



EDUCATION

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

i Visit www.GFWC.org/membership/club-manual/ for updates and more information.

“EDUCATION IS NOT PREPARATION FOR LIFE; EDUCATION IS LIFE ITSELF.”

— JOHN DEWEY



From the 1996 Report of the International Commission on Education for the 21st Century and the 1997 Hamburg Declaration: Literacy, broadly conceived as the basic knowledge and skills needed in a rapidly changing world is a fundamental human right. There are millions, the majority of whom are women, who lack opportunities to learn or have insufficient skills to be able to assert this right. The challenge is to enable them to do so. Literacy is also a catalyst for participating in social, cultural, political, and economic activities, and for learning throughout life.



2018-2020 EDUCATION COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

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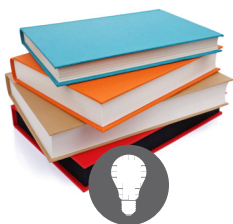
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2018-2020 INITIATIVE - In 1994 Martin Luther King Jr. Day in January was declared a National Day of Service. Each and every club in GFWC is asked to do a service project on that day. It may be in any area, any type of project. OUR GOAL IS 1,000 CLUBS PARTICIPATING.

LIBRARY IDEAS

Having founded over 474 public libraries and 4,655 traveling libraries in the 1930s, The American Library Association credited GFWC with establishing 75% of America’s public libraries. In the 21st century, libraries continue to be an important part of our communities, demonstrated by a 2013 survey in which 90% of Americans, ages 16 and older, said the closing of their local public library would have an impact on their community.

- Deliver library books to homebound citizens in your community.



READING REDUCES RECIDIVISM PROGRAM

The **Mount Prospect Woman’s Club** (IL) began soliciting their community for book donations for the 3 R’s program of the Illinois prison system. The club was able to deliver 1,235 books to five prison contacts made at libraries.



BOOKS ALIVE

Collaborating with local businesses, the **GFWC Breman Junior Woman’s Club** (GA) sponsored a Books Alive program for their community. Each Thursday during the month of June, a reading program was given to children that featured activities for all types of learners. Themes included “Character Night” where

adults dressed as their favorite character from a book that they read to the children, “Science Night,” “Cat in the Hat Night,” and a “Veggie Tales Night.”



1000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN

The **GFWC Salem Women’s Club** (NH): “1000 Books Before Kindergarten” promoted reading to families from infancy to school.



Direct any questions regarding projects that do not involve GFWC partners to the Education Community Service Program Chairman or GFWC Programs Department at Programs@GFWC.org.



THE GRIND, THE CAMPGROUND, AND THE LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

When looking for a site for their Little Free Library, the Manistique Woman's Club (MI) partnered with students from their local high school who were opening a coffeehouse called "The Grind." While students worked with a local credit union to remodel and operate the coffeehouse, The Woman's Club applied for and received a GFWC Literacy Grant to build a Little Free Library inside the coffee house. The Woman's Club also worked with the city to build another Little Free Library at a new campground in the area.

- Develop a library tour for children and end the tour with a library card and a book for them to keep.
- Facilitate or join an English Conversation group for international and foreign speaking visitors to practice their English.
- Establish a "Little Free Library" in your area. Go to <https://littlefreelibrary.org/> for ideas.
- Work with the American Library Association and partner with another local organization to start a "1000 Books Before Kindergarten" project to promote reading to young people before kindergarten.
- Assemble a 'Books for Babies' basket for new babies in your community. The basket can include a new board book, information about the local library, and tips about the importance of reading to children.
- Be a library advocate (www.ilovelibraries.org).
- Invite a local language teacher to host a bilingual story hour, featuring books from another language and/or culture.
- Host story hours, parties, or adult book discussions at the Library. Some suggestions:

Ugly Christmas Sweater Evening

Invite the community teens to wear their sweaters and come to the Library where the "UGLY" will be provided along with refreshments.

DiezDeditos

For children age 2-6, with an adult, hold a bilingual story time with songs and activities.

Gingerbread House Contest

Hold a Gingerbread Contest with a display of homemade Gingerbread Houses, culminating with an awards evening at the Library with BOOKS as prizes!

PJs At the Library

Children visit the Library in the evening in their pajamas to hear bedtime stories and songs.

Murder Mystery at the Library

Mystery stories for re-enactment creating a three hour event or an overnight event.

SCHOOL IDEAS

- Donate school supplies to schools in need throughout your community and state. Supplies can include: notebooks, pencils, small dry erase boards and markers, a hole punch, flash drives, and incentives such as stickers and small toys.
- Preschools and Head Start Programs are always in need of a variety of manipulatives such as magnetic letters, counters, and sight word games. Collect these at your first meeting in September or August with a Back to School Party theme.
- Donate recess and playground equipment. For example: games for indoors, jump ropes, and balls for outdoor recess.
- Work to stop bullying. At your local schools ask students to wear blue ribbons to remind others not to

bully. Volunteer at the school to have students take the “Blue Pinky Swear,” by painting their pinky finger blue, signing a paper hand to not bully, and placing the hand on a display board at the school. Purchase and distribute blue “Stop Bullying” bracelets.

- Fund school buses for classes to take field trips.
- Ask your school librarian about their needs. Many times it is the school library funds that are cut from school budgets. Remember to talk with middle school librarians as they are often overlooked.
- Offer to provide or teach a cultural lesson. This can also include the food of the culture!
- Provide friend or Buddy Benches on playgrounds. Students sometimes feel unloved, lonely, and have sometimes been bullied. These benches are for such a student to sit and maybe connect with a new “buddy.”
- Get a school or classroom garden started in the spring. It will provide first hand learning of weather, plant life cycles, and nutrition.
- Volunteer as an academic mentor to help students with their homework in afterschool programs.
- Provide materials for an afterschool homework center.
- Organize a career shadowing day by pairing students with community leaders and business professionals.
- Treat teachers throughout the school year with these special gifts: (Don't forget to include your club's name and phone number.)
 - **Start the Year Right:** Help a teacher get their room organized before students arrive by arranging books and supplies, and by copying introductory papers.
 - **Just in Case Kits:** Create a box or basket with: lip balm, pain reliever, teacher snack, adhesive notes, lint roller, gold stars, good pens, mouthwash, toothpaste/toothbrush, sewing kit, mints, nail file, band aids, tissues, hand cream, and whatever else you think a teacher may need or desire.

LITERACY IDEAS

Literacy is being emphasized this administration. UNESCO defines literacy as the “ability to identify, understand, interpret, create, communicate, and compute, using printed and written materials associated with varying context.”

Literacy is a human right essential for lifelong learning and social change. The “key” to literacy is reading development, a progression of skills with the ability to understand spoken words and culminating with the understanding of text.

English Language Learners (ELLs) are newcomer students, unaccompanied children; refugee students, migrant farmworker families, internationally adopted children; and “dreamers” or DACA. There are approximately 40 million foreign born residents in the United States. 48 states have English as a Second Language (ESL) programs.

IDEAS

- Establish ESL conversation groups in your community and library.
- Sponsor a ‘Take a Break and Read’ program where everyone in your community stops to read for 30 minutes per day.
- Become an adult literacy volunteer.
- Develop a Family Reading Workshop with tips for parents on reading to their children.
- Create early literacy themed kits. Each kit contains five picture books, music cd, resource book, and an activity card. Sample themes: alphabet, counting, dinosaurs, five senses, self-esteem, sharing, dragons and castles. Toddler themed kits can be developed too.
- Help GED adult students by offering babysitting services to single parents furthering their education. Work with the local library or school to provide space for the babysitting.
- Global Reading Challenge for older children. After reading ten books have a quiz bowl.
- Create a reading nook at a local laundromat. Include magazines and books for adults and children.
- Donate books of diversity to schools, children’s hospitals, and doctor/clinic waiting rooms.
- Host a book shower for a woman’s shelter or homeless shelter including adult and children’s books.
- Collect “Books for the Brave” and fill the shelves of a Veteran’s Home library or to be given out by the Veterans’

Administration to local veterans.

- Identify the need for English as a Second Language program in your community.
- Read to children in homeless shelters, read to the elderly, and/or read to the visually impaired.
- Establish a Little Free Library in your neighborhood or community.
- Donate a bookshelf with books to new Habitat for Humanity homes.
- Hold a “My Favorite Book Contest” for sixth graders where they submit a book report of their favorite book. Winners receive Barnes and Noble gift cards and/or a new book.
- Celebrate Día de los Niños, Día de los Libros (Children’s Day/Book Day) April 30. Download two posters, one in English and one in Spanish, and distribute them to area locations. Purchase books such as “The Colors of Us,” “All the Colors of Earth,” and “A Rainbow of Friends” in English and Spanish and donate to local Head Start Programs.

READING PROGRAMS

Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library: Check and see if there is a program in your area and if not, see if you can begin one.

Reach Out and Read: Reading aloud is a wonderful way of engaging with young children. Reading aloud promotes language development and early literacy skills.

Read Across America

Reading is Fundamental (RIF): Read for Success is a Summer reading program; Literacy Control is an online destination for teachers, parents, children, and library volunteers to get thousands of free digital resources tied directly to books.

Reading Rockets at American Library Association (ala.org)

Room to Read: Their goal is to inspire children to read, expand their minds, and develop a lifelong love for reading and learning.

Toys for Tots: This literacy program is in conjunction with Toys for Tots and UPS.

GRAND INITIATIVE— To promote literacy and GFWC’s involvement with libraries; GFWC would like to collect 1,000 new Dr. Seuss books (in English and different languages) to distribute 500 to Washington, D.C. schools, hospitals, and shelters and 500 to clubs’ local schools, hospitals, and shelters on Dr. Seuss’ birthday, March 2, 2020. Clubs may send books to GFWC Headquarters or they may send a monetary donation to purchase books. Please mark any monetary donation, “1,000 Books” in the memo line of check.

DID YOU KNOW that GFWC offers a FOCUS ON LITERACY CLUB GRANT? REFER TO THE THE GRANT SECTION FOR MORE INFORMATION.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Most GFWC clubs and federations give scholarships and they range in amounts. GFWC realizes that no matter how small a scholarship may be, each one is important to the recipient and we hope all clubs, through their State Federations, tell us about every scholarship or donation they have made and share the many creative ways they raise funds for those scholarships.

If your club wishes to begin a scholarship fund, here is a step-by-step plan to get started:

1. Determine the purpose of your scholarship. Beginning a successful scholarship depends upon identifying the reason for awarding it, as well as the target student audience it can potentially help. Common reasons for founding scholarships include:

- Memorializing a loved one by helping students with a scholarship in that person’s name
- Providing financial aid to students studying in a particular field





- Helping students who have financial or personal hardships
- Awarding students who excel in a sport, activity, or academic field
- Honoring students who have completed an essay on a topic of interest
- Honoring students who have made a significant impact in their community
- Honoring students who have volunteered in their community.

2. Set a timeline for the scholarship. Typically, if you want to award a scholarship by the summer prior to a given academic year, you should begin planning for it the previous summer. Steps to factor into your timeline include:

- Program development
- Fundraising
- Advertising
- Evaluating applications
- Awarding the scholarship

3. Design the application. However you design your application, you want to make sure that it will solicit the information you need to select the recipient(s) based on your criteria. Common components of scholarship applications may include:

- An essay on a topic relevant to the scholarship purpose
- A list of academic and/or non-academic awards and achievements
- A description of extracurricular involvement
- An explanation of financial need
- Copies of high school and/or college transcripts
- Letters of recommendation from teachers, advisors, employers, etc.

4. Determine the duration of the award. Some scholarships are offered as a one-time award and some are for multiple years.

5. Plan how to fund the scholarship. Funding can come from club or community fundraisers, or clubs can ask for donations from local community businesses.

6. Select the recipient(s) and make the award(s). A committee working together can read applications, determine the best candidate(s), and then vote for approval. You should then notify the recipient(s) and award the scholarship funds according to the timeline you scheduled.

Epsilon Sigma Omicron

Epsilon Sigma Omicron is an honorary educational society open to all per-capita dues paying GFWC members. ESO provides clubwomen with a structured reading program that is educational and stimulates a desire for self-improvement. ESO materials are available online at www.gfwc.org/what-we-do/community-service-programs/epsilon-sigma-omicron.

There are a number of ways to support ESO activities and membership within your club, including:

- Verify the charter of an ESO chapter in your state by contacting your State President or the GFWC Education Community Service Program Chairman. If one does not exist, establish a state ESO chapter and start reading.
- Select one or two books from the reading list to discuss at club meetings.
- Establish reading groups for study and discussion.
- Organize a book fair.
- Sponsor a book-signing event.
- Promote local authors and their works.

- Promote reading at all age levels.
- Work with your local library or book store in reading at children events.

GRANTS

FOCUS ON LITERACY CLUB GRANTS

Literacy club grants of up to \$200 are available to GFWC clubs, and funds may be used for purchasing books for tutors to use, providing books to children, and/or a variety of other literacy needs. Refer to the application for a number of other suggestions, available at www.GFWC.org/membership/awards-contests-and-grants/.

GFWC PARTNERSHIPS

GFWC partners are the organizations listed with whom GFWC has established a formal relationship and mutual understanding. Our partners offer unique and customized services: materials, speakers, kits, and/or additional information specifically designed for GFWC clubs. They are aware of GFWC clubs' specific needs, our organizational structure, and have a signed Memorandum of Understanding with GFWC. GFWC partners will assist in monitoring the donations generated by GFWC members.

To ensure that donations to GFWC partner organizations at the individual, club, district, or state level are reflected toward GFWC's collective impact, make sure to write GFWC in the memo line on your donation check.



Direct any questions regarding donations to GFWC partners to Education Community Service Program Chairman or GFWC Programs Department at Programs@GFWC.org.



HUGH O'BRIAN YOUTH LEADERSHIP (HOBY)

Contact: Sunshine Navarro Shively, Registration and Outreach Manager
31255 Cedar Valley Drive, Suite 327
Westlake Village, CA 91362

W: www.HOBY.org

E: ShivelyS@HOBY.org

P: 818-851-3980 ext. 321

"MY HOBY LEADERSHIP SEMINAR TAUGHT ME THAT I HAVE POTENTIAL; HOBY WLC TAUGHT ME THAT I HAVE A PLACE IN THE WORLD; AND HOBY ALA TAUGHT ME HOW TO USE MY POTENTIAL TO CHANGE THE WORLD."

—ROBERT BAURLEY, HOBY Alum: PA-East Leadership Seminar '12, WLC '12, ALA Fall '13

Since 1958, more than 425,000 students have begun their leadership journey with HOBY. Annually, more than 10,000 high school students from across the country and around the world participate in HOBY programs, such as:

Community Leadership Workshop (CLeW) is HOBY's introductory one-day leadership program for high school Freshmen. It is a free program that focuses on leadership as a discipline to be explored and learned. CLeWs are attended by 50 to 100 students and can take place anytime during the school year.

The State Leadership Seminar (LS) is for high school Sophomores who want to develop their leadership talents and become youth leaders in their communities. This dynamic 3-4 day seminar explores leadership from three perspectives—personal, group, and societal—through fun and interactive workshops, activities, and discussions. Seventy seminars across the country take place annually every weekend between May and June. A sponsorship of \$395.00 covers the cost of all meals, lodging, and training materials for one deserving student for an entire weekend.

The World Leadership Congress (WLC) brings students together from across the globe for a unique, week-long international program. Upon completing a State Leadership Seminar, rising juniors from U.S. high schools have the opportunity to convene with international students, representing up to 20 countries, to discover their potential



as the next generation of leaders. The WLC takes place annually in July in Chicago, Illinois. Sponsorships may include full or partial coverage of the \$1850 registration fee or donation of airline miles for students traveling from across the country.

The Advanced Leadership Academy (ALA) is a college-level program for high school Juniors and Seniors who want to enhance their leadership abilities to lead others for social change. Successfully completing this 5-day program will allow participants to develop their own action plan for change and earn them one transferable college unit, which is included in the registration fee. The ALA takes place annually in July. (Contact ALA@hoby.org for discounted early registration fees and future dates and venue.)

More than 4,000 HOBY volunteers plan, fundraise, and produce HOBY programs each year. Students return from HOBY as change leaders, equipped with leadership training, self-awareness, and motivation to make a positive impact in their community. GFWC's support and volunteers have been critical to thousands of HOBY Ambassadors over the decades. There are lots of ways for you and your club to get involved!

- Spread the word about HOBY programs to your local high schools
- Sponsor students to attend a HOBY program
- Plan and produce a Community Leadership Workshop with local HOBY Alumni
- Help schools select and register Sophomore students for the State Leadership Seminars
- Select and sponsor a deserving high school Junior or Senior for the Advanced Leadership Academy
- Volunteer at the events
- Provide gifts-in-kind
- Think of a unique way your club can help!

AWARDS

GFWC recognizes State Federations for outstanding projects and clubs for creative projects in implementing effective Education Community Service Program projects and partnership projects, as follows:

- Certificates to one State Federation in each membership category
- \$50 award to one club in the nation for project creativity
- Certificates to one State Federation in each membership category for ESO
- \$50 award to one club in the nation for project creativity for ESO

Award winners will be determined by entries into the Awards Program. Each state federation may submit one State Award Cover Sheet and one Club Creativity Award Entry Cover Sheet for the Education Community Service Program projects. Clubs do not submit entries directly to GFWC.

GFWC partners will recognize State Federations and clubs for their efforts. Contact the GFWC Programs Department for information.



Refer to the Awards section of the *Club Manual* for more information, including the Award Entry Cover Sheet guidelines.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions adopted by GFWC are the foundation of our organization. They guide our call to action and are the basis of all programming and advocacy. Current Resolutions for the Education Community Service Program are listed here by Number and Title. Refer to the complete text of each in the [2017-2018 Resolutions document](#).

012-010	Basic Education
012-020	Community Colleges, Vocational/Technical Education Institutions



012-030	Educational Equity
012-040	Enforced School Busing
012-050	English, Official U. S. A. Language
012-070	Humanities Education
012-080	Libraries
012-090	Lifelong Learning
012-100	Literacy
012-110	Quality Education
012-120	Digital Media in Education
012-130	Youth Employment

