



# NEWS & NOTES

YOUR WEEKLY UPDATE ON GFWC NEWS

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April 3, 2025

## GFWC: Empowering Women



**GFWC**  
ANNUAL CONVENTION  
*Atlanta*  
2025

**Spinning Vision into Reality:  
Join Us for the 2025 GFWC  
Annual Convention**

REGISTER NOW

**June 6-9**

[Purchase Red Pashmina for Convention Pickup](#)



Since 1890, GFWC clubwomen have come together to celebrate our accomplishments and shape the future. This year in Atlanta, you have the chance to be part of this powerful tradition! Engage with inspiring speakers, participate in dynamic workshops, and help shape the decisions that drive our collective impact. Don't miss this opportunity to connect, learn, and lead—register today and be part of something extraordinary!

[Have questions about the 2025 GFWC Annual Convention?](#)

Frequently asked questions like, “Where will I park?” and “How do I pick up my t-shirt?” are covered in the **FAQs** section of the Convention website. You can also find information on mobility assistance rentals and attire guidelines for the many events you’re sure to enjoy during your time in Atlanta.

It’s the first place to look for any Convention questions on your mind. We can’t wait to see you there!

[View FAQs](#)

## **GFWC Resolutions: Participate in the Process**

By: Ida Dorvee, GFWC Resolutions Chairman

GFWC’s Resolutions serve as the basis for all GFWC’s advocacy work. To ensure that these Resolutions remain current, the Resolutions Committee reviews each resolution at least once every four years. As a result of these reviews, the Committee may recommend: (1) that a resolution remain unchanged; (2) that a resolution be amended (to update or broaden the resolution); (3) that one or more existing resolutions be consolidated; or (4) that a resolution be rescinded, where the purpose of that resolution has been fulfilled. The committee may also recommend the adoption of new resolutions where the need for one exists. Many of these new resolutions are submitted to the committee by one of our State Federations. Additionally, the committee may also draft a new resolution for consideration.

Each year, the Resolution Committee’s proposals are published in the Call to Convention and then debated and voted on at the GFWC Annual Convention. This member-driven process helps to ensure that GFWC’s resolutions accurately reflect the positions of our membership as a whole. In 2025, the committee is proposing amendments to 23 existing resolutions, including five new resolutions, the rescission of two resolutions based on proposed amendments that would consolidate those resolutions with other existing resolutions. An additional 29 resolutions were reviewed and it was determined that they remain unchanged.

For our resolutions process to work as intended, our members must participate in it., The Resolutions Committee strongly encourages every member -- prior to convention -- to review the proposed amendments to the Resolutions, which are found on pages 30-44 of this year’s Call to Convention. Members attending convention should bring the Call or a copy of the proposed Resolutions with them for reference during the business sessions. If any member has a question she should feel free to contact a member of the Resolutions Committee.



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month, a time when the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) reaffirms its commitment to advocating for the safety and well-being of children. As members dedicated to strengthening communities, we can make a difference by supporting child advocacy programs, promoting education on prevention, and volunteering with organizations that protect at-risk youth. Whether it's raising awareness, assisting shelters, or supporting legislative efforts to strengthen child protection laws, every action we take helps build a safer future. Together, we can stand up for children, amplify their needs, and ensure that every child has the opportunity to grow up in a safe, loving environment.



## **GFWC Supports Anti-Trafficking in Persons (ATIP) Policy Roundtable Efforts to Save Lives**

*GFWC International President Suellen B. Brazil represented GFWC at the ATIP Policy Roundtable on February 27, facilitated by Anne Basham, CEO of Ascend Consulting*

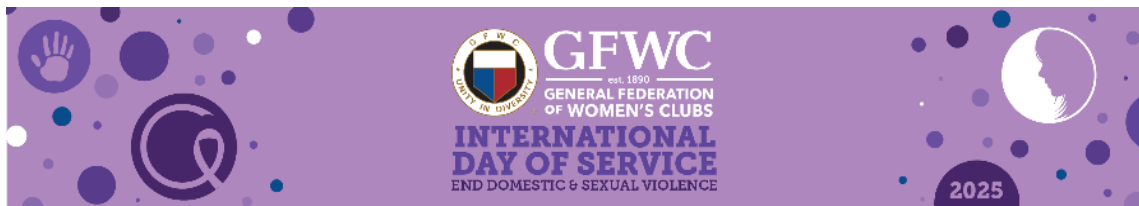


*Suellen Brazil with  
Anne Basham*

With more than 60+ organizations attending, those sharing their commitment to battling human trafficking included eight Members of Congress, four state elected officials, along with survivors who shared their personal stories. The discussion highlighted the urgency of addressing human trafficking, a \$270 billion industry which has been described as modern-day slavery that affects labor and sex trafficking.

GFWC is advocating for the passage of the **Trafficking Survivors Relief Act of 2025** (H.R. 1379), sponsored by Reps. Russell Fry (R-SC), Ann Wagner (R-MO), Ted Lieu (D-CA), and Robert Garcia (D-CA), that provides federal criminal record relief to survivors of human trafficking who committed a nonviolent offense as a direct result of having been a victim of trafficking. Because many survivors of human trafficking have a criminal record, they are unable to rent an apartment or get a job. This bill would break the cycle, giving them the ability to move forward with their lives.

Help GFWC advocate for this legislation by sending a message to your members of Congress to ask for their support when it comes up for a vote. You can do so by clicking [here](#).



## Register for the GFWC International Day of Service!

**United to End Domestic & Sexual Violence**

GFWC is working to end human trafficking by planning community service projects for the [2025 GFWC International Day of Service](#) on Saturday, September 27. Take action NOW to [register](#) your club to participate on this momentous day to make a crucial impact in your community. To date, more than 226 clubs have registered to participate! Check GFWC's [website](#) to see if your club is listed.

Use the U.S. Department of State's list of "[20 Ways You Can Help Fight Human Trafficking](#)" to inspire your club's GFWC IDS project!

1. Volunteer and support anti-trafficking efforts in [your community](#). Find out how you can help!
2. Host an “[FBI Child ID](#)” event to facilitate community member’s enrollment on the FBI Child ID App. During the event, share with parents, caregivers, and teachers how they can help protect our children.
3. Host a community event to hold conversations for parents, teachers, law enforcement, and community members regarding safeguarding children and how human traffickers often target and recruit youth.

Register Now

## 2025 GFWC International Day of Service Registrant List

Join the list at [memberportal.gfwc.org/pages/gfwc-international-day-of-service](https://memberportal.gfwc.org/pages/gfwc-international-day-of-service)

*97 New Registrants from March 25 - April 1, 2025*

### STATE FEDERATIONS

GFWC California  
GFWC Maryland  
GFWC New Hampshire  
GFWC New Jersey

### GFWC DISTRICTS

Southern District, AZ  
CFWC De Anza District, CA  
San Gabriel Valley District, CA  
Caprock District, TX

### INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATE

GFWC Women's Club of Aruba

### INDIVIDUAL CLUBS

ALABAMA  
GFWC Jubilee  
GFWC Legacy  
GFWC Woman's Literary Club of Leeds

### ALASKA

GFWC Anchorage Women's Club

### ARIZONA

GFWC Chili Peppers  
GFWC ESO Fifth Wheel  
GFWC Glendale Woman's Club  
GFWC Tucson Woman's Club

### ARKANSAS

GFWC Junior Civic League of Fort Smith,  
AR  
GFWC North Little Rock Woman's Club

### CALIFORNIA

GFWC Beaumont Woman's Club  
GFWC El Monte Women's Club  
GFWC Hope  
GFWC West Valley Federated Women's  
Club of SanJose  
GFWC Woman's Club of Carlsbad  
GFWC Woman's Club of Lakeside  
GFWC/CFWC Woman's Club of Redondo  
Beach

### COLORADO

### MAINE

GFWC Gorham Women's Club

### MASSACHUSETTS

GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club  
GFWC Bourne Women's Club

### MICHIGAN

Adrian GFWC  
GFWC Evert Woman's Club

### MINNESOTA

GFWC Cosmopolitan Woman's Club  
GFWC Nevis Area Women's Club  
GFWC Starbuck

### MISSISSIPPI

GFWC Purvis Woman's Club

### MISSOURI

GFWC Woman's Club of Ste. Genevieve

### MONTANA

GFWC Deer Lodge Woman's Club  
GFWC Fort Benton Woman's Club

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

GFWC-NH Just a Membership (JAM) Club

### NEW MEXICO

GFWC Carrizozo Woman's Club

### NORTH CAROLINA

GFWC Fuquay-Varina Junior Women's  
Club  
GFWC Garner Woman's Club

### OHIO

GFWC Ohio Warren Junior Women's  
League  
GFWC Wintersville Woman's Club

### OKLAHOMA

GFWC Anadarko Philomathic Club  
GFWC Waurika Sorosis Club

GFWC NoCo Larks

#### CONNECTICUT

The GFWC Woman's Club of Enfield  
GFWC Women's Club of Madison

#### DELAWARE

GFWC Selbyville Community Club  
GFWC The Dover Century Club

#### FLORIDA

GFWC Blue Umbrella Club  
GFWC Cocoa Beach Woman's Club  
GFWC Coral Gables Woman's club  
GFWC Nature Coast Woman's Club  
GFWC of The Villages  
GFWC Southside Woman's Club of  
Jacksonville  
GFWC Village Improvement Association  
GFWC Wewahitchka Woman's Club  
GFWC Woman's Club of Deerfield Beach  
GFWC Federated Woman's Club of Green  
Cove Springs  
GFWC Woman's Club of Macclenny

#### GEORGIA

GFWC Bremen Junior Woman's Club  
GFWC Cartersville Woman's Club  
GFWC Gordon Woman's Club  
GFWC Lake Lanier Woman's Club, Inc.  
GFWC Service Guild of Covington  
GFWC Sylvania Junior Woman's Club  
GFWC Heartland Woman's Club

#### ILLINOIS

GFWC Elgin Junior Woman's Club  
GFWC IL Fox Valley Junior Woman's Club  
GFWC Northwest Suburban

#### INDIANA

GFWC Fayette County ESO

#### KENTUCKY

GFWC Jackson Woman's Club  
GFWC Leitchfield Woman's Club  
GFWC Murray Woman's Club

#### PENNSYLVANIA

GFWC Northeastern  
GFWC West Side

#### SOUTH CAROLINA

GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Columbia

#### SOUTH DAKOTA

GFWC Brookings Women's Club

#### TENNESSEE

GFWC Loudon Woman's Club

#### TEXAS

GFWC Las Fidelis Study Club

#### VERMONT

GFWC Okemo Valley Women's Club

#### VIRGINIA

GFWC Bel Air Woman's Club  
GFWC Capitol Woman's Club  
GFWC Grundy Woman's Club  
GFWC Lee District Past Presidents'  
Woman's Club  
The GFWC Woman's Club of Williamsburg  
GFWC Woman's Club of Smithfield  
GFWC Wytheville Women's Club  
GFWC Yorktown Woman's Club

#### WEST VIRGINIA

GFWC Parkersburg Woman's Club  
The GFWC Woman's Club of Wheeling  
GFWC/WV Bethany

#### WISCONSIN

GFWC Brown Deer Junior Woman's Club  
GFWC Stevens Point Woman's Club  
GFWC Woman's Club of Kenosha

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## Cares & Concerns

With great sadness, we report the passing of [Barbara Winingham](#) past GFWC Texas State President (2004-2006). Should friends desire, memorials may be sent in honor of Barbara to the Amity Club c/o Patti Poe, 7187 Rock Spring School Road, Nocona, TX 76255.

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# Breaking the Stigma of Mental Health

by: Amy Mason, GFWC Kentucky State President

GFWC Kentucky's focus during this administration is Mental Health Awareness. Mental health is just as important as physical health, yet stigma continues to prevent many people from seeking the help they need. Misconceptions, fear, and outdated beliefs have long surrounded mental health issues. Breaking this stigma is crucial for creating a more supportive and understanding society.

One of the most effective ways to combat stigma is through education. Many people still believe that mental illness is a sign of weakness or something that can be controlled through willpower alone. However, mental health conditions, such as depression and anxiety, are complex and often influenced by biological, environmental, and psychological factors. Understanding that mental health issues are medical conditions—just like diabetes or heart disease—can help change the way people perceive them.

Open conversations also play a significant role in normalizing mental health struggles. When public figures and everyday individuals share their experiences, it encourages others to do the same. This openness fosters a sense of connection and reassures those struggling that they are not alone.

Additionally, improving access to mental health resources is essential to breaking the stigma on mental health. GFWC Kentucky clubwomen are completing Mental Health First Aid Training. This training does not make us experts but aids us in starting conversations and analyzing situations to recognize someone in mental health distress.

Breaking the stigma of mental health requires a collective effort, but through awareness, conversation, and action, we can create a world where mental well-being is prioritized and supported.

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## WHRC: From the Archives

Don't miss the latest *WHRC: From the Archives* blog post! As our member clubs prepare for Federation Day 2025 (our 135th birthday), we take a look back at our 50th birthday, also known as the GFWC “Golden Jubilee.”

[Read the WHRC Blog](#)

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## Overcoming Leadership Challenges

By: Sandy Hauenstein, GFWC Leadership Committee Member

Engaging members to serve in leadership positions is a, at times, challenge for clubs. Let's look at ways we can ensure a positive outcome with qualified leaders.

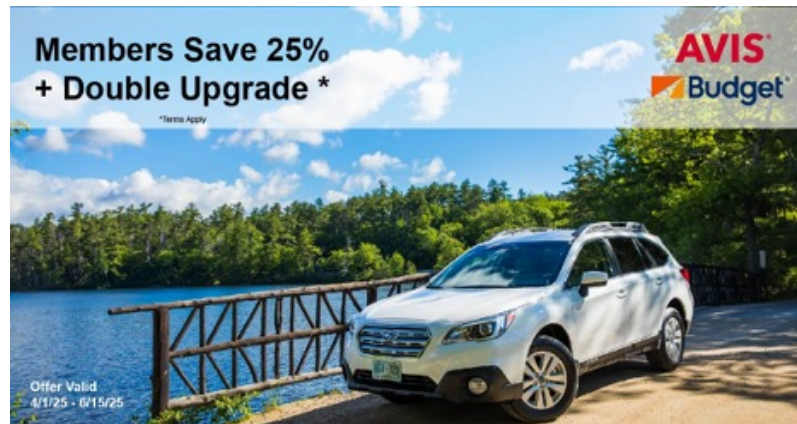
Leadership training at all levels requires knowing your members. A mentorship program that matches like-minded current leaders with new members can be an umbrella program for developing new members who want to be and are capable of becoming leaders. Mentors can educate and encourage mentees to participate in committees and projects. They can nudge them to take responsibility for tasks to boost confidence. As they learn, the mentees will be willing to take on a chairmanship and develop skills needed for leadership roles.

Mentors can use brainstorming sessions to develop goals for the future leaders and then devise a plan to reach those goals. By engaging with mentors, emerging leaders will gain perspective on their experiences while developing the skills to be a committee chairman or officer.



The GFWC Leadership Toolkit contains numerous documents to assist in the development of current and potential leaders. The topics provide the tools for leaders to feel confident managing a club or group.

Mentors can motivate and empower members by sharing experiences and knowledge with enthusiasm and energy. Eventually, many of your mentees will become mentors, and the leadership development cycle will continue. Effective volunteer service requires effective leadership that builds and maintains relationships, demonstrates sound decision-making, and inspires others. Be your best, passionate self as you pursue leadership training with those around you.



## **Unlock 25% Off and Exclusive Perks with the Avis and Budget Car Rental Savings Program**

Your GFWC Avis and Budget Car Rental Savings Program grants you access to huge discounts on a rental car for all your getaways! Use the Pay Now feature to save 25% off + Double Upgrades and receive additional offers, such as free upgrades or dollars off. Plus, take advantage of your complimentary membership to Avis Preferred® and Budget Fastbreak® rewards programs to bypass the counter and skip the paperwork at most participating airports.

### **Book with Avis Budget**

Avis: [www.avis.com/gfwc](http://www.avis.com/gfwc) or Budget: [www.budget.com/gfwc](http://www.budget.com/gfwc)

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## **Volunteers in Action: GFWC Newtown Woman's Club, GFWC Inc. (Connecticut)**

Members of the GFWC Newtown Woman's Club partnered with a variety of businesses and organizations to host a celebration honoring veterans on Vietnam War Veterans Day of Honor (March 28) at the Vet Center in Danbury, Connecticut. The signs were made by students and teachers from Reed Intermediate School. Local shops supported the effort by providing food and table linens for the event, and club members donated flowers – which honorees took home with them. This “Day of Honor” was part of the club's work in the GFWC Civic Engagement & Outreach Community Service Program.

**Want your club project to be featured in an upcoming issue of  
News & Notes?**

Simply send your full club name, State Federation, and 100 words describing your club's favorite project to [PR@GFWC.org](mailto:PR@GFWC.org).  
Make sure to add a great action shot or two that brings your project to life!



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