



# GENERAL FEDERATION *of* WOMEN'S CLUBS



# 2009-2010 Annual Report



# From the GFWC International President



Dear Fellow Members:

Thank you for being a part of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and for your tremendous dedication to improving the lives of others through volunteer service. It is my pleasure and honor to share the *2009-2010 GFWC Annual Report* with you. I am awed by the contributions and achievements of GFWC members. The impact you have on communities, our country, and the world is utterly amazing.

This year, we celebrate 120 years of making a difference. I believe our foremothers would be most proud of the accomplishments made by GFWC members during the past year and hope that our daughters and granddaughters are inspired to join us in our continued work.

Please join me in thanking and congratulating GFWC International President Rose M. Ditto, Ph.D., (2008-2010) for a most successful administration. Her leadership and ***Vision of Possibilities*** paved the way for the outstanding achievements of our GFWC members, leaders, and staff.

In 2009, GFWC members:

- Raised and donated \$39,921,942;
- Volunteered 4,117,503 hours; and
- Completed 110,235 projects.

Our membership recruitment efforts during ACT in OCT resulted in 3,417 new members into our Federation family. We increased our social networking presence by establishing the first GFWC Facebook Fan page at [www.Facebook.com/GFWCMembers](http://www.Facebook.com/GFWCMembers). Noted author Elaine F. Weiss presented her book *Fruits of Victory: The Woman's Land Army of America in the Great War* at our annual Women's History Month Celebration. More than 700 members gathered in Omaha, Nebraska for the 119<sup>th</sup> GFWC Annual International Convention.

In January, GFWC clubwomen showed the true power of the Federation by coming together to raise much-needed money in the aftermath of a devastating earthquake in Haiti. The ***GFWC Haiti Disaster Relief Fund***, created immediately to provide Haiti with the aid it so desperately needed, raised more than \$16,000 in its first two weeks. Read more about GFWC relief efforts in Haiti on pages 2-4.

In March, we were notified that GFWC won a volunteer pledge contest sponsored by WE tv. GFWC produced a public service announcement that was inspired by Martha Coley of GFWC Tennessee. The segment aired throughout the month of April on WE tv and can be found online at the GFWC Facebook page and on [www.YouTube.com](http://www.YouTube.com).

Because of our storied history and remarkable reputation, GFWC is uniquely positioned to bring together volunteers, partners, and resources that provide solutions and bring about lasting change. We have opened the doors to new and exciting partnerships that will enhance the work we do. Your continued support is vital to our future successes.

We look forward to your sustained support and dedication as we continue to ***Create a New Vision*** and ***Build a New Reality***.

Thanks for all you do!

Yours, In Federation Service,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carlene Garner".

**CARLENE A. GARNER**  
GFWC International President

# Year in Review

(January 1-December 31, 2009)

## OF COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS

### DOLLARS DONATED

Arts	\$1,562,993
Conservation	\$2,422,483
Education	\$4,099,312
Home Life	\$22,547,609
International Outreach	\$1,765,686
Public Issues	\$5,586,716
Domestic Violence Awareness	\$732,589
Juniors' Special Project: Advocates for Children	\$1,204,554
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$39,921,942</b>

### HOURS VOLUNTEERED

Arts	618,109
Conservation	466,883
Education	905,604
Home Life	1,063,440
International Outreach	150,919
Public Issues	788,618
Domestic Violence Awareness	66,947
Juniors' Special Project: Advocates for Children	56,983
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,117,503</b>

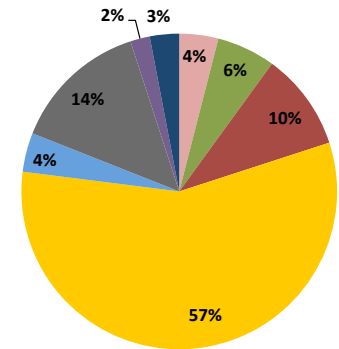
### PROJECTS COMPLETED

Arts	20,934
Conservation	12,213
Education	18,933
Home Life	31,717
International Outreach	6,755
Public Issues	13,654
Domestic Violence Awareness	3,900
Juniors' Special Project: Advocates for Children	2,129
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>110,235</b>

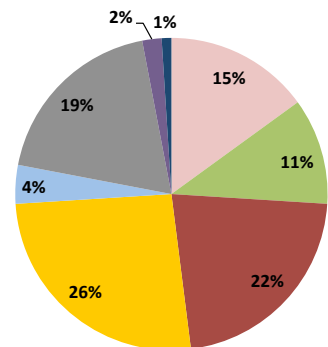
For detailed information including audited financial statements and Form 990, visit [www.GFWC.org/Governance](http://www.GFWC.org/Governance) or call 202-347-3168.

For more information about the work done in each of our Community Service Programs and Special Projects, read the expanded online version of our Annual Report at [www.GFWC.org/Governance](http://www.GFWC.org/Governance).

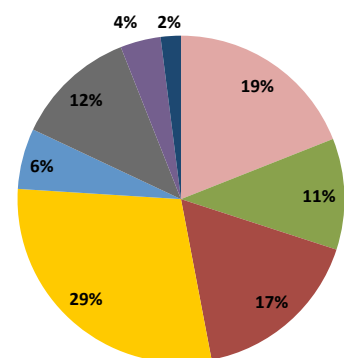
Dollars Donated \$39,921,942



Hours Volunteered 4,117,503



Projects Completed 110,235



- Arts
- Conservation
- Education
- Home Life
- International Outreach
- Public Issues
- Domestic Violence Awareness
- Juniors' Special Project: Advocates for Children



# Arts Community Service Program

## Year in Review

*The GFWC Arts Community Service Program promotes advocacy, education, and action in arts education, cultivation, and activities. Below are several examples of arts projects led by GFWC clubs.*

The **GFWC Northford Women’s Club (Connecticut)** supports a member who runs a music club consisting of vocal, piano, and flute students. The “Gailz Music Club” group was formed for students to convene as friends and peers to meet, socialize, and perform for each other and share their love of music. The students, who meet once a month for two hours, come from different towns and use music as the avenue for sharing and teaching each other about their different backgrounds and cultures. The club members also provide music lessons to young people who have musical abilities and want lessons, but whose families have suffered a catastrophic illness or have financial need.

**GFWC Woman’s Club of New Iberia (Louisiana)** celebrated the arts by distributing an annual grant that has been a part of its club since 1983.

The grant is called the Carrie Davis Art Grant and was named in memory of a life-long club member. This one-time grant of \$250 is given to a student majoring in an art program at the university level. Letters are sent state-wide to colleges that offer arts programs in order to choose the recipient. The student must maintain a 3.0 grade point average. Applications are received, then interviews conducted by a committee that recommends its choice to the club members, who then vote on the nominee.

The **GFWC Lamoille Woman’s Club (Nevada)** sponsors two major activities to encourage local artists’ crafts and spread creativity and ingenuity around its community. One of these activities is the Annual Chili Feed and Crafts. The club has 13 tables available for handcrafted items. This year, all the tables at the event were sold. The crafters not only had the chance to sell their art but also learn more about the club and the services being provided to the community. The second activity that allows the community to showcase its creative talent is the tradition of inviting the Spring Creek High School Choir to sing at its December club meeting. After this invigorating performance, the club presents the choir with a \$100 check to help fund choir activities.

**GFWC Treadwell Community Improvement Club (New York)** celebrated women in the arts by holding a writing workshop with author and publisher, Bertha Rogers. The event was partially subsidized by Poets and Writers Readings/

Workshops and the club donated \$50 to cover the occasion. During the workshop Bertha Rogers read to the clubwomen some of her favorite pieces. Members were also given the opportunity to fine tune their own writing skills. The women were provided writing prompts—statements or questions designed to get writers to think about a topic in depth and motivate them to produce their best, most expertly expressed writing—“You Want” and “She Finds Herself.” Then Ms. Rogers provided excellent direction and feedback on the women’s written work.

**GFWC Progress Club of Las Cruces (New Mexico)** sponsored youth art. The club was approached by the Dona Ana Arts Council and asked to sponsor the Missoula Children’s Theatre production of “Robin Hood.” In addition to sponsoring the event, club

members were hands-on volunteers during the week prior to the performance. Clubwomen registered the children and kept the production organized by watching the younger children during rehearsals and performances. Members volunteered their time and assisted with dress rehearsals, costumes, and make-up. They sold tickets, folded programs, and managed the audience during the play. Additionally, to boost morale and learn more about the directors and theatre staff, club members hosted a delicious potluck dinner the Thursday before the performance. The club built a lovely relationship with the Dona Ana Arts Council and helped encourage the performing nature in many youth.

Each year, for the past 26 years, the **GFWC Country Shore Woman’s Club (New Jersey)** has celebrated children in the arts by producing an annual children’s play. The play is the club’s largest fundraiser and a very popular community cultural event. Club members are involved from beginning to end. This year’s production, *The Little Mermaid: An Underwater Adventure*, was an original adaptation of Walt Disney’s *The Little Mermaid* by two club members, and the most successful play to date. The show, which features a cast of almost 60 adults and children, was attended by more than 1,200 people through the course of the six performances. The cast was comprised of theater enthusiasts in the area including two father-daughter combos. In conjunction with the production, the club members produced a program, sold tickets, printed and sold t-shirts, and manned the refreshment table at the theater.

### Arts by the Numbers

Dollars Donated	\$1,562,993
Hours Volunteered	618,109
Projects Completed	20,934



# Conservation Community Service Program

## Year in Review

*The GFWC Conservation Community Service Program promotes advocacy, education, and action to encourage the understanding of and appreciation for all aspects of our environment and conservation of the world's resources, natural and manmade. Below are several examples of conservation projects led by GFWC clubs.*

**GFWC Abington Heights Civic League, Inc. (Pennsylvania)** had a vision to create a space where people can come together to learn how to garden organically; watch their labor blossom and grow; provide a healthy economic source of nutrition; and enjoy the beauty of the community. Its goal was to establish a community garden to grow produce. Club members secured partners and raised funds. The community library held seminars presented by Penn State Master Gardeners, who educated attendees on organic gardening without the use of pesticides and herbicides, practicing water conservation, starting seeds, and making compost. News of the project spread fast via the local newspaper and television stations. The library's children's group planted a butterfly and pollination garden. A church group maintained a plot and donated the harvested produce to local food banks. Others joined the effort and over 2,000 pounds of fresh produce reached more than 200 qualified area families.

**GFWC Livermore Falls Women's Club (Maine)** worked with the local Betterment Group to transform a vacant dirty lot into a vibrant color spot that made townspeople take notice and start sprucing up their own areas. The club also made a garden designed to attract eyes to museum signs at their local Paper & Heritage Museum. The members learned their living history museum had suffered a devastating fire and had a garden that needed attention. The club members sprang into action, along with middle school students, who called looking for a project in which they could participate. The students received printed instructions to help them remember what they learned from the activity as well as day lilies to plant at their own homes. From this club's First Impressions Project the community benefitted and the club gained recognition and community acknowledgment.

**GFWC Chamber's Bay (Washington)** adopts an apple tree every year at a local orchard that is maintained by the city and where concerts and other community events are held. Members learn to prune the tree by attending classes, and use the apples for some wonderful desserts. Any leftover apples are used at a community event called "The Apple Squeeze."

**GFWC Nome (Alaska)** maintains the garden at Potter Station, which is considered a wonderful photo opportunity for tourists as it is a stop for tour buses.

**GFWC Walhalla (South Carolina)** dubbed their downtown cleanup "Company's Comin'". Just before the town's annual Oktoberfest week, club members swept main street sidewalks, picked up litter and debris, and trimmed shrubbery. They redesigned the landscaping and in the spring, added plants and flowers to the town's welcome signs, where they also watered and maintained them—now it's time for company.

**GFWC Peterson Tuesday Club (Iowa)** floated on a section of a river to pick up trash. The participants reported back to the club on the items and quantity of trash retrieved to educate and make others aware of the extent of the river trash.

**GFWC Pennsylvania** worked with its state agencies to educate its members on invasive plant species as the President's Project was "Dangerous Invasions," and the first step was to educate members about the plant species invading our environment and the effects on our ecosystem.

**GFWC Boulder Valley (Colorado)** adopted a section of Coal Creek Trail in Louisville, learned about the invasive plants, cleaned brush, cut down weeds, and dug up and bagged non-native noxious weeds growing in that area. A sign with the club's name was placed on the trail.

**GFWC Amity Study Club of Atlanta (Texas)** collected over 10,000 pounds of e-waste (old computers, printers, televisions, mobile phones, and PDAs) in one day. The club used its local newspaper, radio station, and fliers to get the word out and drafted their family members' help with the collecting. UNICOR of Texarkana, a recycling plant that works in conjunction with the Department of Justice, which allows prisoners in federal installations to receive pay and to learn vocational skills through recycling of disposed electronics, came with its truck, and a forklift was donated to help with the loading.

Conservation by the Numbers	
Dollars Donated	\$2,422,483
Hours Volunteered	466,883
Projects Completed	12,213



# Education Community Service Program

## Year in Review

The GFWC Education Community Service Program promotes advocacy, education, and action to address the importance of literacy and education awareness. Below are several examples of education projects led by GFWC clubs.

**GFWC Huntsville Woman’s Club (Alabama)** is dedicated to ensuring that women who are in need of further education to better their lives have the opportunity to do so by providing scholarships to well-deserving women in its community. The club presented a \$1,000 scholarship to a mature woman of Madison County wanting to further her education. The \$1,000 scholarship recipient for 2009-2010 is a single mother who has returned to college to complete her degree in communication arts and foreign language. In addition to the \$1,000 scholarship, two \$500 scholarships were given to women who were struggling to finance their educations while raising children.

Children with disabilities benefit from interaction and observation of their normally developing peers and GFWC clubwomen have provided this opportunity. **GFWC Columbiana Novella Club (Alabama)** gave a party for the Eclipse Class of Special Needs Children, an inclusive preschool program for three- to four-year-olds with and without disabilities. The members prepared food for the party, purchased favors, and attended the party with the children.

**GFWC Centralia Junior Woman’s Club (Illinois)** maintains a Discovery Room at the local library. The Discovery Room is a section of the library that helps pre-school aged children discover or learn in different subject areas. The room is full of learning materials and a different theme is chosen every month. Learning tools such as puzzles, books, and blocks are available for the children to explore and discover.

**GFWC Marlboro Junior Woman’s Club (Massachusetts)** partnered with its local Rotary club to bring an interactive “Reality Fair” to the high school. High school seniors learned about financial responsibilities by choosing a career, receiving a paycheck, and budgeting their incomes.

**Exeter Area GFWC (New Hampshire)** has a major project sponsoring the “N.H. Seacoast Expanding Your Horizons in

Science and Math Conference” for young women. The conference is designed to immerse young women in sixth to eighth grades in hands-on experiences in science, math, engineering, and technology. Professional women from math and science-related fields facilitate workshops and serve as role models for the participants. During 2009, the club hosted the fourth annual conference and began planning for the fifth annual conference. More than 150 women from 25 different schools attended a full day of fun including 13 workshops; a key note address from Molly Harrington, a pediatric endocrinologist; and a student panel which was opened for discussion.

### Education by the Numbers

Dollars Donated	\$4,099,312
Hours Volunteered	905,604
Projects Completed	18,933

**The GFWC Dominion Woman’s Club (Virginia)** implemented a Bag-A-Book literacy program at a local elementary school for third-grade students who were struggling

with reading and testing below their grade level in reading comprehension. The club prepared for the 2010 program in 2009 by collecting supplies and purchasing 500 books and 85 book bags. GFWC clubwomen and community members from the local Chamber of Commerce Education Committee and local businesses were trained as volunteer book club leaders. During the second half of the school year, (January-June 2010) students read books that had been purchased by the club. Each week the students read the books at home with their families, recorded their reading experiences in journals, and shared their journal entries in book clubs conducted by club volunteers.

Through a continuing program with their local public library and health department, the **GFWC Woman’s Club of Westminster, Inc. (Maryland)** supported education in their community by assembling 100 “Books for Babies” kits. Club members purchased books for each kit, which were contained in bags that the club decorated with the message, “I Read to My Baby.” The kits also included publications from their local library such as finger play booklets, a schedule of upcoming library events, and a “Tips for Reading to Young Children” pamphlet.



# Home Life Community Service Program

## Year in Review

*The GFWC Home Life Community Service Program promotes advocacy, education, and action to create a better quality of life for all citizens by strengthening individuals, families, and communities. Below are several examples of home life projects led by GFWC clubs.*

**GFWC Woman’s Club of Palo Alto (California)** began a new project in 2009 called “Be the Change.” At each “Be the Change” evening a local, needs-based nonprofit organization is invited to explain the purpose of the organization and its programs. Club members learned about volunteer opportunities and donated goods needed by the invited organization. For example, in April the “Be the Change” evening featured the Palo Altos Downtown Streets Team, which trains and employs at-risk (homeless/under-housed) individuals in local maintenance occupations. Through these evenings, club members have had an opportunity to see the needs in the community and respond appropriately.

### **GFWC/IFC ESO Tri County Woman’s Reading Club (Indiana)**

continues to increase the aid it gives to the local food pantry. Members help stock the shelves, pack bags of select food items that are distributed to needy families, and help prepare kits of food for special occasions. Volunteers prepare food for Thanksgiving and Easter, and assemble kid kits to ensure that families and children have adequate food for the holidays. The club members also bring food and paper products to meetings, which are then donated to the food pantry.

**GFWC Prestonburg Woman’s Club (Kentucky)** teamed up with the cities of Prestonburg and Archer Park to make Christmas a little brighter for local children by hosting Christmas in the Park at the Archer Park skating rink. Christmas in the Park was open to the public and over 200 children ages 12 and under attended with their families. Each child was given the opportunity to meet with Santa Claus and receive a gift. Other activities included face painting, coloring, games, and refreshments. This family fun event gave back to the community and to those who needed a little extra Christmas cheer. The club also branched out to help the needy animals of the community. Members donated, collected, and delivered cat and dog food to local animal shelters.

**GFWC Mexico Woman’s Club (Missouri)** participated in a local heart disease awareness program called “Heart to Heart.” Community organizers and individuals were asked to donate a purse that showed the personality of the group or individual.

These purses were eventually auctioned to raise funds for heart research. Each member donated an item that was dear to her heart to be put in a purse fashioned by one of the members. The club was recognized at the event as a valuable contributor.

### **GFWC Harvey Lake Woman’s Club (New Hampshire)**

donates to a local hospital to help women who have had breast cancer surgery. They make and deliver “comfort pillows” to the women recovering from surgery at Concord Hospital. The members bring in their sewing machines and fabric and enjoy sessions at the clubhouse where they sew and socialize. In one year, the club donated over 200 pillows to help recovering women battling breast cancer.

### **Home Life by the Numbers**

Dollars Donated	<b>\$22,547,609</b>
Hours Volunteered	<b>1,063,440</b>
Projects Completed	<b>31,717</b>

### **GFWC/MFWC Florentine Club of**

**Florence (Mississippi)** worked to enhance the quality of life for the mentally challenged patients at the State Hospital, for whom there were limited government funds to provide recreational and personal growth opportunities. In coordination with local merchants and artists, volunteers assisted with several unique fundraisers including a linen sale, jewelry sale, and medical uniform sale. The club also donated money for a fountain, in memory of a deceased member, and made other improvements to the grounds. Members provided magazines, clothes, and toiletries to patients throughout the year. At Christmas, they sponsored a party and provided gifts for the residents.

### **GFWC Woman’s Club of Springfield (Virginia)**

initiated a layette project several years ago in response to the growing need of the local hospitals to provide basic supplies for mothers and their newborn babies. The club has continued to enthusiastically support this program and has been working with Fairfax Hospital and Alexandria Hospital to meet the needs of their new mothers. Members donated onesies, diapers, bottles, socks, receiving blankets, and burp cloths. In addition, members crocheted, knitted, and sewed blankets and quilts. The social workers at the hospitals expressed gratitude for the club’s interest in meeting the needs of these new mothers.



## Year in Review

*The GFWC International Outreach Community Service Program promotes advocacy, education, and action to better the quality of life in communities around the world. Below are several examples of international outreach projects led by GFWC clubs.*

**GFWC Las Noches Woman’s Club (Arizona)** provided much-needed supplies and monetary support to a clinic in Mexico where Dr. Kent Allen provides medical services to underprivileged men, women, and children. Dr. Allen was a featured speaker at a club meeting where the women assembled and donated 50 hygiene bags to aid in his cause to give adequate medical services to the clinic patients in Mexico. In addition to this donation, a member of GFWC Las Noches Woman’s Club went above and beyond by volunteering to travel to the clinic once a month and donate interpreter services to the doctors who are working in the triage unit.

**GFWC Lagniappe Woman’s Club (Louisiana)** donated \$100 for solar cookers to aid women refugees who were forced to flee Darfur, Sudan. The GFWC Lagniappe Woman’s Club worked to ensure these female refugees were able to use solar cookers to sterilize water, allowing them to avoid venturing out for firewood where they are vulnerable to attack and rape in the war-torn area of Darfur.

The members of **GFWC Aiken Woman’s Club (South Carolina)** found a special place in their hearts for the plight of human trafficking victims. In Nepal, girls from poor families are often sold into slavery and exploited by those who are meant to protect them. The clubwomen donated \$100 in order to buy a young girl out of slavery and give her the life of freedom she deserves.

**GFWC Ossoli Circle (Tennessee)** participated in Pennies for Peace in order to raise money to build schools for girls in Pakistan and Afghanistan. They were inspired by the speaker, Dr. Gregg Mortenson, who numerous members traveled to hear speak on the need for schools for young girls. The club created a large container to be kept at the clubhouse where they collected pennies to send to the Asia Institute in Montana. The members also purchased two of Dr. Mortenson’s children’s books to give to the schools they adopted. The club shares Dr. Mortenson’s belief that education for young women all over the world is a priority and should be emphasized in all countries.

**The GFWC Woman’s Club of Smithfield (Virginia)** was touched by a local man’s story of the need in Africa. Magambo

MeKango was a refugee from the Congo and was able to give back to his local village with the help of The GFWC Woman’s Club of Smithfield. They donated almost all of the clothing left over from their annual flea market to the men, women, and children of this village. Approximately 100 pieces of clothing were sent to the Congo.

The **GFWC Woman’s Club of Vinton (Virginia)** invited a local resident, Nancy Strachan, to speak about her mission work in Rwanda. Nancy was inspired to begin work there after hearing a survivor of a Rwandan genocide speak at a book signing. She gave a brief history about the genocide which occurred in Rwanda and explained how the people there are moving forward to build a stronger nation. Nancy’s mission is to empower the Rwandans, especially women, to rebuild their country’s infrastructure by improving educational opportunities and trade programs. She introduced the club to several campaigns used to fund her programs in Rwanda. Club members were so moved by her efforts that they donated more than \$100 towards the purchase of 60 pairs of shoes, \$25 to help send one child to school, \$60 for the purchase of handcrafted goods from local Rwandan women, and \$62 towards handkerchief and coffee sales which benefited the Rwandan people.

**GFWC Florida** raised over \$300,000 for Heifer International during the 2008-2010 GFWC Administration. The donation helped purchase farm animals that assist in the growth of food for Third World countries. In 2009, Heifer invited 14 GFWC Florida members to Peru as part of a Heifer International Study Group to see first-hand how their donations were benefiting Peruvian citizens. During the visit, club members witnessed Heifer members teach local citizens how to breed the animals and utilize them as a food source. They also met with a women’s handcraft association that was struggling to meet the demand for hand-knit sweaters, scarves, and other textiles made from alpaca hair. GFWC Florida supported their efforts by purchasing a loom and two knitting machines for the women, which helped them make and sell larger quantities of textiles. This project was so successful that Heifer posted it as a success story on its website at [www.Heifer.org/GFWC](http://www.Heifer.org/GFWC).

International Outreach by the Numbers	
Dollars Donated	\$1,765,686
Hours Volunteered	150,919
Projects Completed	6,755



# Public Issues Community Service Program

## Year in Review

*The GFWC Public Issues Community Service Program promotes advocacy, education, and action related to veterans, citizenship, and safety. Below are several examples of public issues projects led by GFWC clubs*

**GFWC South Fork Woman’s Club (California)** focused on community safety and preparation for natural disasters and unforeseen accidents. The members accomplished the latter by starting a new program to teach children how to swim. There is a wild river and huge lake in the valley where GFWC South Fork Woman’s Club is located, and until it filled the void, there were no swimming lessons available. The club members worked to secure a grant for \$10,000 for a period of two years. This money allowed them to cover the program’s cost and only charge a fee of \$10 for swimming lessons. The valley will now have a swimming program for at least the next five years thanks to the hard work of the club members. The valley is also prone to fires and had a year that was worse than most—with a fire every week for six weeks straight and a major fire that raged on for almost three weeks. To help ensure safety of the community-at-large, the club supported the firefighters by allowing them use of the club property for a staging area. While the firefighters worked from the club, the members provided them with food at least once a week and visited the hospital to attend to victims of the tragic fire.

**GFWC Argo-Summit Bedford Park Woman’s Club (Illinois)** worked in conjunction with the department of public health, Illinois State Police, The Village of Bedford Park, and its police and fire departments to sponsor “Touch-A-Truck and Safety Seat Check.” During this event, Illinois State Troopers checked car seats and 80 car seats were corrected or replaced. The club members registered event participants and handed out children identification stickers for the participants’ car seats. Over 250 children visited the “Touch-A-Truck” area, which included a Haz-Mat truck, fire engine, street sweeper, front end loader, school bus, and a tow truck. Each truck had a driver who was there to answer questions and educate kids on vehicle safety. The club members rented out tents for refreshments, and handed out safety pamphlets, balloons, gliders, stickers, and bubbles.

**GFWC Murray Woman’s Club (Kentucky)** participated in community safety activities in the newly formed drug court (an alternative special court with jurisdiction over cases involving drug-

using offenders). A drug court member spoke to the club’s board; subsequently, a clubwoman decided to serve on the drug court advisory council. Several club members attended planning meetings to strategize for future action and to voice their opinions, concerns, and ideas for the future safety of the community. Members also helped organize an open house to acquaint the community with the purpose and activities of the drug court program and volunteered at the open house by serving refreshments and donating supplies for the occasion.

**GFWC Louisiana** focused on emergency preparedness in an effort to combat the damage done by hurricanes, which frequent the state. Clubs reported members planning for hurricane season by collecting supplies, generators, and information to inform the public on hurricane safety. Many members assisted

after hurricanes Gustav and Ike, storms that caused severe damage to the state and left many in need of assistance. Members housed those whose homes were damaged or left without water and electricity. The clubs gave assistance by feeding and providing laundry assistance to victims of the storm.

**GFWC Heritage League of Lincoln (Nebraska)** donated \$500 to the MAD DADS of Lincoln, a group of fathers working to prevent youth from joining gangs. They do this by collecting bikes and teaching youth how to repair them. They then sell the bikes to underprivileged middle school children from low income families for \$1 each. Additionally, they provide military families with some of the repaired bikes.

**GFWC St. Helen’s Woman’s Club (Oregon)** club members assist with local Minor in Possession and Adult/Purveyor Furnishing classes. Judges are holding young people and their parents accountable for underage drinking charges by sending them to these three-hour classes, which address issues such as substance abuse, marijuana use, potential results from abuse, and the effects on the brain. The club assists with the classes by coordinating court records and researching course material to keep the information up-to-date.

### Public Issues by the Numbers

Dollars Donated	<b>\$5,586,716</b>
Hours Volunteered	<b>788,618</b>
Projects Completed	<b>13,654</b>



# Domestic Violence Awareness

## Year in Review

*The GFWC Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Project promotes advocacy, education, and action to increase understanding about, awareness of, and involvement in programs that decrease domestic violence and provide support and encouragement to domestic violence survivors in local communities and around the world. Below are several examples of domestic violence projects led by GFWC clubs.*

**GFWC Alabama** covered the issue of domestic violence top to bottom by ensuring victims fleeing domestic violence situations had clothes and supplies to transition into their new lives. One club sponsored a project called “Cover Our Bottoms.” Since many children coming into shelters must leave their homes in a hurry, they often only have the clothes on their backs. Over 3,200 pieces of underwear were collected during this project and they were sorted and distributed to places that housed abused women and children. In addition, clothing, cell phones, gift cards, household cleaning products, toys, and feminine hygiene products were donated to local shelters and second hand stores, which serve to meet the needs of domestic violence survivors.

**GFWC Buckeye Woman’s Club (Arizona)** worked towards a noble goal of opening a domestic violence shelter in its city. Several members on a committee put together fundraisers in order to accomplish this goal. They helped at a Casino Night that raised over \$4,000 for the shelter. They also sponsored a golf tournament at which they sold hot dogs to the golfers. With all the hard work at fundraising, the members were able to supply furniture for the interview room and the children’s playroom. The club members are happy to report that the shelter is up and running and serves Avondale, Goodyear, and their own city, Buckeye.

**GFWC Florida** instituted two special projects dedicated to raising awareness and volunteering for domestic violence. The first project transported 115 members to Tallahassee, so they could talk to their representatives and senators about domestic violence and child advocacy concerns. The women wore all purple, which advertised to the public their dedication to ending domestic violence and gave them a chance to start conversations with others about why they were there. The second project was a statewide initiative called “X Out Domestic Violence–Gimme X (ten).” This project gave club members the opportunity to either give 10 hours of community service or \$10 to a local domestic violence shelter. This project encouraged participation from clubs statewide and gave a way for all women to be involved in the fight to end domestic violence.

**GFWC Montana** addressed domestic violence by becoming proactive and aiding communities that do not have resources to

combat domestic violence. Smaller clubs around Montana traveled considerable distances to ensure that the rural communities around them had resources to address domestic violence issues. They delivered supplies and support to safety houses and rescue missions. In addition, one club joined other organizations in 2008, to communicate the domestic violence message. One club member is on the board of an area domestic violence task force, which coordinates community resources, program development, and education of service providers and the general public. Each year the task force puts on a two-day McGuire Conference on

Family Violence with nationally known speakers. The club participated in this conference by facilitating the attendance of its domestic violence chairman plus three elementary school counselors who committed to sharing information with their school staff.

### Domestic Violence Awareness by the Numbers

Dollars Donated	\$732,589
Hours Volunteered	66,947
Projects Completed	3,900

**GFWC Bristol County Women’s Club (Rhode Island)** planted and dedicated a memorial garden in tribute to those who have lost their lives to domestic violence. This brought awareness to how serious and dangerous domestic violence threats are for women in these violent situations. With help from the community-at-large and a GFWC grant, the club members were able to plant two butterfly bushes, which symbolize freedom, and to purchase a bench and other flowers. At the dedication of these symbolic plants, the president of the GFWC Bristol Women’s Club was presented with a resolution from a state senator. The club also went above and beyond and sold 200 domestic violence awareness bracelets at its meetings.

The **GFWC Douglas Civic Club (Wyoming)** brought domestic violence awareness into its organization by attending The Converse County Coalition Against Family Violence and Sexual assault meetings every month. Several members attend the Coalition meetings and then relay the information to the rest of the club members. They not only educate on the dangers of domestic violence, but they also share information on the needs of local shelters so that the rest of the club members can give to this cause. The club donates money to a local shelter, which serves the needs of victims of domestic violence who are working to better their lives. This money helps provide clothes and household items for women who have to flee their situation quickly and are left with nothing.



# Juniors' Special Project: Advocates for Children

## Year in Review

*The GFWC Advocates for Children Project promotes advocacy, education, and action to better the well-being of children via health, social, and safety programs. Below are several examples of advocates for children projects led by GFWC clubs.*

**GFWC Bonsall Woman's Club (California)** established a Girl of the Year program to encourage girls from fifth to eighth grades at their local schools to participate in charitable projects. The members encourage philanthropy, community service projects, and excellent academics. Each applicant wishing to be considered the Girl of the Year must have a 3.0 GPA, have excellent citizenship, receive a sponsorship letter from a teacher or other adult, and write an essay on "Why I Should Be Girl of the Year." All the essays are collected and interviews of each girl are conducted at the schools. Four savings bonds, valued at \$50, are distributed to the winner at each school.

**GFWC Crewe Junior Woman's Club (Virginia)** joined the Crewe-Burkeville Christmas Mother to help provide gifts and food for Christmas

to qualified families. They took an in-depth approach to this special event by carefully selecting a qualified and prominent dance teacher, as their Christmas Mother. The "Christmas Mother" is a symbol of the spirit of giving at Christmas and sets the tone for rest of the season of giving by the Christmas Mother organization. Applications to receive assistance through Christmas Mother are distributed throughout the community, families are then carefully selected, and their need is verified by social services. Club members shopped for a majority of the gifts that were given to over 90 children. The club members also took time with the children to help them "shop" for their parents. The club members were able to see the gratitude of the families while they handed out food from Angel Ministries at the Christmas party held to distribute the gifts.

**GFWC Junior Woman's Civic Club of Cumberland (Maryland)** joined with the Tri-State Health Center, a facility serving the under-insured or uninsured, to spread the word to young women about protecting your skin during the hot summer months. The members used the \$50 they were awarded by the state federation to fashion "fry boxes" for distribution to the children who visit the health center. These boxes contain sun block, lip balm with sun protection, hand sanitizers, and band aids. The message on the boxes stated, "GFWC says...Don't get

fried by summer." The club members and participants of this project were featured in the *Cumberland Times-News*.

**GFWC Kenosha Junior Woman's Club (Wisconsin)** generated two programs to advocate for the youth in its community. The members, for the fifth straight year, joined together to make 25 baby quilts in an old-fashioned "quilting bee." The co-chairs of the project bought or received donated materials needed to complete the quilts and members volunteered to bring in their own sewing machines and ironing boards. The quilts were donated to at-risk infants at the neonatal ICU at St. Mary's Memorial Hospital in Racine, Wisconsin. The second program was an Easter Egg Hunt for area children from Urban Outreach, the Shalom Center for the Homeless and other disadvantaged

children from Kenosha area foster homes. The members joined their own children to enjoy a day of Easter fun by handing out bags of candy to the disadvantaged youth in the community. This not only gave back to the children of Kenosha but also allowed the members to pass on their philanthropic attitudes to their own children. They ended the day by having all the children line up to say hello to the Easter bunny right before they went a massive hunt for Easter eggs.

**GFWC Ladies in Purpose Junior Woman's Club (Virginia)** chose Comfort Zone Camp as the District Unity Project. CZC is a bereavement camp that offers a variety of experiences for children who have lost a family member or caregiver. The camp is an opportunity for those young persons who have experienced similar tragedies to grieve in a safe and caring environment. Club members supported this organization by collecting coins at each business meeting to donate to CZC. In addition to the monetary support, two members participated in the three mile walk held to support CZC. Members also were proactive by supporting a cookout held at the camp during one of the summer sessions. They gave donations to support the cookout and provided food and volunteers to help with preparing, serving, and cleaning up.

### Advocates for Children by the Numbers

Dollars Donated	\$1,204,554
Hours Volunteered	56,983
Projects Completed	2,129

# Haiti Disaster Relief

Thank you to those who contributed to the **GFWC Haiti Disaster Relief Fund**. GFWC's quick response—and your generous donations—allowed us to quickly assist with the much-needed rehabilitation and rebuilding process. From big gifts to small gestures, GFWC clubwomen have a significant history of generosity when natural or manmade disasters devastate communities. We are thrilled to be able to help make life a little easier for those who lost so much. Together, we are making a difference. GFWC has donated more than \$55,000 among five GFWC International Outreach partners working in Haiti: CARE, Heifer International, Plan USA, Save the Children, and UNICEF.

**The GFWC Haitian Disaster Relief Fund** will accept donations through January 12, 2011, the first anniversary of the destructive earthquake. Donations may be made online at [www.GFWC.org](http://www.GFWC.org), over the phone with a credit card, or by sending a check to GFWC. For answers to Frequently Asked Questions, visit [www.GFWC.org](http://www.GFWC.org) or call 1-800-443-GFWC (4392).

## CARE

CARE was on the ground immediately, delivering lifesaving aid, such as food, clean water, shelter, medical care, and emergency supplies, reaching more than 310,000 people. Nearly one year after the quake, CARE is providing economic opportunities, strengthening governance, and improving health and educational services in earthquake-affected communities and outlying provinces—with a special emphasis on meeting the needs of women and girls. In camps of displaced people, CARE has supported the formation of volunteer committees, in which women from the community often step into leadership roles. These women leaders assure that CARE reaches those most in need and help spread life-saving information, while raising awareness about the prevention of gender-based violence.

## HEIFER INTERNATIONAL

Heifer International remains committed to its work with limited resource farmers, not only to recover from the disaster, but to build for a better, more reliable future. Gifts of animals and training are being shared with project families, and we are working through local initiatives to help Haitian communities secure healthy, culturally appropriate foods for family meals and contribute to their food security. Heifer is working with community-based organizations targeting impoverished rural farm families, young people, and women in Haiti.

## PLAN USA

Plan USA provided temporary classrooms to thousands of internally displaced citizens, offered health services in areas where the spread of disease was at the highest risk, and began building more permanent school structures. In Croix-des-Bouquets, construction has begun on 18 semi-permanent school units. Throughout Haiti, child-friendly spaces are being constructed where children can safely play and be children again. Plan-trained volunteers supervise and are constantly identifying children that may be in need of further counseling. Cash-For-Work teams are putting people to work and money in their pockets through reforestation projects, cleaning canals, and clearing other debris. Every dime raised and sent to aid in the relief of the Haitian earthquake, makes a very real, very meaningful difference in the everyday lives of those in crisis.

## SAVE THE CHILDREN

Save the Children staff immediately responded with emergency relief, including lifesaving distributions of food, shelter, and supplies. Save the Children has implemented a five-year response and recovery plan. The organization continues to work throughout the earthquake-affected region and is focusing its efforts on the sectors that have the most impact on the lives and well-being of thousands of children: education, protection, health and nutrition, water and sanitation, shelter, livelihoods, food security, and the provision of food and nonfood items.

## UNICEF

UNICEF was on the ground in Haiti the day the earthquake struck—as it has been for decades. The 'building back better' strategy will dominate UNICEF's efforts for many months to come, most notably in the areas of health, nutrition, education, child protection, water, sanitation, and hygiene. For instance, better-designed, earthquake-resistant schools will be constructed, health care will reach isolated and marginalized communities, and water and sanitation will be provided in areas where it was previously inaccessible. UNICEF has joined forces with other United Nations agencies and NGO partners to assist the Haitian government to plan to build better, stronger, and modern infrastructure that is more resistant to natural disasters.

The collective impact of GFWC clubwomen working together to assist those in need demonstrates the true power of the Federation. We truly appreciate the contributions made to the GFWC Haiti Disaster Relief efforts and your continuing support of GFWC as we serve our world and communities.

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# Friends of the WHRC

Friends of the WHRC help support the GFWC Women's History and Resource Center:

- Expand outreach activities to students, teachers, and others interested in learning more about women's history and volunteering;
- Preserve and maintain GFWC collections;
- Increase research library acquisitions;
- Provide student field study opportunities; and
- Honor and support WHRC volunteers.



## Presidential Level

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GFWC Warren Junior Women's League, Ohio

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Jean Zwang, Calif.

\*Designates clubwomen who served as tour guides and archives assistants at GFWC International Headquarters in FY 2010.

# Gifts to Headquarters

Inspired by the 2010 GFWC Convention theme “Cultivating our Future,” the GFWC Executive Committee designated updating the Board Room at GFWC Headquarters as the project for the 2010 Gifts to Headquarters Fund. Thanks to the generous support of our state federations, clubs, and individuals, a multimedia upgrade of the GFWC Headquarters Board Room will be a reality.

## In Memory of

Dorothy Kemp, Texas  
Nancy Boozer, S.C.  
Nancy Addleman, Mo.

## In Honor of

Shelby Hamlett, Va.

## GFWC State Federations

GFWC Alabama  
GFWC Alaska  
GFWC Arizona  
GFWC California  
GFWC Colorado  
GFWC Connecticut  
GFWC Florida  
GFWC Georgia  
GFWC Indiana  
GFWC Iowa  
GFWC Kansas  
GFWC Louisiana  
GFWC Maine  
GFWC Massachusetts

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GFWC Nebraska  
GFWC New Hampshire  
GFWC New Jersey  
GFWC North Dakota  
GFWC Ohio  
GFWC Pennsylvania  
GFWC Tennessee  
GFWC Virginia  
GFWC Washington  
GFWC Wisconsin  
GFWC Wisconsin WHRC Chairmen

## GFWC Regions

GFWC Middle Atlantic Region  
GFWC Southeastern Region  
GFWC Southern Region

## GFWC National Clubs

GFWC Alice’s Centennial Angels  
GFWC Boosters  
GFWC Ernie’s High Flyers

GFWC Past State Junior Directors’ Club  
GFWC Past State Presidents’ Club  
GFWC Pierce Arrows

## GFWC Clubs

GFWC Ebell Club of Irvine, Calif.  
GFWC Intermediate League of Butler, Pa.  
GFWC Iowa Dyersville Federation Woman’s Club

## GFWC Members

Myrtle J. Guidry-Roussel, La.  
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Pat Marcinko, Ga.  
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## GFWC Partners

Wells Fargo & Company

## 1734 Society

Named for the GFWC Headquarters address at historic 1734 N Street NW, in Washington, D.C., the GFWC 1734 Society is dedicated to preserving and maintaining the building as a National Historic Landmark. 1734 Society members understand the importance of historic preservation and take pride in supporting GFWC Headquarters. We thank you for your generous contributions.

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