



NEWS & NOTES

YOUR WEEKLY UPDATE ON GFWC NEWS

August 10, 2023



Featured Speakers



Ruth M. Glenn

President of Public Affairs of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) and The National Domestic Violence Hotline

Ruth M. Glenn is currently the President of Public Affairs at the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Previously, Glenn served in the Colorado Department of Human Services for twenty-eight years, the last nine as the director of the Domestic Violence Program. She has served on many domestic violence programs and funding boards, given hundreds of presentations on domestic violence victimization and survival, testified before the Colorado State Legislature and the United States Congress, and provided consultation, training, and technical assistance at the local and national levels on domestic violence victim/survivor issues. Glenn has advocated—professionally and personally—for many policies, including reauthorizing the Violence Against Women Act and legislation involving the intersection of firearms and domestic violence. She lives in Denver, Colorado. You can follow her on Twitter @RuthMGlenn



Sheri Klym

Director of Memberships and Associations for the Alzheimer's Association

As we enter the era of treatment, the Alzheimer's Association is leading the way to end Alzheimer's and all other dementia by empowering and mobilizing our communities to give all people access to early diagnosis, treatment, and quality care through their journey. The Alzheimer's Association will share how GFWC can help empower communities through advocacy and caregiving support.



National Day of Service

© SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Living the Volunteer Spirit

www.GFWC.org

[#GFWC23NDS](https://twitter.com/GFWC23NDS)

Food Insecurity is on the Rise in America

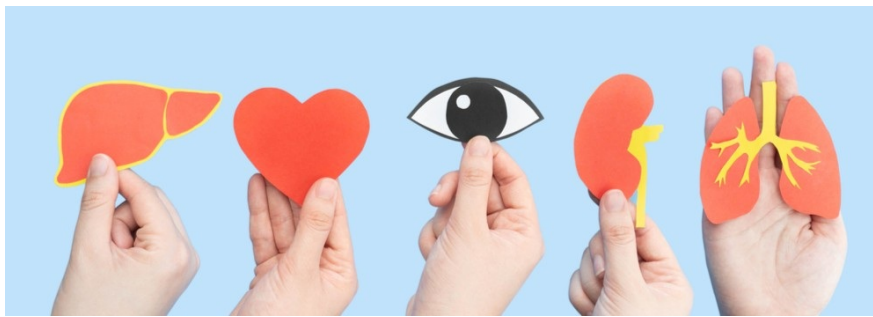
Food insecurity – defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture as lacking enough food to live a healthy, active life – is on the rise. There is lower unemployment, but many Americans are not earning enough to cover the surging cost of living. To make matters worse, cuts to the food-stamp program earlier this year reduced benefits at a time when groceries are 20% more expensive than two years ago.

For three years the U.S. Census Bureau has researched food consumption in households. The number of Americans who say they sometimes do not have enough to eat has jumped 23% - from 15.8 million before the pandemic to 19.2 million in the most recent survey, taken in spring 2023. Households experiencing food insecurity must decide between paying for food or covering rent, utilities, and other costs.

Register now and make a plan to join the collective effort of state federations, districts, and clubs on GFWC's National Day of Service on September 30, 2023, to battle food insecurity & hunger in America.

You can find helpful planning resources in the NDS Toolkit, located in the Digital Library, *My Digital Library > Resources > N > National Day of Service*

To participate in the inaugural NDS, please email Melanie Gisler, Membership Director, at mgisler@gfwc.org and cc Deb Strahanoski, GFWC International President, dstrahanoski@gfwc.org.



South Dakota State President's Project: Organ Donor Awareness

South Dakota State President, Pamela Hallman

The South Dakota State President's Project is to increase awareness of being an organ donor. Clubs were encouraged to choose projects that would benefit the National Kidney Foundation. The [National Kidney Foundation](#) is a leading health organization dedicated to fighting kidney disease and educating the public about kidney transplants.

More than 100,000 people are waiting for lifesaving organ transplants in America. Are you a registered donor? A national system connects donors with those waiting based on biological matches and distance. You can register to be a donor through your DMV and a heart or other donor marker will be added to your license.

Sign up to be an [Organ Donor](#)



Power Skills

By: Deb Brossard, GFWC Leadership Committee Member

A new buzz phrase is going around that has perhaps come to your attention. "Power Skills" have been known as 'soft skills' and are critical people skills that can be a real asset to you if you hope to be a successful leader.

In a world dramatically affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, remote

working and virtual meetings have become commonplace, and these power skills have become more important than ever!

Communication, emotional intelligence, creativity, adaptability, and collaboration are among the soft skills that play a significant role in leadership success in the 21st century. Considering the difficulties of the last few years, the ability to relate person-to-person is more essential than ever. Think of how much more productive our club efforts could be if we all tried harder to hone these soft/people/power skills.

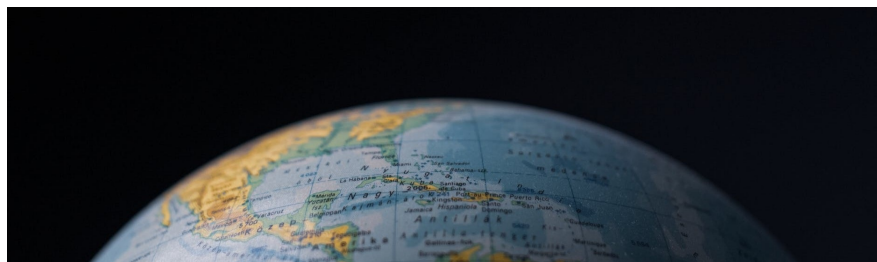
Other power skills that are highly coveted not only in the workplace but in our clubs are critical thinking, intercultural fluency, time management, and empathy.

As an article in Forbes in January 2021 pointed out, “as more and more job activities become automated, soft skills, which cannot yet be replicated by machines, have become more important.” As a result, “soft skills – such as empathy, emotional intelligence, mindfulness, adaptability, integrity, optimism, self-motivation, grit, and resilience – have become crucial success factors.”

Of course, our club work cannot be compared to automated factory jobs; however, the importance of these and other critical people skills is often underestimated in successful club leadership development. Consider investing time honing these skills, and you will be glad you did!

Sources:

[Soft Skills Are Essential To The Future Of Work \(forbes.com\)](#)



GFWC International Affiliate Updates

By: Cherie Sieger, GFWC International Liaison Committee Member

Were you at the GFWC Annual Convention this year? Did you get the chance to meet the GFWC International Affiliates?

There were six club members from three countries in attendance at the GFWC Annual Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Of the six, three club members represented Brazil, two represented the country of Belize (one being a Juniorette), and one represented the country of the Philippines. Meeting them and joining them for the social that Madam President, Deb Strahanoski, held for them was extremely exciting.

This committee member had the opportunity to room with one of the

clubwomen from Belize. She was so sweet, and she has the heart and drive for volunteering, just as we all do. Her name is Tricia, and she works in her community to make it a better place. During our quiet times together, we talked about her country, her culture, and how GFWC plays a role in what her club determines to support in their country. Tricia loved talking about how her club helps her community and works together to make Belize a beautiful place to live.

If you would like your club to be a pen pal to any of our affiliate clubs, please let Kathryn Sowers, International Affiliates Chairman, know so we can contact them. They would love to communicate with other clubs, compare projects, and find ways in which we can help each other to *Live the Volunteer Spirit*.



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walk/run

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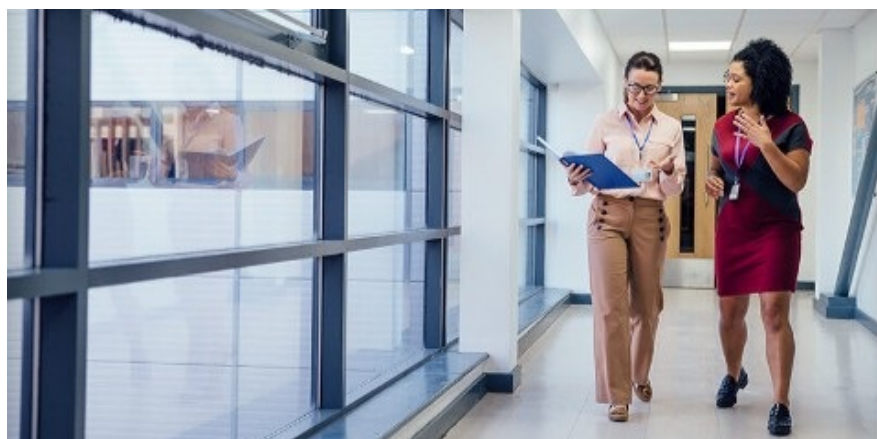
Coming Soon in September 2023

fundraising.stjude.org/GFWC

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Save on Back to School Essentials

Buying school supplies can prove costly. Luckily your GFWC member-only savings makes it easy for you to find good deals. Here's how ODP makes back-to-school shopping simple:

Shop online and get free next-business-day delivery

Save on thousands of products and enjoy next-business-day delivery

on qualifying orders.

Exclusive offer for GFWC members:

FREE shipping with a \$30 purchase now through 10/31/23.

All your solutions, all in one place

From notebooks, backpacks, pencils, and pens to cleaning supplies, use your ODP Member Savings Program and get up to 75% off on Best Value Items.

Shop Now

You must log in or use this link to receive the offer.

Volunteers in Action: GFWC Women's Club of South Country (RI)



Despite the soaring summer temps, dedicated members of the GFWC Women's Club of South Country (RI) showed up for their club. Members participated in the club's quarterly roadside cleanup along Ocean Road in Narragansett. As part of their "Adopt a Roadway" program, they help keep roadways clean and safe.

Submit photos and a short story about the awesome things YOUR club is doing in the community to PR@gfwc.org.



GENERAL FEDERATION
of WOMEN'S CLUBS

GFWC Headquarters
1734 N ST NW | Washington, DC 20036
www.GFWC.org