# AMERICAN WAR MOTHERS RECORDS, 1973-2015

**Collection Information** 

**Historical Sketch** 

Scope and Content Note

Contents

Processed by

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Manuscript and Visual Collections Department William Henry Smith Memorial Library Indiana Historical Society 450 West Ohio Street Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

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## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

VOLUME OF 5 bound volumes COLLECTION:

COLLECTION 1973-2015 DATES:

PROVENANCE: Indiana State Chapter of American War Mothers-Letts, Barbara

G., Greenwood, IN

RESTRICTIONS: None

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RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION 2016.0074

NUMBER:

NOTES:

### HISTORICAL SKETCH

The American War Mothers began as a group of women with children fighting in WWI that came together through their efforts working on the Food Conservation Committee and the State Council of Indiana. The group was officially founded on September 29, 1917 by Alice M. French (1863-1934) of Indiana, who also became their first national president. By February 24, 1925, the organization became incorporated through an act of Congress (Public Law 453). The Indiana Chapter was organized first and incorporated on May 18, 1918. The first National Convention of War Mothers took place in Indianapolis on August 15, 1918.

The American War Mothers is a 501(c)4 non-profit, non-political, and non-partisan organization. The goal of its members is to engage in patriotic work and assist those who served and were wounded. Its members are mothers of children who have served or are serving in the Armed Forces during a time of conflict. Originally, this was limited to mothers of children serving between the dates of April 6, 1917 and November 11, 1918, but this was soon amended due to WWII and the Korean Conflict to include any future wars.

#### Sources:

"American War Mothers". http://snaccooperative.org/ark:/99166/w6wd8qhg
American War Mothers, Inc, "History". http://www.americanwarmothersofmd.com/history
Uniteus, "American War Mothers". https://www2.uniteus.com/groups/american-warmothers

#### SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains five bound volumes of the American War Mothers Indiana Chapter records spanning 1973-2015 including: minutes, reports, correspondence, newsletters, programs, procedures, and other miscellaneous papers.

# **CONTENTS**

| CONTENTS                                                   | CONTAINER |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| American War Mothers Indiana Chapter Records,<br>1973-1990 | BV5243    |
| American War Mothers Indiana Chapter Records, 1991-1999    | BV5244    |
| American War Mothers Indiana Chapter Records, 1999-2003    | BV5245    |
| American War Mothers Indiana Chapter Records, 2003-2009    | BV5246    |
| American War Mothers Indiana Chapter Records, 2010-2015    | BV5247    |