COMMUNITY CONNECTION INITIATIVE:
BRING THE SPARKLE TO PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Community Connection Initiatives are designed to answer the need to build awareness and recognition of who GFWC volunteers are, what the organization accomplishes, and making GFWC recognizable in local communities. This branding effort assists in giving GFWC a more human side, which will help to build your recognition and grow your membership.

The Education and Libraries Community Connection Initiative encourages GFWC clubs to establish a working relationship with librarians at local libraries to plan beneficial services, programs, and activities. Libraries bring people together. Engage members to participate with their ideas, talent, and time. Bring cohesion by helping people learn and grow by offering training classes for all ages: computer skills, lunch and learn workshops, GED, ESL, literacy, current topics for seniors, and more.

Collaborate activities with schools to enhance enthusiasm for students to use the library for reading and resources. Create programs for teens with an emphasis on issues they face daily using library resources.

Is there a need for a book delivery service for shut-ins or books on tape for the visually impaired? Sponsor a contest to name a library mascot or to design a button or bookmark. Be creative and enthusiastic.

“Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it.”
– Marian Wright Edelman

- Advocate for reading opportunities for children and adults with special needs.
- Assist GED candidates by tutoring or establishing a fund to pay for tests and/or babysitting.
- Establish a scholarship for a local student.
- Support schools, educators, and students with donations of school supplies, playground equipment, or fund field trips for underserved students.
- Become a partner in education with a Title 1 school by volunteering one-on-one time with students or providing take-home snacks for weekends.
- Support first-year teachers by providing welcome messages and snacks for their teacher orientation.
- Plan or sponsor a “Books Alive” program for your community, bringing a favorite children’s book to life as a play or puppet show.
- Support your local public library by sponsoring materials and programs for the underserved, disabled, and/or non-native speakers.
- Offer volunteer assistance at the library, by helping library patrons, supporting children’s story time, or providing for craft projects.
- Sponsor a community enrichment project at the library such as a Book Character Parade or Literary-themed poster contest.
- Establish a Little Free Library in your community, choosing an area where books are scarce.
- Work with the library to establish a teen advisory board to establish a teen book review, develop teen services, and recommend additional library resources for teens.
- Collaborate with Chamber of Commerce to develop small business services at the library, such as information centers that include a video conference room, staff training workshops, and other resources.
- Organize a mobile book program to serve rural or underserved areas of the community.
- Consider supporting a library in another part of the world.
- Learn more about established reading programs and donate to schools.
- Consider supporting a library in another part of the world.
- Establish/Support ESO in your state for book study and discussion.
- Participate in the online GFWC ESO reading book club.
- And many more provided in Club Manual.

(Affiliate Organizations.

(RESOURCE ORGANIZATIONS

(Recommended in the Resources Area of the Club Manual.)

(GFWC members promote education in both children and adults. We aim to help others, while we also continue to learn. Projects in the Education Community Service Program are designed to foster schools, as well as other educational institutions and opportunities, and to promote literacy, libraries, and the love of a good book. Through these efforts, we encourage the growth of individuals and communities at home and around the world.

2022-2024 COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM
EDUCATION and LIBRARIES
Sandy Hauenstein  E: sandygfwc@outlook.com

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(This list is a brief offering of project ideas. Please visit Club Manual for other grassroots projects and/or programs as well as those with Affiliate Organizations or Resources.)