

NEWS & NOTES

LIVING THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT THROUGH GFWC

News & Notes - September 14, 2017



How to Help Hurricane Irma Victims

Hurricane Irma was the most powerful hurricane to have formed in the Atlantic Ocean since the invention of satellite tracking. On September 6, the hurricane made landfall in Barbuda with winds over 185 miles per hour and a storm circumference larger than the state of Ohio. Forty-two people are known to have lost their lives in the Caribbean and Florida. Almost the entirety of Florida has been affected by hurricane force winds and devastating flooding.

GFWC Florida has established a [Disaster Relief Fund](#) to assist victims of Hurricane Irma. Contributions can be made online by [clicking here](#) or mailed to: GFWC Florida, 4444 Florida National Drive, Lakeland, Florida 33813. Please write "Disaster Relief" on the memo line of your check. GFWC Florida President Mary Powell sends this message, "We thank our Federation Sisters for their thoughts and prayers during this tense and scary time. Hurricane Irma was one for the record books when you consider the magnitude of its effect on Florida. While we do not know the

GFWC — an international women's organization dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service

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Simply provide your name, mailing address, email, and club name to GFWC Membership Services Manager Kate

long-term impact of the damage to clubs and member's homes, we are confident all will be restored to normal in due time."

Both President of the Key West Woman's Club Dawn Martin and President of the GFWC Naples Woman's Club Jalna MacLaren report that their clubhouses have survived the hurricane. President Martin applauded Delta Airlines for providing three large airplanes to evacuate residents from the area in the critical hours prior to the storm's arrival.

GFWC Partner UNICEF is working to aid Caribbean families many of whom lived in fragile housing prior to the hurricane and are now left homeless. In times of disaster, UNICEF puts children first by ensuring that affected children and families have access to clean drinking water, that there are safe spaces for children, and that basic humanitarian supplies are distributed. [Click here](#) to read more about UNICEF's disaster relief efforts in the Caribbean.



Hope for Homeless Teens

South Carolina Director of Junior Clubs Katie Moydell wants her "Hopeful Campaign" to educate the public on the growing epidemic of homelessness among teenagers. Some teenagers are abandoned, some run away due to abuse, but all are deserving of our help. A secondary focus of the Hopeful Campaign is human trafficking, as homeless teens are at an increased risk of being trafficked.

Garlick at kgarlick@gfwc.org and you're all set!

Cares & Concerns

We send our condolences WHRC Chairman Kathy Canzano on the passing of her brother, Tom Ashley.



New on the Blog!

GFWC is proud to host national Youth Writing Contests. In our [latest blog post](#), we report on clubs who had winners this year, and learn more about how they promote the contests in their communities.

Historic Clubhouses

Does your club have a notable or historic clubhouse? If the answer is yes, email pr@gfwc.org. We will be publishing an article and blog post based on your responses. Let us know about the architecture, events, and history that make your clubhouse one-of-a-kind!

As a board member of [Palmetto Place](#), Katie has learned of the hardships faced by homeless teens and the resources required for them to gain independence. The Palmetto Place Unaccompanied Youth Program provides a safe place for teens to live and the training necessary for them to reach self-sufficiency. Over the last four years, the program has grown substantially and the number of teenagers housed in the shelter has risen from four to 20. "While their stories vary," Katie said, "they all just need someone to give them a real chance at life."

Education is Katie's main tool, as she believes that, "As advocates for children, it is our duty to get the word out!" GFWC South Carolina has hosted speakers from Palmetto Place; [Doors to Freedom](#), an organization that provides a safe place for survivors of sex trafficking; and [Sea Haven: Emergency Crisis Center for Youth](#).

Individual clubs have also held events. For example, the Charleston Junior Woman's Club gathers donations for Doors to Freedom with entertaining fundraisers like their wine and cheese nights. The Junior Woman's Club of Columbia holds an annual fundraiser for Palmetto Place, as well as doing monthly activities with teenagers. The North Myrtle Beach Woman's Club, in addition to being active with Sea Haven: Emergency Crisis Center for Youth, held a Human Trafficking forum with a keynote address by South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson.

It is evident from the many clubs across South Carolina taking part in the campaign that Katie's passion for helping homeless teenagers is spreading. The Hopeful Campaign is making a difference in the lives of children most in need.

Support St. Jude Children's Research Hospital during National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

On August 30, 2013 President Barack Obama announced that the month of September would officially be known as National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. In part, the proclamation read, "Each September, we remember those who lost their lives to cancer far too young and honor the courageous children who

Make a Difference. Be a GFWC Mediator.

GFWC is now accepting applications for the Mediator Class of 2018. Four new GFWC Mediators will be selected to serve a three-year term and receive specialized training in June at the GFWC 2018 Convention in St. Louis, Missouri. The Mediator application is available on [GFWC's website](#).

Shot@Life Grants

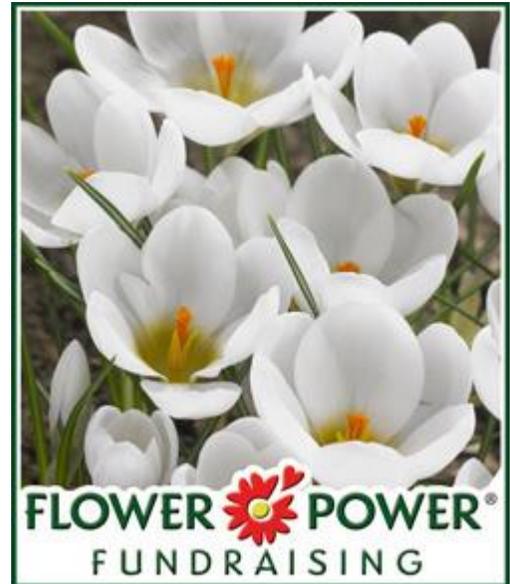
Thanks to the United Nations Foundation's Shot@Life Campaign, GFWC is pleased to offer grants to help host advocacy and fundraising events, in amounts of up to \$100, to help put a stop to preventable childhood diseases globally. These funds, provided by the United Nations Foundation, are to be used to plan local advocacy events and fundraisers for the Shot@Life Campaign. Clubs may use funds to plan their event with a goal of raising more than the original amount awarded. For more information, please view the grant application here <http://bit.ly/GFWCShotLifeGrant> or contact the GFWC Programs Department.

bring unwavering strength and optimism to their fight against cancer every single day, and refocus our efforts on striving to cure cancer once and for all.”

One of the largest nonprofit organizations answering President Obama’s call to eradicate cancer is GFWC Partner St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. Since its founding in 1962, St. Jude has helped to increase the childhood cancer survival rate from 20 to 80 percent. While these numbers are proof of the organization’s success, they continue to need your support because:

- A child’s cancer cannot be treated by the same means that an adult’s cancer is treated. Yet, the majority of funding is dedicated to researching adult cancers.
- The causes of childhood cancer remain largely unknown. Research must be done to discover what leads to childhood cancer.
- Many childhood cancer survivors suffer repercussions from treatments for the remainder of their lives. Research must be conducted to show how treatments affect children long-term so that specialized medicines and procedures can be developed.

St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital has vowed that “we will not stop until no child dies from cancer.” You can help St. Jude reach its goal by participating in a walk/run during National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. **GFWC Maryland Juniors, GFWC Legacy Woman’s Club, and GFWC Florida** are among the organizations currently listed on St. Jude’s website as Top Teams. You can join an existing GFWC team or start your own by visiting [St. Jude’s website](#).



Be The Hero

There could not be an easier way to be the Hero and support your cause. Earn 50% profit and the bulbs get delivered directly to your supporters. They are 100% guaranteed, with no minimum order and no upfront cost required! Order your free sales supplies to start your door to door fundraiser or build your online campaign today!

Raise fantastic profits, all the while beautifying your community and rejuvenating Mother Earth.

Earn 50% profit from sales!

An extra 5% from every sale goes directly to GFWC to support national projects.

www.FlowerPowerFundraising.com/GFWC or call 1-888-833-1486.



GFWC Library Replenishment Fund

The last month has seen devastating storms affect both southeastern Texas and communities throughout Florida. If your local library was among the resources and buildings impacted, please consider applying for GFWC Library Replenishment Fund grant.

Tying together clubwomen's generous financial gifts and passion for literacy with our mission of community improvement through volunteer service, this fund will assist in restocking the collections of public and public school libraries that have been damaged by natural or man-made disasters. The guidelines and application are available on gfwc.org.

Legislative Action Corner

The Legislative Action Corner is GFWC's newest addition to *News & Notes*. We will periodically post updates here on legislative alerts that clubwomen have taken action on! We will also use this space to provide great tips, information, and resources for clubwomen across the nation in their advocacy efforts!

This week, we have provided you with information on [GFWC's legislative priorities](#) and [tips for meeting with your legislators!](#) We hope that you will use this great new resource as a way to build your club's advocacy efforts!



Set Sail with GFWC and Princess Cruises

MARCH 21-31, 2018

You're invited to join GFWC International President Sheila E. Shea and your fellow clubwomen for a once-in-a-lifetime experience – sailing the Panama Canal.

While explorers began dreaming of a route between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans over 400 years ago, carving of the 51-mile canal was not completed until 1914. Travel through this man-made wonder of the modern world with Princess, the number one cruise line in the region. Go beyond the locks to explore the wildlife-filled rainforest of Central America. While on the voyage you will dine on fresh, local cuisine, visit colorful towns, and unwind on sun-kissed beaches.

Ports of call will include: Fort Lauderdale, Aruba, Cartagena, Colon, Costa Rica, and Jamaica. Fares for the 10-day tour, departing and returning to Fort Lauderdale, Florida, start at \$1,499 plus additional taxes of \$370 per person. A deposit of 20 percent per person is required by October 1 with final payment due by December 20,



Marketplace: GFWC Vest

This polyester vest is lightweight, soundless, and water resistant. The armholes feature Lycra binding for added mobility while the back features concealed vents for added ventilation. Full-zip front, stand collar, front hand pockets and shock cord drawstrings at the hem provide extra wind protection.

Contoured lines offer a fitted, feminine look. The black vest also features the GFWC emblem, embroidered in white on the left chest.

Available in sizes Small-2X, for \$30 each.

S: 6/8; M: 10/12; L: 14/16; XL: 18; 2X: 20

Get yours today at the [GFWC Marketplace](#).

2017. To reserve your cabin contact Avoya Travel Representative Linda Stone at 866-617-2470.

In the News

GFWC Iowa Friendship & Service Club is coordinating their 17th Annual Great Akron Scarecrow Festival. This year's festival will take place September 16 and feature a scarecrow decorating contest, homemade food and baked goods, children's games and activities, a petting zoo, and dozens of craft vendors. Proceeds from the event will aid the community's efforts to improve the local swimming pool among other projects. [Click here](#) to read the complete article published in the *Vermillion Plain Talk* newspaper.

Our Contact Information

General Federation of Women's Clubs
1734 N. Street NW
Washington, DC 20036
202-347-3168
www.gfwc.org

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