

GFWC Leadership, Education And Development Program (LEADS)

The GFWC Leadership, Education, And Development program is intended to identify GFWC members at the local level who have the potential and desire to assume leadership positions in their State Federations and/or GFWC on the National level. Participation in GFWC LEADS can help up-and-coming leaders gain the capabilities, confidence, and commitment necessary to pursue and achieve higher offices and serve with distinction.

It is highly recommended that each State Federation LEADS candidate meet the following criteria:

- Demonstrates leadership capabilities at the club level as an active Club President, Club Officer, or Club project or Committee Chairman
- Exhibits a commitment to the Federation
- Exhibits an understanding of the GFWC mission of community service, illustrated by programs and projects in which she is or has been involved
- Demonstrates leadership skills, including, but not limited to, organization, responsibility, trustworthiness, enthusiasm, and flexibility
- Exhibits an interest in and willingness to pursue higher leadership positions in GFWC
- Agrees to share information gained from participation in LEADS with others in the state federation
- Understands and accepts potential expenses involved in participation
- Has not held elected positions at or beyond the state level (this criterion is recommended in order to encourage potential leaders at the club level to apply)
- Has not attended a previous LEADS program. Members are eligible to attend only once

GFWC LEADS is held annually each June on the day before the official opening of the GFWC Annual Convention. The program may include the following:

- Program: conflict resolution, mediation, public speaking, time management, parliamentary procedure
- Explanation of GFWC resources, materials, and assistance.
- Discussions on GFWC policies and parliamentary procedure
- Tips and techniques for pursuing leadership opportunities

One attendee from each State Federation is eligible to participate in the annual GFWC LEADS program. GFWC demonstrates its commitment to training leaders by funding a portion of the candidates' expenses including:

- Stipend of \$250
- One-half of room charge for two nights at official Convention hotel
- Breakfast and lunch during the LEADS program
- \$10 Gift Certificate (on purchase of \$15 or more) for the GFWC Annual Convention Marketplace

In addition, State Federations may also offer to fund a portion of expenses. LEADS candidates are asked to be responsible for a portion of expenses as an affirmation of their personal commitment to their leadership development and training.