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April 23, 2020

Well we are still hearing Coronavirus, COVID-19, Shelter in Place, social distancing of 6 feet, only 10 in a group, curb-side delivery or take out only from restaurants, and many other terms related to businesses not being fully operational or closed due to executive orders/directives from the state governors. I hope this finds all of you staying safe and healthy.

April is EARTH month which can be celebrated by repurposing your old things into something new especially if you are having to stay home.

This week celebrates volunteers. All FCE members should be celebrated for every one of you are volunteers in one way or another. We usually think of volunteers working in nursing homes, schools, etc., but at this time when you may be staying at home many of you are checking on your family, friends or neighbors to make sure they are okay; or you may be doing errands for those that are not able to be outside of their home which is being a volunteer. How about those FCE members that are making masks for all who need them, they are definitely volunteers. **I would like to give a “shout out” to all FCE members for the volunteerism that you do for family, home, and community.**

At this time, no decision has been made about the national conference. The national FCE board and conference committee will be having another conference call this next week to see what can be done.

April 29 is the day that the annual Women Walk the World takes place as a fundraiser for ACWW, but due to the challenges facing all of us at this time ACWW has postponed this function to October 15, 2020. Please see the message sent to us from the ACWW Central Office below.

Women Walk the World: Every year since 2012, ACWW members have used 'ACWW Day' on 29 April to raise awareness of our Association, promote our work, and raise money to support Pennies for Friendship. This is a really important day, and we are always so grateful and inspired by your efforts. This year, recognising the challenges and risks in walking in our communities globally, and the financial insecurity caused by the current Pandemic, ACWW has taken the decision to postpone Women Walk the World with the aim of celebrating it for 2020 on 15 October, coinciding with the International Day of Rural Women. This isn't planned as an ongoing change, but rather a chance to give everyone time to get through this difficult time, and hopefully celebrate later in the year. This is in line with World Health Organization guidance, which we support in advising people to stay safe and stay at home. We will be using this opportunity to produce new fundraising and awareness-raising materials, as well as developing a theme for the day that should help you engage your community with the work of ACWW. We will also be working on digital fundraising solutions in case the current conditions stay in place until October.

Please watch the website www.nafce.org for updates as they become available and remember to take advantage of the April special of 20% off your order. Judy Jones is working from home due to Kentucky's shelter in home order, but the orders emailed into the headquarters office will be honored when she is able to return to the office.

Everyone Stay Safe and Healthy!

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NAFCE President

