

# STAY CONNECTED DURING SOCIAL DISTANCING

*Dining for Women has always been about caring, connection, and community, and this is more important than ever as we experience this global crisis. Our support for women and girls internationally is also more important than ever – we know that women and girls are the most affected in times of crisis.*

***We all want our chapters to be able to safely meet again in person, but in the meantime, here are some ways to keep your chapter engaged with DFW, and with each other, during social distancing.***

## Virtual Meetings

Dining for Women holds National Virtual Chapter meetings open to all DFW members and guests. This is a great opportunity to hear from special speakers, such as DFW leadership and grantees, and to connect with members across the country. The meeting schedule and registration info is available on our website by clicking on the Join Us tab, and then [Upcoming Events](#).

Many chapters are holding their own virtual chapter meetings and have really enjoyed the connection with their members. Want to give it a try? We have a [flyer](#) that gives you all the info you need to get started!

## Other Ways to Stay Connected

- [Sign up for a free conference call number](#). Invite members to catch up with each other by phone.
- Send a monthly email with links to that month's projects, the dates/times of the National Virtual Chapter Meetings, and how they can still donate. DFW still publishes its e-newsletter, *The Dish*, but members often respond more to personal emails from their chapter leaders. See this [email sample](#).
- Encourage members to watch the monthly video, read the educational materials, and donate on their own. (Go to [www.diningforwomen.org](http://www.diningforwomen.org) and click on the Learn tab.)
- Email or text your members to check in on how they are doing and ask if they need anything.
- Send a postcard or card to your members to let them know you miss them and are thinking of them.
- Share the list of [upcoming grantees for the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2020](#) to get everyone excited about the amazing projects we will be funding in countries such as Liberia, the DRC, and Lebanon.
- Encourage your members to join our new DFW Book Club on Goodreads and participate in the "Big Read". (More info coming soon!)
- Hold a [Netflix party](#) and watch a documentary or movie together. A few good ones: *He Named Me Malala*; *Period. End of Sentence*; *Becoming*; *Mercury 13*; *Feminists: What Were They Thinking*.

## Follow Us on Social Media

New DFW events and activities are happening constantly. In order to communicate in a timely manner (and not flood you with emails), we post a lot of great information on our social media sites, especially Facebook. Please follow us on your favorite social media outlets and encourage your members to do the same. Click on the icons below.



## What About Meeting Outside?

As the weather gets nicer, some chapters may consider meeting outdoors. Resuming any type of in-person meetings are at the discretion of your chapter, however, DFW recommends extreme caution when considering this step. We urge you to:

- Follow the advice and guidelines of your local health authorities.
- Consult with your members, and respect those who may not be comfortable meeting in person.
- Ask members to stay home if they feel ill.
- Do not serve food; if you want to have food and/or beverages, ask members to bring their own.
- Maintain 6-foot distancing even if you are outdoors.
- Discourage handshakes and hugs!

## Collecting Donations

Your chapter may not be meeting, but DFW and women and girls still need your support! Some chapter leaders are asking members to send their checks to them so they can mail them to our bank lockbox as usual. If that is working for you, please continue! However your members give, their donations will be credited to your chapter!

**The best way for members to give is through automatic recurring donations. This cuts down on *your* workload as a chapter leader and ensures that DFW has a stable and predictable source of income in these uncertain times.**

## How to Do Recurring Donations

1. Click [here](#) for the form to set up automatic recurring donations by bank draft (preferred method) OR credit card.
2. Click [here](#) to sign up by credit card only.
3. Call DFW Home Office at 864-335-8401.

## Other Ways to Give

1. **Donate online** by credit card by clicking [here](#).
2. **Mail an individual check to:**

DFW Monthly Chapter Donations  
P.O. Box 890272  
Charlotte, NC 28289-0272

### **We Are Here to Help!**

DFW staff are more than happy to answer any questions or help you out in any way.

Please email [info@diningforwomen.org](mailto:info@diningforwomen.org) or call 864-335-8401.