GWPN Quarterly Impact Report (April - June 2025)

Katarina Connery July 1, 2025



The second quarter of 2025 was a time of deepening connections within the **Global Women's Peace Network (GWPN)**, with a strong focus on the theme of mothers and motherhood. From a powerful **pilgrimage** to the homeland of WFWP's Founders to **local gatherings** honoring mothers, women across the country had the opportunity to reflect, connect, and envision the future together.



Between April and June, WFWP leaders and partners organized or participated in **26 heartfelt events**. Through these efforts, over **502 individuals** were engaged - **23%** of whom were new to WFWP. In a growing trend of collaboration, **42%** of initiatives were conducted in partnership with, or in service to, other community organizations. These activities not only strengthened local networks but also expanded the reach of WFWP's message of peace, healing, and empowerment.

Celebrating Mothers and Motherhood

With May marking Mother's Day, this quarter naturally emphasized honoring mothers in our communities - both those around us and the Mother of Peace, WFWP Co-Founder, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon. The quarter also welcomed a new chapter in WFWP USA's leadership as Dr. Katarina Connery was appointed President. In her debut *HerStory Podcast* interview in June, she reflected on the profound role of mothers in building peace.

April: A Pilgrimage to the Land of Holy Mother Han

• From April 10–14, WFWP hosted a **33rd Anniversary Pilgrimage to Korea** with **43 participants**, including members, GWPN women leaders, and staff. The journey included a visit to the

Korean Demilitarized Zone, a tour of the HJ Cheonwon complex, participation in the grand opening of the Cheon Won Gung International Interfaith Temple, and the deeply moving Bridge of Peace ceremony held during the World Summit with current and former First Ladies. It was a transformative experience for all, offering both historical context and spiritual inspiration through the lifelong work of peace by Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon and the late Rev. Sun Myung Moon. Click here to read the full report of this remarkable journey.



• April also featured **2 HerStory Award** ceremonies held by **WFWP USA** and **WFWP Las Vegas**, collectively honoring **4 remarkable women leaders**.



• To recognize the significance of the newly opened Cheon Won Gung, **WFWP Grand Junction's** monthly **Interreligious Sharing Series** centered around the theme, "Our Sacred Temples," bringing together voices of diverse faiths.

- **WFWP New Jersey** connected over the arts by hosting a vibrant **Bloom and Brush** painting activity at the local library.
- In Texas, former GWPN Coordinator **Mrs. Laura Hornbeck** was invited to speak to members of the **Daughters of the American Revolution** about the vision of WFWP and the mission of Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon.



May: Honoring Mothers in Our Communities

- **WFWP Arizona** collaborated with **Hope Women's Shelter** to host a multigenerational Mother's Day Brunch, where women created heartfelt cards with messages of hope for shelter residents.
- In **San Diego**, WFWP added warmth to the monthly Family Federation picnic by organizing a **Mother's Day-themed craft station**.



- **WFWP Ohio** hosted a Mother's Day event that honored both mothers and *Mother Nature*, drawing connections between environmental awareness and the heart of Holy Mother Han.
- WFWP chapters in DC and Virginia also held heartfelt events and activities to honor mothers

for Mother's Day.

- In **Honolulu**, members volunteered at the **"Sew a Lei for Memorial Day"** community event hosted by the **Hawai'i AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary**. <u>Click here</u> to read more.
- WFWP Maryland partnered with WFWP Latino Chapter leader, Concha Marchitelli, to organize a bake sale and raised \$277 for the Schools of Africa project.



June: Transition and Visioning for the Future

• On May 22, **Dr. Katarina Connery** was officially welcomed as **President of WFWP USA**. In June, she began meeting with GWPN Coordinators nationwide to listen, learn, and cast vision for the future of GWPN.



- WFWP Hudson Valley held an inspiring Bridge of Peace Ceremony that fostered healing and transformation in the community.
- In **Honolulu**, WFWP continued their outreach by supporting 2 events organized by the **University of Hawai'i West O'ahu Campus in Kapolei** and **UH West O'ahu Hawaiian and Indigenous Health and Healing**.
- WFWP Pennsylvania partnered with the Cotta Lucena City Mayor and Youth Council to organize a Women and Children Healthcare and Feeding Program in the Philippines, serving 70 individuals.
- The Latino, Maryland, and D.C. chapters of WFWP partnered with El Poder de Ser Mujer and Family Life to co-host a fundraiser, raising \$2,800 for The Gambia Project.



Consistency and Connection

• The **Western Region's** ongoing virtual series, *Self Care Isn't Selfish*, continued strong, offering expert insights on cultivating healthy family relationships.



• WFWP San Diego launched the Peace Starts with Me Tea, a monthly gathering inviting women from diverse sectors to share in meaningful conversations over refreshments.

• Finally, **WFWP USA** maintained its commitment to storytelling and leadership by releasing monthly episodes of the *HerStory Podcast*, showcasing the values and visions of GWPN members across the country.

From pilgrimages to podcasts, from honoring mothers to building partnerships, GWPN continues to grow - deepening roots, nurturing healing, and amplifying the power of feminine leadership.



Thank you to our WFWP members, donors, and partners who walk this path with us. Your love and commitment are transforming lives and expanding our shared mission of peace.

The second quarter of 2025 was filled with heart and purpose - and the best is yet to come.

