Our Distinguished Woman started working with Sister-to-Sister when she joined OML, mentoring young girls. She was an early supporter of the STEM Conference and the Sister to Sister concept morphed into the Ambassadorship Program, as part of the STEM Conference. The girls adore her. They know she will listen to them, encourage them and try to open doors for them.

She created the Parent Program, attended by 60 parents just this last weekend. This program, for Parents of STEM Conference attendees, addresses a variety of important social and emotional issues facing teenage girls, offering presentations from local experts, testimonials and dialogue with senior high school and Saint Mary’s College students, and other tools for parents to help navigate their daughters through their middle and high school years.

She spent years developing the relationship with Saint Mary’s College, for the STEM Conference, developing scholarships for women in the High Potential Program and who are 1st Gen college students, and was the champion of sending 2 girls from Saint Mary’s to NCWWSL. Her long term ongoing efforts developed significant relationships that resulted in Saint Mary’s College becoming part of AAUW’s College University Partnership program. Her work changes girl’s and young women’s lives.

If this is not enough, She is a tireless fundraiser, has worked on almost all of the OML fundraisers over many years. She was a champion of developing a Branch wide fundraiser. She chaired it now for 2 years and through her leadership, work, and inspiring others to ‘make the ask” from businesses and museums etc, along with others on the committee, has raised over 30,000 which ensures the future of our community outreach programs.

You can hear me speak while you drink coffee - because our 2024 Distinguished Woman comes early to make sure our meetings run smoothly, and she makes the coffee.

**Clearly Laura Wittenberg is a distinguished woman and deserves official recognition as Distinguished woman of 2024. Congratulations Laura Wittenberg!**