



GFWC Top Projects

From the 2021 Award Entries

These programs and projects were selected as the Top Projects by the GFWC Special Program, Community Service Program, and Advancement Plan Chairmen. The lists were comprised from the State Award Entries and Club Creativity Award Entries submitted by state chairmen.

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SIGNATURE PROGRAM: DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION

Purple Pumpkin Project

The Princeton Junior Woman's Club (IL) participated in the Purple Pumpkin Project for National Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October to raise funds for Princeton's Freedom House. Club members painted pumpkins, which were sold for a monetary donation of \$7 each. In total, the club raised \$6,500, and all the proceeds went to the Freedom House.

Appreciation Bags

The Wake Forest Woman's Club (NC) sewed fabric Appreciation Bags to give to the support staff of Safe Space, a local nonprofit organization that aims to reduce domestic and sexual violence in the community. The bags were filled with inspirational items such as mugs, poems, sweets, tea, and painted rocks. The Wake Forest Juniores also participated by creating handmade cards with personal notes of appreciation.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Cyber Club members from seven states with the GFWC Sweet Home Alabama Club (AL) worked on several different projects during Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October. One project involved a member sharing a local shelter's wish list with family, friends, and coworkers, and creating a drop-box location for donations. Other projects included working with the Purple Leash Project and donating cleaning supplies, paper goods, and other necessities to shelters.

Haven House Shelter

The seven members of the Circleville Junior Woman's Club (OH) worked together to provide residents and staff of the Haven House Shelter with fresh garden produce, casseroles, and baked goods. This emergency shelter provides temporary food and shelter to children and families.

Foster Care Project

The GFWC San Tan Valley Woman's Club (AZ) supported children ages 7-17 in group homes by donating \$500 worth of socks and underwear, renting a room at a local recreation hall to host a Christmas party for the kids, and raising money with the help of the community. The club raised enough money to give 20 children \$100 gift cards. Clubwomen also donated blankets, pillows, and a handmade pillowcase.

Hope Bags

The Woman's Club of Colorado Springs (CO) filled 32 Hope Bags with clothing items such as socks, bras, and underwear and gave the bags to local law enforcement agencies to use when they remove an individual from human trafficking situations.

Feeding Youth Without Homes

The Billings Junior Woman's Club (MT) worked to help feed youth ages 14-21 experiencing homelessness due to unstable home situations and concerns such as drug availability, mental health, the risk of suicide, and sex trafficking. Through grants and community support, clubwomen provided a monthly hot meal to 30 to 50 young people. They also

delivered boxes with additional food supplies, hygiene and toiletry products, clothing, and blankets.

Grateful Garment

The 11 members of the West Valley Federated Woman's Club (CA) provided a \$10,000 grant to Grateful Garment, which provides clothing to survivors of sexual assault who must undergo forensic rape exams. As part of the exam process, these individuals must leave their clothes to be tested for evidence. Grateful Garment works with police departments, hospitals, and human trafficking agencies.

Sand between the Grooves

The GFWC Woman's Club of Hartland (WI) poured purple sand into grooves of the sidewalks in downtown Hartland during Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October. The sand was a tool to draw the attention of passersby to a sign that read, "The sand between the grooves acknowledges victims of domestic violence and sex trafficking who have fallen through the cracks."

Free The Girls

The GFWC Pocono Mountain Woman's Club (PA) collected 200 gently used bras to support Free the Girls, an organization devoted to helping sex trafficking survivors find a path to economic freedom, restored health, social well-being, and education. The bras that are sent to Free the Girls help the survivors start a business selling the bras.

JUNIORS' SPECIAL PROGRAM: ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN

Egg My Yard

The GFWC Florentine Evening Club (MS) started an Egg My Yard fundraiser. For \$10 per dozen, colorful, plastic eggs filled with candy, stickers, and toys were delivered to people's yards Friday or Saturday evening before Easter for children to find Easter morning. Bunny paw prints and wooden "Easter Bunny" signs were also left. Funds were donated to Love in a Bag, a program that provides nutritious, prepackaged snacks weekly for about 50 students between two elementary schools.

Monster Petting Zoo

The Woman's Club of Greater New Milford (CT) hosted Halloween in the Green, complete with a Monster Petting Zoo. Members dressed up as "friendly monsters" and allowed children to visit them, take pictures, and pet them. The children could not feed the monsters, but the monsters gave out candy and cookies to attendees.

Project Serve Day

The Woman's Club of Saraland (AL) worked with University of Mobile employees on the school's Project Serve Day to put together 60 homemade bags filled with feminine hygiene products and information about how bodies change with age. The bags were delivered to rural high schools and a school that serves kindergarten through eighth grade. The club plans to continue to make bags as needed.

Rock the Crock

The GFWC Ewart Woman's Club (MI) hosted Rock the Crock, a program created in partnership with Angels in Action to assist families in creating nutritious meals cooked in a

crocker. For 12 weeks, members loaded bags of groceries and a new recipe into the backs of their cars to deliver to participating families. The program promoted learning, reading skills, family time, and communication.

Socktober!

The Woman's League of Mount Holly (NJ) organized Socktober, during which an old-fashioned clothes tree with clothing pins and three bins marked Children, Women, and Men was displayed at the county library to collect socks throughout October. In total 1,591 pairs of socks were collected and distributed to several sites that assist families, refugees, and resource centers. The club partnered with two realtor's offices, the VFW, and the Girl Scouts to coordinate and publicize the event.

Valentine Exchange

The DeQuincy Study Club (LA) partnered with a local primary school when they learned that individuals were experiencing limited funds due to the loss of jobs during COVID-19, and that as a result many families couldn't afford valentines for the annual Valentine Exchange. Members donated hundreds of valentines to the school so that all the children could participate in the exchange.

Friday Night Out

The Alamo Women's Club (CA) organized Friday Night Out, a program that provides social opportunities for special needs high school students in a safe environment where they can develop their social interaction skills. The event was held on Zoom during the earlier days of the COVID-19 pandemic and in the parking lot of their clubhouse in person in October 2021. The parking lot was decorated for the event and members gave out candy.

Misfit "Stuffies" Program

The GFWC Stevens Point Woman's Club (WI) organized a misfit "stuffies" program, during which broken stuffed animals and books were collected throughout the year and then washed, repaired, and repackaged before being shipped for distribution. A donated book was matched with each mended stuffed toy and donated to schools, churches, hospitals, Operation Bootstrap, service agencies, and others in need.

Little Dresses

The GFWC Woman's Club of Westminster (MD) made 458 dresses and 34 shorts for Little Dresses, a program that provides new, handmade dresses and shorts to children in developing countries and Native American children in the U.S. The dresses and shorts were sent to Africa, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and to Operation Christmas Child.

The Pumpkin House

The Woman's Club of Logan (WV) transformed a local house into "The Pumpkin House" during the town's Hocus Pocus Festival in October. The club purchased 1,000 pumpkins and took them to local schools for the children to carve before putting them on display throughout the house. During the festival, there was Halloween music, hayrides, a selfie stand and more.

ARTS AND CULTURE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Inspiring Window Creations

The GFWC Ohio Warren Juniores (OH) came together during National Volunteer Week to brighten the days of residents of the Courtland Health Care Center. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic causing restrictions on visitations and in-person contact, the Juniores hand-painted the exterior windows of residents' rooms. The windows came alive with vibrant and inspiring themes, colors, and messages and the residents enjoyed watching the creations evolve. The Juniores also provided a healthy snack to each resident.

Art Contest with a Twist

The GFWC Valamont Woman's Club (TN) hosted an art contest on Martin Luther King, Jr. Make a Difference Day. Pages from adult coloring books and crayons were delivered to a nursing home and an independent living facility for residents to participate in the contest, and the completed pages were taken to a kindergarten class for judging. Awards for winners were framed cross-stitch pictures made by a deceased member. Entries were later returned to the facilities for display.

Teamwork to Paint Storm Drains

The GFWC North Pinellas Woman's Club (FL) teamed up with the GFWC Pinellas Juniores (FL) to paint coastal themes on storm drains throughout the city. Paint, brushes, and art supplies were provided by the county. The scenes were designed by fourth- and fifth-grade public school students and depicted sea life, including turtles, jellyfish, and dolphins. Preventing the disposal of grass clippings, trash, and household chemicals into storm drains is critical to maintaining safe and clean waterways.

Potluck Dinner to Celebrate Diversity

The GFWC Skowhegan Woman's Club (ME) held a potluck dinner at Christmastime to celebrate their diversity. Club members come from various backgrounds with stories and traditions passed down from generation to generation, and they wanted to share those traditions. Members brought a dish that is served in their home during the holidays, a recipe to share, and a story about the origin of the dish. Members learned a little more about each other while enjoying a delicious meal.

Comfort and Joy for Veterans

The GFWC Wamego Study Club (KS) hosted a Christmas Veterans Workshop to sew and decorate 217 red, green, and white felt stockings. Sweet treasures of chocolate and peppermint were tucked inside each stocking, and hygiene items and gift cards were also donated. The stockings were used as tray favors for veterans at the Colmery-O'Neil Veterans Hospital in Topeka, Kansas. They are a favorite with the veterans and are kept as a Christmas keepsake.

Boo Boo Bunnies and Bookworms

The Northboro Junior Woman's Club (MA) provided a craft activity once a month at the Northborough Library that tied into the library's theme of the week. The club came up with creative craft ideas such as "boo boo" bunnies, bookworms, dog puppets, and a fun frog and fly craft game for the "Tuesday Crafternoon." Extra supplies were donated to the library and 30 kits were assembled each month for families to complete at home.

“Be The Light” Youth Coloring Contest

The Junior Women’s Club of Lake Murray (SC) hosted their Second Annual Youth Coloring Contest. Coloring pages reflected the “Be the Light” club theme and encouraged children to express their creativity and appreciation for the arts. Ten submissions were judged and a winner for each category, ages 6 and under and 7-12, were announced and awarded with art supplies and a personalized lap desk. The contest was advertised on the club’s Facebook page and website.

Warm Hats for Warm Hearts

The Santa Clara Woman’s Club (CA) “Warm Hats for Warm Hearts” project was designed to share their knitting and crocheting skills with the community. Volunteer time was spent knitting, crocheting, and embellishing hats, which were donated to the Kaiser Oncology Infusion Center; the Santa Clara Salvation Army Nutrition Program, which provides hot lunches for Seniors; and to the St. Justin Community Ministry, which provides food, jackets, hats, and blankets to families and people without homes.

Artwork for Community Heroes

The Darien Woman’s Club (IL) used Zoom, Facebook, Instagram, their website, and Sign-Up Genius to safely work with each other, schools, and churches to have groups create 5.5”x5.5” cardboard canvases expressing thanks to community heroes. Each step allowed for contactless exchange of the canvases and artwork. Final artwork was compiled into “hanging quilts” displayed at the library for the summer. The artwork was also requested to be displayed at a 9/11 Remembrance Day event at a local park.

Making a House a Home

The GFWC Oconomowoc Junior Woman’s Club (WI) partnered with Oconomowoc High School to provide a service-learning opportunity as part of the school’s Freshman Day of Service. The students learned about homelessness and expanded the club’s work to help furnish apartments for families by making personal home décor items to help “make the house a home.” Art supplies were purchased, and students created 20 pillows, 30 dishtowels, 20 macramé wall hangings, and 15 paintings.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Adopting a Veteran

The GFWC Harwinton Women’s Club (CT) adopted 21 veterans from a local nursing home. Members visited the nursing home and learned each veteran’s name, rank, and branch of service. After this, the club’s Veteran’s Committee, along with other local veterans and a chaplain, gathered in front of the nursing home to recognize the veterans there and presented them with ribbons adorned with their service information attached to American flags. The flags were then planted in the ground.

Operation Stand Down Tennessee

The GFWC Brentwood Franklin Women’s Service Club (TN) partnered with the Veteran Mentorship program in Operation Stand Down Tennessee to support veterans as they transition from military service into civilian life. Members frequently donated clothing,

household items, monthly baked goods, and Christmas boxes. Two fundraisers provided food, door prizes, and gift cards for additional funds.

Operation Bundles of Love

The GFWC Montgomery Woman's Club (OH) supported Operation Bundles of Love, a program to help expecting military families. The club was asked to host a collection drive for baby items by the state director of the United Service Organizations. Donations were made by clubwomen, community members, other local women's clubs, and individuals from the GFWC Ohio Southwest District.

Wreaths Across America

Members of the GFWC Herndon Woman's Club (VA) spent a year preparing for their Wreaths Across America event. They updated their veteran's database, sent information/sponsorship cards to potential donors, placed cards in public places, and attended community events. They also organized the wreath-laying ceremony and placed the wreaths at the veterans' gravesites. The club donated \$13,500 as part of this project.

Supporting Afghanistan Refugees

The GFWC Woman's Club of Colorado Springs (CO) is working with the Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountains to support Afghanistan refugee families, consisting of 178 people. Members raised \$6,000 to directly support families with resources for housing, utility bills, and other essential needs. Three members attended a Zoom training session as part of this project, and more are scheduled.

Suitcase Stories

The GFWC Dedham Junior Women's Club (MA) spent 600 hours working on research, meeting with community leaders, and planning and collaborating with the International Institute of New England to create Suitcase Stories, which invite dialogue between U.S and foreign-born residents to develop and share life-changing experiences of migration and cultural change. A Zoom presentation was offered to the community.

Fill My Bowl

The GFWC Calhoun Women's Club (GA) volunteered 69 hours to Fill My Bowl, an event to raise funds for a soup kitchen and thrift shop. Members set up and decorated tables placed under an arbor and around the grounds, and prepared soups, breads, and desserts. Each attendee donated to receive a bowl from a selection provided by members, which guests could then keep as a reminder of the prevalence of food insecurity.

Family Promise

The GFWC Salem Woman's Club (NH) partnered with Family Promise, an organization working to end homelessness. Members toured the facility and made a commitment of \$10,000 over two years, with the first \$5,000 being used to decorate a community room. Clubwomen also collected food and provided a meal once a month for more than 60 families and provided Christmas gifts to more than 30 children. The members donated 194 volunteer hours, \$5,000, and \$3,400 in-kind.

Lighthouse for Broken Wings

The GFWC Zwaanendael Woman's Club (DE) provided lunches for more than 120 people who were living in hotels at different times during 2021 by working with Lighthouse for

Broken Wings, an organization that supports people without homes. Members made and delivered 3,720 meals and donated \$4,170 from their treasury to purchase gift cards from stores during the holidays. Another \$1,139 was collected from businesses and through the club's website. Members volunteered 1,037 hours and donated \$9,736 in-kind.

Adopt A Native Elder

The GFWC Laramie Women's Club (WY) supported Adopt a Native Elder, a nonprofit program that aims to reduce poverty and hardship. Food, firewood, and medical supplies were donated to Dine' Navajo Elders on the Navajo Reservation in Arizona and Utah, including 17 10-pound bags of Bluebird Flour, cash, and in-kind donations. Members received special blessings in a Giveaway Circle with Dine' Navajo Elders, and they purchased authentic Native American jewelry to be raffled to raise additional funds for the Elders.

EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Virtual STEM Conference

The GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club (MA) sponsored a virtual Women in STEM conference for 150 girls. Sixteen workshops held by STEM-related professionals were planned with hands-on projects. The club also purchased the supplies, goody bags, and T-shirts. The girls participated in various workshops throughout the day and heard from the keynote speaker on the topic of research. A donation was made to a local STEM education center to thank the volunteer speakers.

Hands-on Learning

GFWC LaFayette Woman's Club (GA) supported middle school students with moderate disabilities in a creative way by donating time and supplies to assist the special needs class in their fundraising challenge. The STEM challenge encouraged hands-on learning such as sales, counting, and creating recipes. Members donated eggs, helped with cooking, and assisted the students in raising \$835 in sales, alongside other school organizations such as FFA and Beta Club.

Pirate Adventures

The GFWC Outer Banks Woman's Club (NC) hosted a pirate-themed event as they collaborated with their local Kid Fest organization. Activities included STEM-type science experiments with water, an obstacle treasure hunt, and a music-themed book walk. The 50 children in attendance were gifted pirate stickers, and a gift basket of pirate puzzles and books was raffled.

Community Sewing Classes

The GFWC Glendale Woman's Club (AZ) taught sewing classes to girls in the community. Member instructors planned three projects for students to learn a variety of sewing techniques. Classes were held for three hours per day for four days at the clubhouse. Students completed a stuffed teddy bear, a tote bag, and a personal mask. A graduation ice cream party ceremony was held for students to display their new skills. All items were donated by members.

Look for a Book Project

GFWC Gloucester Woman's Club (NJ) created a Look for a Book project to increase literacy in young children. Members placed picture books in Ziploc bags with flyers explaining the

program with 175 books hidden around the community for children to find. Books were placed in parks and playgrounds across the county and other locations. Finders were encouraged to send pictures on social media of reading the found book and were featured in the local newspaper.

Book Walk

The GFWC Yoder Woman's Club (WY) took a book walk each month in their town. Sixteen metal racks were placed along Main Street that each held different pages of a laminated book and allowed children to spend time outside walking and reading. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held for elementary school students to walk the eight blocks to read one of the stories. Members cleaned and replaced the stories once a month.

Indoor Zoo

The GFWC DeQuincy Study Club (LA) helped their local elementary school increase the excitement of returning to school after various stressful events in the area, including hurricane devastations and COVID-19. They helped turn the school into a zoo, with each classroom housing a different animal theme and staff dressed up as animals. The club also provided *National Geographic Young Explorer* and *National Geographic Explorer* magazines for 260 students.

Read Across America

GFWC Jubilee Woman's Club (AL) created a YouTube channel where videos were uploaded to celebrate Read Across America Day. A local author donated copies of his book *Oscar's Great Adventure*, which were then provided to local school libraries. Members recorded the book and the recording had 295 views. The club reached 328 schools with more than 6,000 students impacted by their online project.

Drive-Through Graduation

GFWC Salem Area Woman's Club (NH) celebrated their graduating seniors with a drive-through graduation program. The club contacted the photographer for the senior yearbook photos and had banners of each graduate's picture displayed along the drive-through route. Personalized cards and a key chain charm were presented to each graduate from the club.

Golf Cart Library

The GFWC Tourist Club (MN), as the founders of the first library in their community, also started the first mobile golf cart library. The members prepared the golf cart, filled the mobile library with retired library books, and drove the cart weekly in the summer to a community event. The books were offered for free to community members and donations were accepted.

ENVIRONMENT COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Water Quality

The GFWC Rhinelander Woman's Club (WI) donated \$2,500 to their local public radio station, WXPR, for airtime to discuss critical water quality issues including aquifers, lakes, rivers, and springs with an emphasis on keeping and improving the water quality of the Northwoods of Wisconsin.

Water Efficient Landscapes - Going the Extra Yard

The GFWC Woman's Club of Indio (CA) partnered with the city of Indio and the Indio Water Authority to beautify the city while also conserving water. The city recognized the potential benefits of the Woman's Club Yard of the Month Program to help promote the availability of \$250,000 in rebate funds for turf conversion to water efficient landscapes. The program educated the community on their desert climate and the need for native plantings and water efficient landscapes.

Letters to Representatives

GFWC Woman's Club of Crestview (FL) members wrote letters to Congress asking them to vote "yes" on environmental legislation concerning natural resources and educated the public on how they can do their part to decrease the use of plastics, their carbon footprint, and the number of natural resources they use each day.

NexTrex Challenge

GFWC Woman's Club of Colorado Springs (CO) participated in the NexTrex Challenge Program that encourages groups to recycle polyethylene plastic film such as plastic bags, dry cleaning bags, bread bags, and more. NexTrex donates a composite bench for each 500 pounds collected. Members also partnered with the American Association of University Women to collect plastic film and received a second bench. The club kept more than 1,600 pounds of plastic from landfills and increased environmental awareness.

Veteran's Vegetable Gardens

GFWC Riverside Woman's Club (CA) helped replant individual vegetable gardens at Camp Anza, a low-income veteran's housing project. The members brought soil, mulch, tools, and six-packs of vegetable plants. They assisted the residents in spacing and planting their gardens and helped spread mulch and watered the gardens. The bountiful harvest of healthy food was appreciated by the veterans.

Adopt a Pot

GFWC Dover Area Woman's Club (NH) changed their past project of decorating and maintaining gardens at the Riverside Nursing Home to an Adopt a Pot project to involve more members. Each member was asked to adopt a pot or small garden plot and design it with their own color scheme. They planted flowers and plants and changed decorations with each holiday. The pots were located near the main entrance and visible from most resident's windows.

Recycling Light Strands

GFWC Pennington Gap Woman's Club (VA) members repaired holiday displays in the local park. They removed 450 sets of old light strands from the Christmas Fantasy display and replaced them with new energy efficient lights. The old light strands were sent to be stripped and recycled for the copper wiring.

Purple Martins

GFWC Chapin Woman's Club (SC) donated \$1,000 to the purple martin project at the new elementary school, Piney Woods Elementary. The project was inspired by the school's mascot, a bird in the swallow family. The goal of the project is to develop a full purple martin nesting system for the school campus to assist in and encourage sustainability of the

purple martin population in the area, as well as engage the school's students in various conservation efforts.

Oregon Federation of Women's Club Memorial Forest Restoration

GFWC Portland Woman's Club (OR) continued the work of the Oregon Federation of Women's Clubs, who in 1953 funded the 152-acre OFWC Memorial Forest following large wildfires in the 1930s and 40s. During this time, a total of 355,000 acres burned during the 20-year period. The club donated \$1,000 to the State Forestry Department to aid with reforestation following another devastating fire in the fall of 2020.

Invasive Species Removal

The GFWC Harland Club (WI) partnered with their park board to clear an entire riverbank of vegetation overrun with invasive species. They replanted the area with perennials and ferns to restore beauty and prevent erosion.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Port Softies

The Lamoille Women's Club (NV) searched the internet and found a sewing pattern for "Port Softies," a pad with straps that attaches to seat belts to distribute pressure over the area of a chest port used by chemotherapy patients. The four club members sewed 24 Port Softies and donated them to Ronald McDonald House Charities.

Vision and Hearing Screening for Children

Silver City Woman's Club (NM) members traveled to schools in two counties to screen 468 children for vision and referred 79 to local eye doctors. Club members also evaluated the hearing of 136 Head-Start children.

No Food Waste

Circleville Junior Women's Club (OH) members met twice a month to work with local farmers and gardeners to pick up and deliver extra produce to the county food bank. Through the season these items included 40 dozen ears of corn, 300 pounds of tomatoes, 240 pints of blackberries, 50 pounds of cucumbers, 60 pounds of squash, 50 watermelons, 40 pounds of peaches, and 60 pounds of apples.

Colorful Pillowcases for Children

Chambers Bay Women's Club (WA) connected with Ryan's Case for Smiles to provide colorful pillowcases to children battling cancer in the hospital. Club members donated 100 yards of fabric and then cut, sewed, pressed, and bagged the completed pillowcases, which are taken home by the children upon leaving the hospital.

Spreading Love with Meals on Wheels

GFWC Legacy (AL) sponsored a placemat art competition at one of the local Title 1 elementary schools and treated participating children to a trip to Chick-fil-A. Ninety-three Valentine-themed placemats created by the children were laminated and delivered by Meals on Wheels drivers to brighten their clients' Valentine's Day.

Free, Unbiased Medicare Counseling and Elder Care

The GFWC High Springs New Century Woman's Club (FL) hosted a workshop for their community with Elder Options, the state-designated area agency on aging. In addition to individual Medicare counseling, there were presentations on fall prevention, abuse in later life, caregiver training and support, diabetes empowerment education, and more. Participants were even able to enjoy a tai chi mini class. Snacks were available during breaks and transportation and homebound options were offered.

Operation Cuddly Comfort for Alzheimer's Patients

The Woman's Club of Point Pleasant (NJ) collected donations and funds raised through Facebook to provide 36 dolls for Alzheimer's and dementia patients. Club members prepared the dolls with a blanket and change of clothes and created a birth certificate for each.

Yes....You Can Be Too Old

The GFWC North Pinellas Woman's Club (FL) partnered with an organization that helps teens and young adults who have aged out of foster care build critical life skills, including cooking healthy meals and budgeting their finances. Members donated pots and food and taught a cooking class via Zoom. They also donated duffel bags, backpacks, and books about the body and healthy eating.

Laundry Love

The GFWC Statesville Woman's Club (NC) partnered with the Iredell-Statesville School System to support the McKinney-Vento program, which aids homeless students. Club members donated detergent pods as well as quarters for dryers to fund "dirty laundry days" within the school system.

Chalk Day

Seward Woman's Club (NE) members partnered with Court Appointed Special Advocates and the Seward school system to host an event for children at the Civic Center. Children of all ages created sidewalk art with a purpose and message on the topic of children's health and the students shared what their section represented. The club furnished the chalk, treats, and fun prizes.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS ADVANCEMENT PLAN

Historic Clubhouse Open House & Ribbon Cutting

The GFWC Statesville Woman's Club (NC) reintroduced itself and its historic clubhouse through an Open House and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. The main goal for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was public relations. Members spruced up the clubhouse, set out fall decor, and prepared refreshments. The mayor and ambassadors from the local chamber attended and articles were written in the local paper. The chamber also published a story about the open house in its newsletter and online.

What is Old is New Again

The GFWC Clarksville Woman's Club (TN), a club originally formed more than a century ago, reactivated after leaving the Federation about 20 years ago. After the State President met with former members to discuss the club rejoining the Federation, they ultimately

decided to do so. In less than six months, the club launched a website, created two Facebook pages, designed a club logo, published online and print articles, held an open house, and gained more than 50 members.

Golf Tournament

The GFWC Silver City Woman's Club (NM) hosted their annual golf tournament. To promote their club, they added a club brochure to the swag bags given to each golfer with information about the club and their activities.

Bee-Lieve You Can

GFWC Palos Park Woman's Club (IL) members were inspired by the State President's focus on bees and created HIVES, a new way to communicate with each other. Each region - or HIVE - was assigned a "beekeeper" by the club president. Communication soared as each beekeeper was responsible for keeping their HIVE informed and connected and no member was left behind.

Annual Run/Walk/10K/5K

The GFWC Ashcake Woman's Club, Inc. (VA) hosted their annual Harvest Run/Walk 10K/5K, using their event website. Ads were placed in local newspapers and posters were placed in local businesses. A four-foot by ten-foot banner was strategically placed on a busy roadway, promoting the race, and listing the GFWC Ashcake Woman's Club as sponsor. Yard signs were also placed by members around Ashland, Virginia, to increase awareness of the event and club.

Local Youth Sponsorships

GFWC Candia Community Women's Club (NH) sponsored their local Youth Athletic Association. In return, there is a banner displayed inside the facility with the GFWC logo and the club's name for the community to view.

A Bicentennial Celebration

The GFWC Woman's Club of Ste. Genevieve (MO) participated in the annual Jour de Fete Festival in August. In celebration of the bicentennial of Missouri, the club welcomed visitors to the oldest town in the state. Members handed out bottled water and told guests about the club as they boarded a trolley that took them to the festivities downtown. The club also placed an ad in the local paper to show support for the event.

Can You Hear Me Now?

The GFWC Jubilee Woman's Club (AL) wanted to make sure their neighbors knew they were still active and ready to help during the pandemic. They created a short promotional video showing the club members in action and shared it on their Facebook page. They also set up a Venmo account and requested donations for their club projects in lieu of a fundraiser. They received online donations and gained a new member.

Round Robin Calls

The GFWC Town and Country Woman's Club (PA) held three Round Robin calling activities in place of in-person meetings. One designated member would start the Round Robin by calling another club member and they would talk for 15 minutes. After ending that call, the

person who was originally called would then call another member. This continued until the last caller phoned the designated member to close the circle.

Chamber Exposure

GFWC of Central Oregon (OR) maintains an active membership in the local chamber and their name is announced at weekly meetings. The club sees their exposure as vital to their community and being involved with the chamber allows them the opportunity to listen and learn about needs in their community. The club members also attend the chamber's annual award banquet.

FUNDRAISING AND DEVELOPMENT ADVANCEMENT PLAN

Children's Consignment Store

The GFWC Salem Woman's Club (OR) partnered with a local children's consignment store to receive their unsold clothing items each month and became members of the United Way Good360 Program, which sources highly needed, surplus items and makes them available at no cost to other nonprofits for donations. As a result, the club donated \$10,445 in-kind.

Taste of Granbury, 2021

The GFWC Woman's Wednesday Club of Granbury (TX) hosted a tasting event featuring area chefs, brewers, and distillers for 150 guests. The food and drinks were donated, and local businesses helped pay for a significant portion of other event expenses. Money from the fundraising event went toward traditional and nontraditional scholarships for women. In total, members raised \$50,000 for the scholarships.

Cash Calendar Raffle

The GFWC Brown Deer Junior Woman's Club (WI) hosted a cash calendar raffle called "\$22 in 22." Members sold tickets for \$10 apiece and drawings were held three times a week for a month. Winning totals were either \$22 or \$122, and there was one grand prize of \$4,322. In total, members raised more than \$2,770.

Holiday Drive By House Tour

The GFWC Needham Women's Club (MA) created a fundraiser encouraging residents to vote for their favorite house in the neighborhood that was decorated for the holidays. Homeowners were also encouraged to request voting support from family, friends, and neighbors. People could donate \$20 for a ticket to choose their favorite decorated home. In total, members raised \$11,636.

Beaches, Baskets and Bucks Online Reverse Raffle

GFWC South Brunswick Island Woman's Club (NC) members collected items for raffle prize baskets and sold tickets for \$50. The tickets were then drawn during a Facebook Live event, and participants could win a \$4,000 grand prize, a seven-night stay in Key West, Florida, gift baskets valued at \$75 or higher, and more. The raffle was promoted on the club's website, Facebook, and in the local newspaper. In total, members raised \$17,570.

Golf tournament

The Lexington Woman's Club (SC) hosted a golf tournament with the goal of bringing clubwomen, community members, and local sponsors together for a day of golf, food, and fellowship. The event raised \$20,799 for scholarships and selected projects.

Live Music on the Lawn

The GFWC Centennial Club of Tullahoma (TN) hosted an outdoor fundraiser complete with a live band and a gourmet picnic dinner. To promote the club, members created a GFWC logo picnic bag with a blanket, bottles of water, and drink vouchers. Tickets for the event were sold at \$100 per couple, and a live auction and certificate auction were held during the event. In total, 166 people attended the fundraiser.

Ready, Set, Aim

The GFWC Brandon Service League, Inc. (FL) hosted their first Sporting Clays Shoot at Fish Hawk Sporting Clays. Teams of four signed up to test their shooting skills against each other, and trophies were presented to the Most Improved Shooter, Best Team, Best Individual Shooter, and the Club Favorite. The afternoon was capped off by a barbecue dinner, 50/50 drawing, and basket raffle. In total, members raised \$6,000.

Organizing Tours

The GFWC Yankton Club (SD) organized tours to unique places and various art events in the tri-state area, including concerts, events to learn about Mennonites and Hutterite colonies, a trip to Omaha, and a dinner theatre. With the funds raised, the club donated to Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership and provided two \$1,000 scholarships.

Very Dangerous Raging River Duck Race

GFWC of Holden Beach (NC) hosted a "Very Dangerous Raging River Duck Race" at a Wyndham Resort Lazy River. Members bought, sold, and numbered rubber ducks, kept track of the duck owners and their corresponding number, and entered the water to catch ducks as they crossed the finish line. More than 800 ducks were sold either at \$10 each or as part of a sponsorship package. In total, members raised \$2,625.

LEADERSHIP ADVANCEMENT PLAN

Rhoda the Roving Reporter

GFWC Fort Benton Women's Club (MT) leaders realized that information shared from state meetings would be well received if done in a humorous way. "Rhoda the Roving Reporter" was created by a club member who is a past State President, and she presented a segment at each club meeting. She donned a mortarboard to talk about scholarship programs, GFWC gear to talk about programs, and more.

Micro-Mini LEADS

The GFWC Semper Fidelis Club (ME) filled a last-minute speaker cancellation by quickly preparing a Micro-Mini LEADS program for the club meeting. GFWC LEADS graduates within the club each presented a 10-minute segment, including Intro to LEADS, the Feedback Figure Game, Communications Charades, and Power Posing. GFWC LEADS applications were also distributed. The program was so well received by club members that it will be a yearly planned program in the future!

Statewide Leadership Club

GFWC New Hampshire has founded a statewide Leadership Club comprised of graduates of the GFWC LEADS training. They have gained knowledge of GFWC and leadership at LEADS and now share it with all GFWC New Hampshire members. They organized a state LEADS

seminar and visited clubs, where they distributed *Robert's Rules of Order* and mentored new leaders. They also promote GFWC LEADS to all clubs and help select the candidate for LEADS each year.

Past Presidents Video Presentation

GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club (MA) interviewed 10 past club presidents to create a video sharing their individual leadership experiences. They showed it at a club meeting, and then posted the video on their club website and public Facebook page. The intent was to share the power of becoming a leader within the club, but it was also a great way to help new and future members understand the value of GFWC membership.

Distinguished Young Women Scholarship

The GFWC Morgan County Woman's Club (KY) sponsored a Distinguished Young Women Scholarship for local high school juniors and seniors. Participants were evaluated for scholastic achievement, on stage presentation, and interview skills. The winner was appointed the future President of the Juniores Club, and then created a *Be Your Best Self* program to present to upper elementary students. The program allows younger students to be educated while the Juniores learn valuable leadership skills.

Leadership Lending Library

The Woman's Club of Aurora (IL) created a Leadership Lending Library for members to have access to resources. The library includes leadership books, folders of dozens of GFWC leadership tools and tips, the GFWC Leadership Advancement Guide, protocols, policies, and ideas for invocations, inspirations, and ceremonies. They also printed the GFWC Leadership Toolkit topics. Since so many resources are now digital, the library allows members to easily see resources that they can then access themselves online.

Annual Club Planning Meeting

GFWC Tuesday Club of Columbia (MO) hosted a planning meeting and invited all members. A PowerPoint was displayed that explained GFWC, Region, State Federation, and District structure and defined Affiliate Organizations, CSPs, and Advancement Plans. Breakout groups evaluated current club projects and programs and proposed changes for the club to vote on. Members joined committees for the upcoming year and the event ended with social time. Gaining a better understanding of GFWC and club structure, projects, and goals equipped more members to take ownership.

Members Choose Focus Project

The XJWC Club in Cheyenne (WY) realized that members needed to fully participate in choosing the club's focus project so that there would be less dissension. Members were asked to submit ideas for local causes to support, and then asked to vote for their top three once the list was compiled. Those three projects were presented in more detail to the club, and a private ballot chose the focus project. Standardizing the selection process created better buy-in.

Building Leaders Through Encouragement

The president of GFWC Warren Woman's Club (AR) led by example by adding encouraging notes or leadership quotes to the monthly meeting agendas so that members were always thinking about leadership and feeling appreciated. The president used the club newsletter to

brag about specific members and their leadership potential and skills. She also asked members to fill certain roles rather than just hoping they would volunteer, and they said yes.

Demystifying Board Positions

The Carrizozo Woman's Club (NM) restructured their board from five to eight positions to better divide the workload and attract new leaders. To explain the new positions and their roles and responsibilities to both new and veteran members, each board member used "three little words" to describe their duties in a creative skit. The board members also designed their own hat to communicate what "hats" they wore while serving on the board.

LEGISLATION/PUBLIC POLICY ADVANCEMENT PLAN

Legislation Day

The Rochester Junior Women's Club (MI) hosted a remote Legislation Day, which included information about the history of GFWC's legislative advocacy, a review of milestone legislation that GFWC has advocated for successfully, and more. A Michigan Senator also spoke during the event about the power of grassroots organizations, how governments work with organizations like GFWC, and how to successfully communicate with representatives. Members also played a Jeopardy-style game to learn about being non-partisan in a partisan world.

Use the GFWC Legislative Action Center

GFWC Taunton and Raynham Junior Woman's Club (MA) members discussed GFWC's latest priority issues during meetings and encouraged members to register for the Legislative Action Center (LAC). The legislative concerns were included in every club newsletter, and members were invited to draft unique letters to their representatives rather than using a mass-produced letter, which can be easier to disregard. Links to the GFWC LAC were also added to the club's website.

Private Toll Bridge Advocacy

Columbiana Culture Club (AL) led a grassroots effort to educate their community about the environmental impact, increased traffic, and strain on public safety that would be a result of a proposed private toll bridge. Club members also contacted area legislators and county commissioners.

Lobbyist Speaker

The GFWC Tekonsha Research Club (MI) invited a lobbyist, who is also a member's son, to speak at a club meeting. He explained how educational policy is shaped within government. Members also received handouts to help them better understand how lobbyists work to bridge educators and public policy makers.

Public Defender Tea

The Mesquite Club of Las Vegas (NV) hosted an afternoon tea event and invited a local public defender as the guest speaker. She spoke about the purpose of the Supreme Court, the history of the Court, and how its decisions relate to the U.S. Constitution.

Meet The Mayor

The Wake Forest Juniors Club (NC) invited their city mayor to attend their Zoom meeting in March. The mayor offered a summary of her early and college life and spoke

about her term responsibilities as mayor. The club officers also prepared some additional questions. Overall, this meeting helped the Juniorettes learn about leadership and what it takes to be active in their community.

Pocket Constitution Booklets

The Wake Forest Woman's Club (NC) Civil Engagement and Outreach Community Service Project Committee purchased 100 pocket U.S. Constitution booklets and donated them to the Northern Wake Senior Center. The booklets can be used to promote civic engagement and advocating for all rights, including voting rights.

Flag Collection and Retirement Project

The Fuquay-Varina Woman's Club (NC) started a Flag Collection and Retirement Project to ensure American flags are retired properly. As part of this project, two grocery stores put out receptacles in their stores for area residents to bring old or worn-out flags. The flags were then taken to the American Legion for disposal. The project was promoted on Facebook and the club's website and resulted in 60 flags being collected.

Munster Choice Council

GFWC Munster Junior Women's Club (IN) members participated in a local council established by the chief of police that consists of people from all backgrounds. Members participated by educating, promoting, and raising awareness about creating a safe environment, community cooperation and involvement, and how to prevent gang violence and drug use.

Candidates Forum

The GFWC Dedham Junior Women's Club (MA) hosted two candidates' forums on Zoom. Community members were able to hear directly from the election candidates and understand their positions, allowing voters to make more informed voting decisions. The local cable TV network also attended, and both the candidates and members appreciated the opportunity to meet and hear from each other.

MEMBERSHIP ADVANCEMENT PLAN

Spring Into Summer

The GFWC Bitterroot Club (MT) used the GFWC Recruitment Grant to set up a booth at the Spring Into Summer community nonprofit fair for residents to connect to volunteer organizations. The club decorated its booth with pictures of club activities using a freestanding banner and members engaged with interested visitors, passed out informational pamphlets, and gave out free seed packets labeled with club contact information. Members updated the club contact list with people who showed interest.

Multiplying Membership

GFWC Yankton (SD) members invited women in the community to attend a salad luncheon to learn about GFWC and the history of the club. Following the luncheon, attendees had time for questions and answers. Along with this event, the addition of 27 members to the club motivated the membership chairman to organize day trip fundraisers for the club's community service programs while promoting friendships and member retention.

Getting To Know You

The Lemont Junior Woman's Club (IL) Membership Team helped members connect with a "Getting to Know You" social media activity that provided a method for members to learn about each other from the comfort of their homes. A template was designed and posted on Facebook for members to complete with a picture and information about themselves. Each participating member was assigned a day to post their page, while others engaged by commenting on the posts to build connections.

Putting It All on The Table

The Junior Women's Club of Barnesville (OH) used the GFWC Membership Grant to create restaurant-style placemats showcasing each of the seven community service programs, their club's name, date, and time of meetings, a "Proud to be a Volunteer" message, the GFWC logo, and contact information. Each mat noted the club's Facebook page and information about an opportunity to win a \$50 gas card by taking a selfie at the restaurant and posting it to the club's Facebook page.

Get To Know Your Neighbors

The Gunter Ladies for Tomorrow Club (TX) was started in July 2021 when a 40-year GFWC member moved into an area that did not have a federated club and few opportunities for women to volunteer together. She posted in a neighborhood Facebook group asking if anyone was interested in forming a club and received 60 responses. With no prior knowledge of GFWC, they caught the "volunteer spirit" and formed a club with 22 members, with 16 more joining later.

Building Family

Chartered in 2020, GFWC Iowa Quad Cities Woman's Club (IA) hosted a Sunday Family Lunch with members inviting their spouses and children to build family ties. The event was an excellent way for the newly formed club to become better acquainted. Realizing that members are like family in a federated club, this event provided a time to bond and for members to understand and appreciate the volunteer service of their club.

Puzzling Adventures

GFWC Woman's Club of the Midlands (SC) held a Puzzling Adventures social and dinner that included a trivia and history tour of Columbia, South Carolina. Members were divided into two teams and used game software to earn points based on correct answers to history-based questions and submitted pictures. Club members got a lot of exercise, enjoyed friendly competition, saw historical sites, and enjoyed dinner together at a local restaurant as they got to know each other better.

New Members and Orientation

GFWC Moultrie Junior Woman's Club (GA) hosted a new member social to prepare seven individuals for membership. The presenters explained upcoming projects, offered a question-and-answer time, and served refreshments. They also provided a new member orientation using an in-depth slideshow to provide more insight into their club, District, and State Federation structure. New members received a notebook that included a membership directory, the Collect for Clubwomen, the GFWC Constitution, and Bylaws.

Bunko!

The Women's Club of Hollister (CA) has a member-only Bunko group that meets monthly. They share upcoming events, ask for volunteers for projects, and request donations for projects as needed. Several Bunko players are members who work and cannot attend their regular club luncheons. This alternative club get-together keeps them informed and gets the creative juices flowing within the group.

Celebrating the Clubwoman of the Month

The Junior Federated Women's Club of Chester (VA) recognizes a Clubwoman of the Month each month. Voted on by the membership by secret ballot, the recognition is for going above and beyond the club requirements. A sign with the JFWCC symbol is placed in the front of the member's home for all to see for an entire month and a photo is posted on social media to spotlight the member while publicizing club opportunities locally.

WOMEN'S HISTORY AND RESOURCE CENTER

Throwback Thursday

Members of the Royal Oak Woman's Club (MI) participated in "Throwback Thursday," by sharing weekly posts on social media about club events, member news, and interesting pieces of club history.

Rediscover Your Roots

The Research Club of Limerick (ME) searched for its "roots" through genealogy. Members not only learned about club history, but how to trace family genealogy as well.

Community Fountain

The Morehead Woman's Club (KY) purchased a fountain for the Morehead Woman's Park. Engraved bricks for the fountain were sold to benefit a scholarship fund through a local university foundation.

Surf Safety Lines

The Village Improvement Association of Rehoboth Beach (DE) secured placement of a historical marker from the state of Delaware acknowledging the club's 1920's purchase of Surf Safety Lines. It was the fifth such marker at various locations honoring the club's historic contributions to the city.

Wreaths Across America Sponsor

GFWC Kanawha Woman's Club (VA) celebrated Federation Day by becoming a sponsor organization for Wreaths Across America. The club purchased five wreaths honoring Virginia women buried at Arlington National Cemetery and members participated in the selection of the women to be honored. The wreaths were laid on Wreath Day, December 18, 2021.

100th Birthday Celebration

Yoder Woman's Club (WY) planned its 100th birthday celebration to coincide with the community's 100th birthday celebration. The event in the town park featured "old time" games, food, and fun. Community and club artifacts were displayed in the Community Building, where speakers told of growing up in the town. The mayor also proclaimed future second Saturdays in August as "Yoder Days."

120th Birthday Celebration

GFWC Glendale Woman's Club (AZ) celebrated its 120th birthday by re-establishing its community connection. Members identified literacy as a specific community concern and planned birthday parties to gather books for children. Two events were held on the same day, a 120th Birthday Luncheon for members and a public Open House 120th Birthday Celebration for the community. In total, 1,535 new and used books were collected.

Birthday Bash on Beaufort

The Chapin Woman's Club (SC) celebrated its 50th birthday and the community with a "Birthday Bash on Beaufort." Members hosted a street party for the community in appreciation of its historic support of club fundraisers and special events.

Women Who Created a Community

The Progress Club (NM) developed an informational brochure, "Women Who Created a Community," which tells the history of the original club and several other local women's associations. Today, the brochures are distributed at City Hall, local museums, and the nearby visitors center.

Federation Day Celebration

Holden Beach Woman's Club (NC) celebrated Federation Day with a renewed commitment to community service and civic duty. Members collected hundreds of personal care items and distributed them to the Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina.