

GFWC

ideas, information, insight, and inspiration

CLUBWOMAN

MAGAZINE

**The Season of Giving: 2024
GFWC Holiday Open House**

**Women's Suffrage National
Monument Bill Passed**

**Better Together:
2025 GFWC Junior Cruise**



THE PULSE OF PROGRESS

THE HEARTBEAT OF A FEDERATION



GFWC
est. 1890
GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

winter 2025 | volume 103 | issue 1

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GFWC

CLUBWOMAN

MAGAZINE

The magazine of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, whose members are dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service.

2024-2026 GFWC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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FROM THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Members,

With the dawn of the new year, the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) moves along on a journey brimming with invigorated energy, an unwavering sense of purpose, and a steadfast commitment to progress. The preceding months have been characterized by dedicated efforts at GFWC Headquarters, where the Executive Committee, Resolutions Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, and Bylaws Committee have united with a common goal—preparing for a promising future. Their invaluable insights and recommendations will take center stage at the 2025 GFWC Annual Convention in June, charting the course for our organization.

Exciting plans are unfolding to ensure that this year's convention emerges as an unforgettable experience for all participants. It will be a magnificent occasion to honor service, celebrate leadership, and recognize the extraordinary achievements of our states and clubs. Through pivotal business sessions, we will refine our vision, fortify our initiatives, and lay a robust foundation for continued growth.

An impressive roster of speakers will take the stage, sharing profound insights on pressing issues such as health, literacy, women's advancement, and the relentless battle against domestic and sexual violence. Their expertise will ignite awareness, foster meaningful discussions, and empower members to take decisive action.

Interactive workshops will further enrich the convention experience, equipping attendees with practical tools and innovative strategies to amplify their volunteer efforts. These sessions will offer fresh ideas and essential resources, enabling members to effect lasting change in their communities.

Beyond the formalities of the convention, this gathering will thrive as a vibrant hub of connection and camaraderie. Through shared experiences and inspiring conversations, we will strengthen the ties that make our organization so impactful.

Service lies at the heart of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, and the impact of our collective efforts is immeasurable. The work we do—whether through advocacy, hands-on projects, or fundraising—enhances lives and strengthens communities. The gift of service is one of the most meaningful contributions we can offer, as it not only transforms the lives of those we help but also enriches our own. Each act of service, no matter how small, ripples outward, creating waves of positive change. Together, we have the power to address critical societal issues, uplift those in need, and build a better future for generations to come. Through our dedication and passion, we continue *Spinning Vision into Reality*.

Yours in Living the Volunteer Spirit,



SUELLEN B. BRAZIL

GFWC International President



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR CLUBS

Dear Fellow GFWC Sisters,

I am so proud to represent our Juniors organization, a vital membership level of GFWC. Junior clubs are still very relevant and very much needed. Juniors bring innovation, new ways of thinking, technological and social media savvy, and energy for the growth and ongoing strength of our state Federations and our whole GFWC organization. A thriving Junior club meets the individual needs of members who desire to improve their communities through volunteer service, grow meaningful relationships, and access personal and leadership development opportunities, all while balancing career and family.

The GFWC Junior leadership of State Directors of Junior Clubs and the Junior Executive Committee understands how crucial it is to move the needle of Junior membership in the direction of growth. This administration, we have two main goals: to support existing Junior clubs and to charter new Junior clubs nationwide. We have developed a comprehensive Stronger Together plan to accomplish these goals.

To begin, we first need to understand who our current Juniors are, the health of our clubs, and the needs of these members. To accomplish this, we are asking all members of a Junior club to complete this survey by March 1: [Junior Membership Survey](#). This link is shareable, so please share this within your Junior clubs, and keep an eye out for survey results.

I am also pleased to announce that the Junior Leadership Certification program for Junior and Junorette clubs is being expanded! The program will take place over a two year administration rather than yearly, and educational content will be produced for each of the eight areas of study. Clubs will be able to access this content on their own schedules. The updated Leadership Certification information is in the Member Portal.

More initiatives in the Stronger Together plan are coming soon – stay tuned!

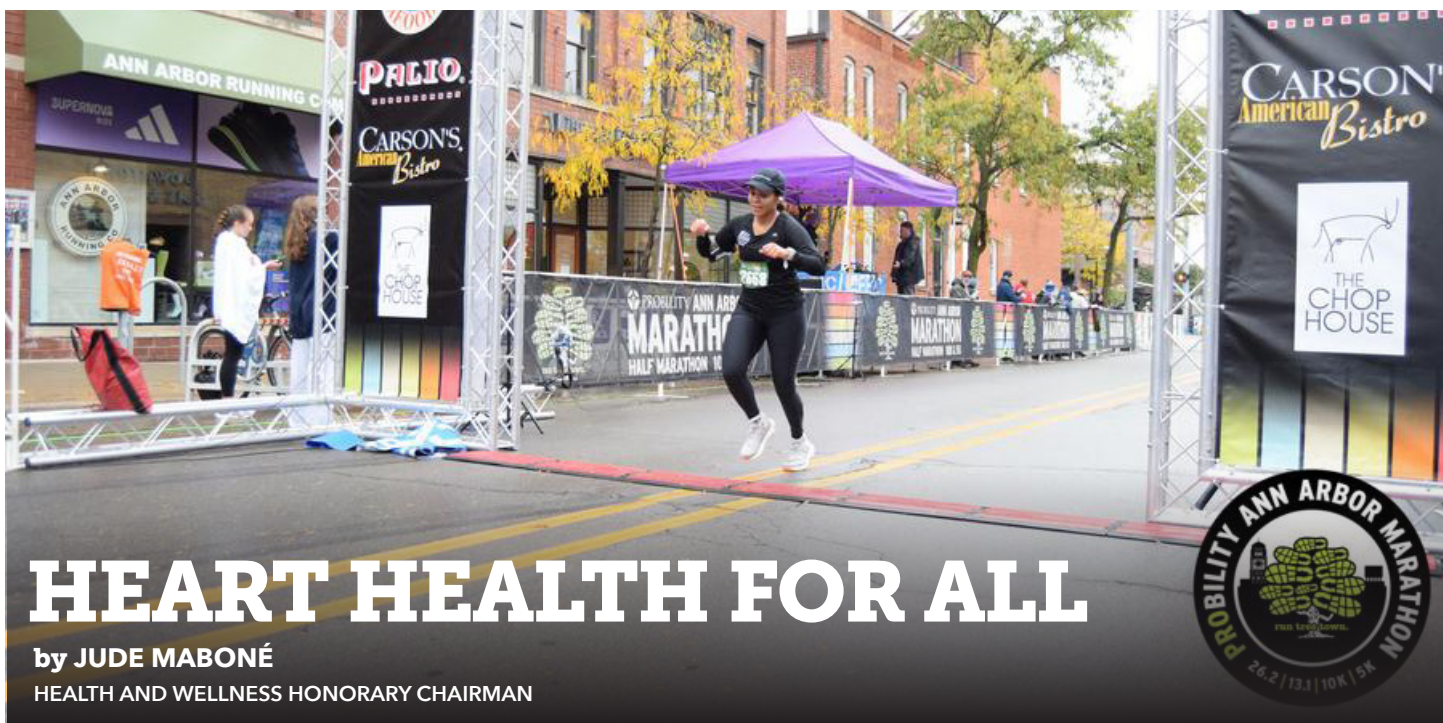
In Junior Love,



SHANNON BAILEY

Director of Junior Clubs





HEART HEALTH FOR ALL

by JUDE MABONÉ

HEALTH AND WELLNESS HONORARY CHAIRMAN

I had my first heart attack when I was sixteen years old. It started as a typical Wednesday morning. I, a competitive cross-country runner, was on a six-mile run when I started having chest pains around mile three. I attributed the pain to the humidity and perhaps dehydration and continued my run. At mile five, I stopped running because my chest pains became more severe.

Additionally, I now had a headache, nausea, stabbing pain in my left shoulder, and was profusely sweating. I was a mile from my high school and equidistant from my parent's house, so I did a walk/jog back to my high school and rushed to the emergency room. After a series of tests, the doctor informed me that I had just had a heart attack. It would be the first of a series of six that occurred within a two-year span. I, like 121.5 million Americans, am living with heart disease.

Initially, I was embarrassed by my condition. I did my best to conceal what was happening and did not tell my friends or teachers. I, like many people, assumed that heart disease was only a symptom of a series of poor lifestyle choices and did not want people to think less of me. As time went on and my condition became stabilized, my cardiologist suggested that I begin volunteering with organizations that are working to educate the country on heart disease. She felt that doing so would help me cope with my diagnosis.

I began volunteering with a local organization called Simon's Heart, founded by a family whose infant son died from cardiac arrest, which provides free heart screenings and CPR education for student-athletes. Many people are impacted by heart disease and championing this cause and working to advance heart health equity is deeply healing for me; it provides purpose for the pain I experienced.

For the past decade, I have worked alongside organizations

HEART ATTACK SYMPTOMS IN WOMEN



- Uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness or pain in the center of your chest. It may last more than a few minutes or go away and come back.
- Pain or discomfort in one the:
 - Arms (one or both)
 - Back
 - Neck
 - Jaw
 - Stomach
- Shortness of breath with or without chest discomfort.
- Other signs, including:
 - Breaking out in a cold sweat
 - Nausea
 - Lightheadedness

Some women have symptoms less likely to be associated with a heart attack such as:

- Anxiety
- Shortness of breath
- Upset stomach
- Pain in the shoulder, back or arm
- Unusual tiredness and weakness

Find more information on women's heart health from the American Heart Association at heart.org

like Simon's Heart, MedStar Health, the National Institute of Health, and the American Heart Association to change public perception of heart disease and make lifesaving information accessible. Initiatives have included creating CPR and AED training videos, lobbying for lifesaving legislation (most notably the CPR Act recently passed by the DC Council), fundraising for medical research, and educating others on how to prevent heart disease.

While forms of heart disease like my own are not preventable, almost 80% of the causes of heart disease are. In many cases, heart disease can be prevented through lifestyle choices like maintaining a balanced diet, stress management, proper sleep, and daily movement. That's why I am excited to work alongside the General Federation of Women's Clubs as a Health and Wellness Honorary Chairman to continue to educate members on the importance of early detection to save lives. As leaders and volunteers in local communities, we have the opportunity



SIX-TIME HEART ATTACK SURVIVOR

Jude Maboné, Miss DC 2023, encouraged heart health with her Community Service Initiative, "Check Your Heart."

to reshape the way that we and those around us think about heart disease, while contributing to what the American Heart Association calls the "Nation of Lifesavers", a vision to have a country where everyone knows how to perform CPR.

This partnership will likely lead to greater preparedness for cardiac emergencies and commitment to our heart health. As women, we tend to put ourselves last, but I know personally that we cannot breathe life into others if we are not first well ourselves. I encourage everyone to make heart health month personal. Start by committing to one heart-healthy habit each week. Whether increasing your daily step count or trying a new low-sodium recipe, these small changes lead to life-sustaining outcomes. Together, we can break the stigma, and get better together.

St. Jude patient
Misheel,
pictured with
her mom



Your gift to St. Jude could **last a lifetime** for kids like Misheel.

Misheel was diagnosed in July 2023 after experiencing several months of insatiable thirst and repeated visits to the bathroom, her mother said. "She wasn't sleeping well during the night; she was so tired during the day," she recalled. A doctor's visit and tests revealed tumors in her brain. Undrakh, who was born in Mongolia, said she couldn't believe it. "In my country, people die from cancer," she said. "Cancer was a really hard word to hear." Misheel was referred to St. Jude, where she has received treatment, which included chemotherapy and radiation therapy. "St. Jude means a lot to us; it has become a loving family," said Undrakh, who said she was a St. Jude monthly donor prior to her daughter's diagnosis. Since she became a patient at St. Jude, Misheel not only learned to master balloon twisting, but she is also now learning, with the help of YouTube, to be a ventriloquist. Misheel, though, aspires to be a doctor or a nurse, just like those at St. Jude.



Please donate
today at
stjude.org



© 2024 ALSAC/St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (MCC-28876)

The General Federation of Women's Clubs invites you to their annual

Women's History Month Celebration

FEATURING

Women of Dupont-Kalorama

presented by: a speaker from "A Tour of Her Own"

During the Gilded Age, the Dupont Circle neighborhood became the glimmering center for the wealthy, the politically-connected, and the socially elite. The Women of Dupont-Kalorama traces the notable women who called this neighborhood home, the good (and bad) trouble that they stirred up, and how women still shape the worlds of politics, journalism, and society today.



The Many Lives of GFWC Headquarters

presented by: Joanna Church, WHRC Librarian

GFWC Headquarters is made up of three adjacent rowhouses in DC's historic Dupont Circle neighborhood, including the National Historic Landmark, 1734 N Street, built in 1875. Many women have lived and worked in these buildings over the past century: artists, writers, doctors, lawyers, maids, cooks, stenographers, nannies, activists, socialites, federal employees, and of course, clubwomen. As we prepare for the 150th anniversary of 1734 N Street, come learn about these women and the impact they had on our Headquarters buildings and on the history of Washington, DC.

MARCH 5, 2025
2:00PM – 4:00PM

RSVP at
memberportal.gfwc.org/events



NEWS FROM THE WHRC

by JOANNA CHURCH, WOMEN'S HISTORY & RESOURCE CENTER LIBRARIAN

The Archives, Photograph, and Art & Artifacts collections aren't the only historical resources housed here in the Women's History and Resource Center at GFWC Headquarters. We also maintain a Reference Library, holding several thousand works that support research into women's history, volunteerism, and the Federation itself.

Most of this collection is housed in the Library (which doubles as the WHRC Librarian's office) on the second floor of 1728 N Street. Renovation work in 2024, part of our ongoing efforts to repair and [restore our historic Headquarters buildings](#), has helped to make this room a more effective and accessible space. The work will also allow us to include this impressive room – originally the front parlor of this 1880s home – on Headquarters tours.

As well as providing a broad context for research into GFWC and our member clubs, the Reference Library collection also gives a glimpse into the activities and interests of the Federation. For example, in the early 20th century we asked each state federation to contribute

books about, or by an author from, their home state. This “state shelves” effort led not only to our substantial collection of regional poetry, it also formed the basis of the present-day State and Club History collection, consisting of both bound books and manuscripts summarizing the histories and accomplishments of our member clubs.

Collecting books for the Library began even before we had a Headquarters in which to store it, as we gathered useful resources for clubs: parliamentary guides, advice on running more efficient meetings, program suggestions, directories of speakers and services, and deep dives on topics of interest both informative and practical. That's likely how we ended up with around half a dozen books each on subjects such as, say, the history of American music, or the development of a community literacy program. In a way, the books in the reference library tell us as much about the history of GFWC and our member clubs as do the papers in the Archival collection.



continued on next page

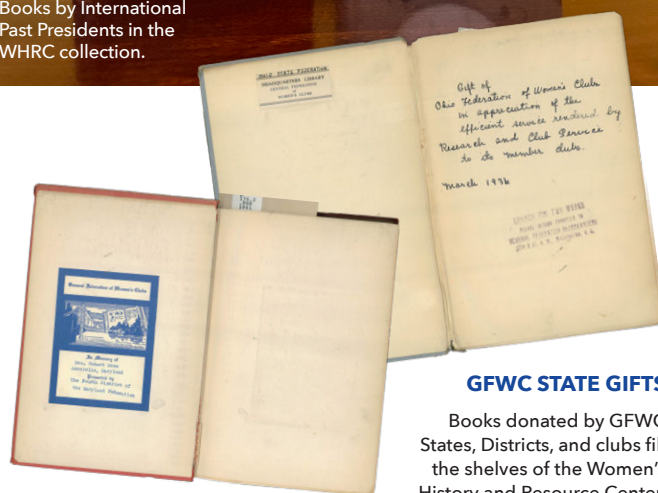
Today, while we continue to collect for the State and Club History collection, we no longer focus on resources for club activities - the internet, not to mention the happy availability of public libraries (often thanks to our clubs themselves!), has made that subject area less of a concern to our staff, members, and researchers. Instead, we look for scholarly works on people and subjects relevant to GFWC history, providing a broad context within which the Federation's work can be placed. These books can be anything from studies of movements and events that we've been involved in, to biographies of women who have changed the world, to older books that come to light thanks to research requests that point out gaps in the collection.

It's worth reminding our readers that the Reference Library is not a circulating one; like many libraries of our size and type, we restrict physical access to on-site research. Nonetheless, we do our best to make the materials accessible upon request, whether through judicious scanning or by helping you find a copy in a repository near you. The catalog can be searched online at: [WHRC library | TinyCat](#). Contact the WHRC to make an appointment to visit, or to learn more about this valuable resource!

Women's History and Resource Center: WHRC@GFWC.org



Books by International Past Presidents in the WHRC collection.



GFWC STATE GIFTS

Books donated by GFWC States, Districts, and clubs fill the shelves of the Women's History and Resource Center.

STOCK THE SHELVES

HELP THE WHRC UPDATE OUR REFERENCE COLLECTION

[SHOP OUR WISHLIST](#)

STOCK THE WHRC SHELVES!

As we continue to celebrate the WHRC's 40th Anniversary year (May 2024-May 2025), members and clubs are invited to join in and help "Stock the Shelves! You can access a wish list for the WHRC Reference Library [here](#). By purchasing a book from this list, you will help update the reference collection with recent biographies, along with studies of the suffrage movement, Progressive Era causes, and other women's history topics relevant to GFWC. Keeping current on scholarship means that we can share more in-depth context and analysis with our researchers, members, and the general public.

Though there's no time limit to the list, that will be updated regularly, we want to reach at least **forty new books added to the Library by the end of May** to celebrate the WHRC's 40th birthday. Will you help us reach that goal? Check out the wishlist here: <https://a.co/35Ct6VT>

Books purchased through the "Stock the Shelves" campaign will feature a bookplate with the donor's name, and donors will be thanked in *Clubwoman Magazine* in the 2026 Winter issue. If shipping the book directly to GFWC from the wish list, address it to WHRC Library, 1734 N Street NW, Washington, DC 20036 and use the "Gift message" to let us know the name (your name and/or your club) we should use in our acknowledgements.

GFWC INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE 2025: A UNIFIED COMMITMENT TO END DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER 27, AND DEVELOP
YOUR CLUB'S PROJECT TODAY!**

GFWC is boldly committed to being a powerful force against domestic and sexual violence. Clubs, districts, states, and regions are asked to unite for action on Saturday, September 27, 2025! Sign up to participate in this historic GFWC International Day of Service (GFWC IDS), as clubs across the globe engage in meaningful actions.

According to the World Health Organization, it is estimated that between 736 million and 862 million women, aged 15 years or older, have experienced domestic and/or sexual violence. Within the United States, based on research conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than 16 million people are affected every year.

As your club researches your community's needs in the areas of domestic and sexual violence and begins to plan your 2025 GFWC International Day of Service Project, there are eight subcategories to consider::

- Campus Sexual Assault
- Child Abuse
- Elder Abuse
- Human Trafficking for Sexual Purposes
- Intimate Partner Violence
- Military Sexual Assault
- Teen Dating Violence
- Violence Against Native American Women

Within the *GFWC Club Manual*, under the Signature Program: Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness & Prevention, are information pages on each topic listed above that explains the subject matter, lists what GFWC can do, and provides reference resources to obtain additional information. Read this section of the *GFWC Club Manual* to identify a topic area you want to spotlight in your community to help create your impactful plan.

Hope for Justice, a GFWC Affiliate Organization, is working in the United States, United Kingdom, Ethiopia, and Uganda to bring freedom from human trafficking and modern slavery by identifying victims, supporting survivors, and preventing exploitation.

Within the United States there are eight states in which Hope for Justice operates: Colorado, Florida, Iowa, Louisiana, North Carolina,



COMFORT IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

GFWC of Central Oregon Juniores created Tie Quilts for Saving Grace, a local domestic violence center.

Tennessee, Texas, and Washington, DC. If your club exists in any of these states, reach out to a local office to get assistance in training members in your community to recognize the signs of human trafficking.

For training support or opportunities to sponsor Hope for Justice training, please email: TrainingSupport@HopeForJustice.org. Or, contact Rachael Meiss, Partnerships Development Manager, at Rachael.Meiss@HopeForJustice.org for more ideas/suggestions.

The possibilities for this year's GFWC International Day of Service projects to make an important impact and to raise public awareness is limitless. GFWC looks forward to learning about your club's plan. In the coming months, more information will be shared about the 2025 GFWC International Day of Service via *News & Notes*, GFWC's weekly electronic newsletter, and on our website: www.GFWC.org.

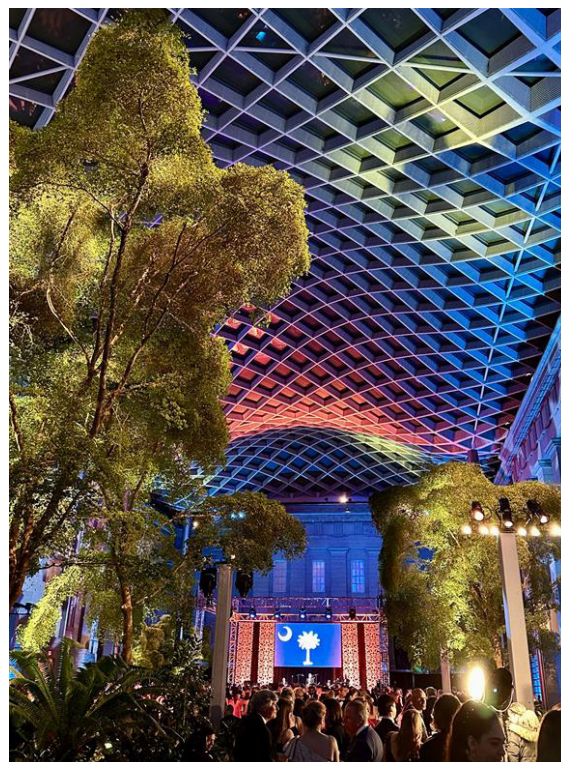
Check the GFWC website regularly for updates as well as [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#) to learn more about domestic and sexual violence as an issue, and what you can do to end it in your communities, states, and internationally. Together we can bring about the change needed to end domestic and sexual violence!

**The GFWC Club Manual is accessible via the Digital Library by way of the Member Portal located at www.GFWC.org. Click the red button in the upper righthand corner of the screen. If you have not already registered for the site, please complete a one-time registration form. Please allow up to 48 hours for us to process your request.*

INAUGURATION FESTIVITIES

GFWC LEADERS ATTEND STATE INAUGURAL BALLS AHEAD OF PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION

GFWC International President Suellen B. Brazil, Executive Committee Members, and President's Assistants attend North Carolina and South Carolina Society Balls in celebration of the 47th Inaugural Ball circuit for U.S. President Donald Trump. GFWC is pleased to represent the 63,000 GFWC members at these momentous events.



2025 SOUTH CAROLINA STATE SOCIETY PALMETTO PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION BALL

(right) GFWC International President Suellen Brazil, GFWC Executive Committee Members, the President's Assistants, and guests were honored to attend the Inaugural celebration of South Carolina, home state of GFWC Treasurer Juliet Casper.



NORTH CAROLINA SOCIETY

(left) GFWC President-elect Wendy Carrier and Crystal O'Neal, GFWC Strategic Planning Committee member were thrilled to attend their home state's inauguration festivities.

HISTORIC WIN FOR WOMEN

BILL SIGNED TO PLACE WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE NATIONAL MONUMENT ON NATIONAL MALL

On January 4, 2025, President Joseph R. Biden Jr. signed the Women's Suffrage National Monument Location Act into law, authorizing the creation of the first monument dedicated to American women's history on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

The bill, H.R. 1318, was first introduced in the House in March 2023. It passed the Senate on Dec. 20, 2024, before reaching the president's desk. The law grants approval for the Women's Suffrage National Monument Foundation to select a location on the National Mall for this well-overdue monument. The preferred location is within Constitution Gardens, a 50-acre space that stretches between the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool and Constitution Avenue.

The General Federation of Women's Clubs is proud to support the commemoration of generations of women's suffrage activists and their work toward equality. This monument is a message to every adult and child who visits the National Mall: Women's stories belong.

“In addition to commemorating the ratification of the 19th Amendment, the Women's Suffrage National Monument will recognize the generations of women who fought to ensure an equal voice for women in our democracy and honor the leaders who fought for the enfranchisement of all women long after the 19th Amendment was ratified.”

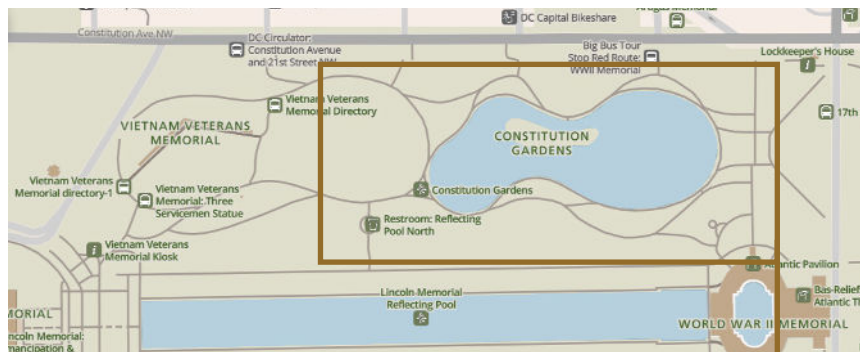
- PRESIDENT BIDEN



Photo by White House Photographer Adam Schultz

CELEBRATING A PROJECT MILESTONE

President Joe Biden with Anna Laymon, Women's Suffrage National Monument Foundation President & CEO | Washington, D.C. | Dec. 16, 2024



PREFERRED LOCATION

Constitution Gardens sits in an ideal location between the Lincoln Memorial, Reflecting Pool, Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and the White House

Anna Laymon, President and CEO of the Women's Suffrage National Monument Foundation, emphasized the importance of the project. "This is our moment to come together and fix a glaring omission in the most visited National Park in the United States. This monument will be something every American can be proud of – a gift to future generations that will stand as a testament to our shared values and legacy. The Women's Suffrage National Monument Foundation is excited to announce our \$80 million funding goal to bring this monument to life on the National Mall. But we can't do it alone. We need the full support of people across the nation to make this dream a reality—through your voices, your actions, and your financial contributions. We hope you join us in this once in a lifetime project."



Make a GFWC recognized donation through this link.

GFWC STRONGER TOGETHER CRUISE

FEBRUARY 6-10, 2025 – 4 NIGHT CRUISE ON CARNIVAL FREEDOM FROM CAPE CANAVERAL TO NASSAU, BAHAMAS AND BIMINI, BAHAMAS

by SHANNON BAILEY, GFWC DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR CLUBS

Seventy-five GFWC members and boosters set sail from Port Canaveral, Florida on Thursday, February 6th on the Carnival Freedom for the GFWC Stronger Together Cruise sponsored by Shannon Bailey, GFWC Director of Junior Clubs, and the Junior Organization. GFWC International President Suellen Brazil and GFWC Treasurer Juliet Casper joined members and guests from 13 GFWC State Federations, as far away as Washington and California!

Twenty-five cruise cabin doors were decorated featuring GFWC projects and photos of clubs and members to increase awareness of GFWC's work to fellow passengers. The group wore red Friday, February 7th to highlight "Wear Red Day" for the American Heart Association. A highly attended onboard activity was the Casino Slot Pull, which raised \$1,503 for a donation to the GFWC Success for Survivors Scholarship.

continued on next page





The highlight of the cruise for many was a visit to S.T.R.A.W., a non-profit organization in Nassau, Bahamas which seeks to **Strengthen, Transform, Restore, and Affirm** young **Women** through education and leadership training. Prior to the cruise, over \$2,500 worth of toiletries, menstruation supplies and educational materials were purchased by members and donated to support the needs of girls and women they serve. Under the leadership of S.T.R.A.W. Director Terri Cunningham, their team welcomed 18 members of the GFWC delegation with a reception attended by Bahamian First Lady Ann Marie Davis and other government and NGO representatives. International President Suellen Brazil offered greetings on behalf of GFWC, and she and Director Bailey both gave interviews to a reporter from the Bahamian government TV news station. The afternoon ended with an exchange of gifts, a tour of the S.T.R.A.W. facility and a Bahamian feast provided by S.T.R.A.W. volunteers. The establishment of a GFWC relationship with STRAW was an exciting benefit of this cruise and we look forward to collaboration between our two organizations who are so aligned in mission.

A beach day in Bimini and watching the Super Bowl onboard concluded the cruise, which ended Monday morning, February 10th back at Port Canaveral. GFWC members and their boosters thoroughly enjoyed time together, making new friends, reviving long term friendships and showing all of Carnival Freedom that GFWC members are Stronger Together!

MORE THAN A GIFT

GFWC International President Suellen Brazil and Bahamian First Lady Ann Marie Davis exchange more than a gift. They exchange ideas for addressing societal issues related to abused, sometimes homeless, women.

GOOD NEWS

Director of Junior Clubs Shannon Bailey is interviewed with Juliet Casper, GFWC Treasurer and GFWC International President Suellen Brazil by a local Bahamian news station.



June 6-9, 2025



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

GFWC is thrilled to invite you to an unforgettable experience at the 2025 GFWC Annual Convention, taking place June 6-9, in Atlanta. Hosted at the luxurious Omni Atlanta Hotel at Centennial Park. Centrally located in the heart of Atlanta, the hotel allows for attendees to take for advantage of the sights all the while providing opportunities to connect with GFWC friends on exciting outings.

Immerse yourself in history as we visit the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum. Walk through a life-size replica of the Oval Office and see exquisite state gifts from the Carters' time in the White House.

You won't want to miss the hospitality of GFWC Georgia during their State Night Banquet "Hollywood of the South," celebrating the top films produced in Atlanta.

Make sure to attend the Opening Business Session where you'll be treated to the distinguished Flag Processional. It's a moving ceremony that kicks off the official start of our Convention!

There are many other exciting activities planned for this year's GFWC Annual Convention. From award ceremonies, passionate expert speakers, educational workshops, and exciting socials. You're sure to leave filled with renewed enthusiasm and hope for the upcoming year.

As we gather in Atlanta, we also celebrate 135 years of empowering women and transforming lives. This milestone highlights the significant legacy GFWC upholds and motivates us to create a future where our collective work is recognized for its global impact.

GFWC eagerly awaits your arrival in Atlanta, where you will be ***Spinning Vision into Reality!*** Be ready for an inspiring experience!

CAN'T MISS EVENTS

Experience Atlanta Tour
Thursday, June 5 & Friday, June 6

**Hollywood of the South -
Georgia State Night Banquet**
Friday, June 6

Opening Business Session
Saturday, June 7

Shape of Unity Banquet
Saturday, June 7

**Headphone Disco - GFWC Fun
Night**
Saturday, June 7

ESO Breakfast
Sunday, June 8

**Empowerment Through Unity
Luncheon**
Sunday, June 8

From Vision to Impact Luncheon
Monday, June 9

**A Red Affair: Pulse of a
Woman Gala**
Monday, June 9

DON'T MISS THESE FEATURED SPEAKERS

18th United States Surgeon General (2009-2013), Founder and CEO of Bayou Clinic

Speaking at
Opening Business Session

Saturday, June 7
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



DR. REGINA BENJAMIN



Executive Director of the Women's
Suffrage National Monument Foundation

Speaking at
**Saturday Afternoon Business
Session**

Saturday, June 7
2:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

ANNA LAYMON

Former Director of Clinical Operations for
organ-transplantation team, author of medical
mystery series CUT, MATCH, & HOLD

Speaking at
ESO Breakfast

Sunday, June 8
7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.



AMY PEELE



Former Director of Sexual and Gender-based
Violence at the U.S. Department of Health
and Human Services, White House Advisor

Speaking at
**Empowerment Through Unity
Luncheon**

Sunday, June 8
12:15 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

LYNN ROSENTHAL

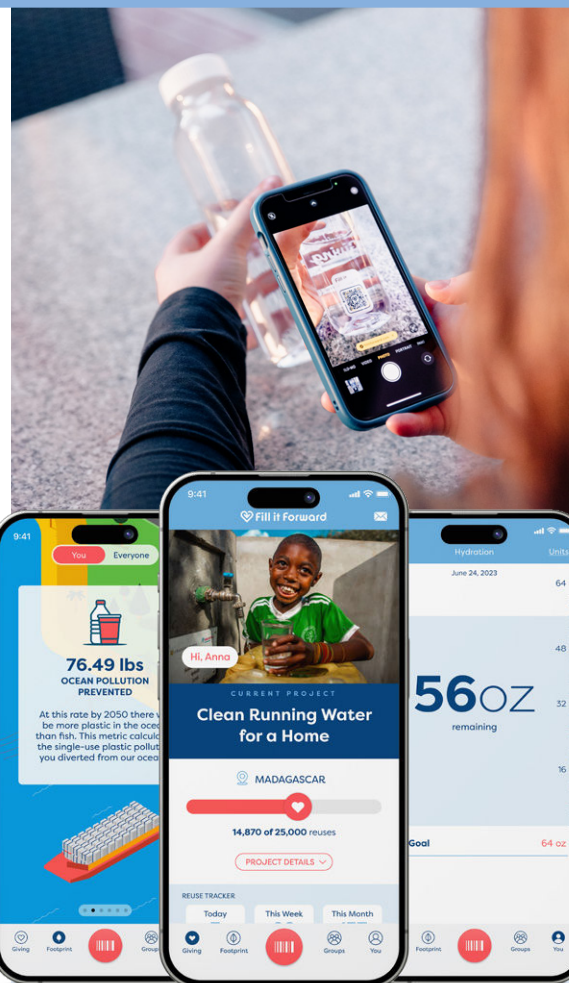
President and founder of Citrin Cardiology,
P.C., practicing for over 30 years

Speaking at
**A Red Affair: Pulse of a
Woman Gala**

Monday, June 9
7:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.



DR. BENJAMIN S. CITRIN



 **Fill it Forward**
Always Giving

2025 GFWC SERVICE PROJECT

Join us as we **Fill it Forward** and help bring clean water to communities around the world! Each Convention attendee will receive a reusable bottle at registration.

Every time you refill the reusable bottle use your phone to scan the Fill it Forward Tag. Each scan tracks your environmental impact and unlocks a donation to a charitable project around the world!

Donation toward the service project is available during online registration.

Contributions from scans will be donated in GFWC's name for one year after Convention.

HOW IT WORKS

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: 2025 CROLY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM

DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2025

Nominate a journalist in your community for the prestigious **Jane Cunningham Croly Award for Excellence in Journalism** to recognize their merits in journalism (print, broadcast, or online) today!

This highly coveted GFWC award is given biennially to a journalist who embodies the essence of Jane Croly's Advocate spirit to improve the lives of women/children, raise public awareness on important societal issue(s) affecting their communities, and endeavoring to make the lives of others better.

“As a mother, I experienced my own difficult birth and don't want other women or families to go through the same. I spent the past year on a reporting project exploring how integrating midwives and other community birth workers might be one way to improve the health of women and babies in my state.”

- ANNA CLAIRE VOLLERS

The winner will be announced during the **2025 GFWC Annual Convention**, June 7-9, in Atlanta, and receives a \$1,000 cash award. Please note the recipient has the option of accepting the award in person or remotely.

To nominate a journalist in your community, please click [here](#) to download the form.

For more information, please contact Stacy Mayuga, Communications Director, at SMayuga@GFWC.org.



2023 CROLY AWARD WINNER

2023 Croly Award recipient Anna Claire Vollers received the award for her article "Alabama wants to make birth centers harder to open. Midwives and birth workers are pushing back."

One Team. Two Heroes®

**GFWC Clubwomen: Help Our Nation's
Veterans Regain Independence
Through FREE Service Dogs**

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

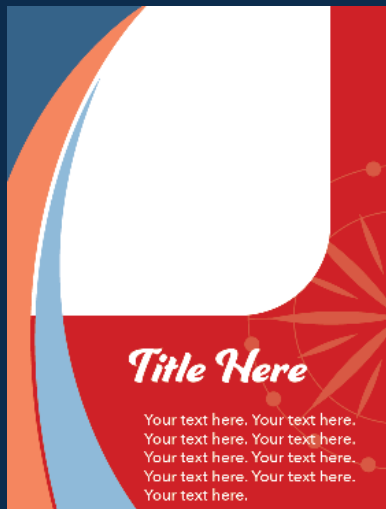
- Volunteer to raise a future service dog
- Help raise awareness at events
- Learn more about Canine Companions and our best-in-class service dogs for veterans
- Make more matches possible - Donate now!



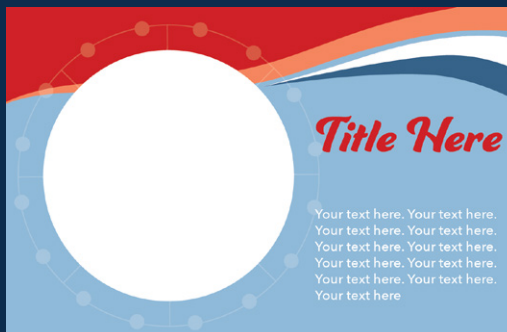
canine.org/donate



Show Your Support



Recognize outstanding club members and leaders in your life by purchasing an ad in the 2025 GFWC Annual Convention Program!



DEADLINE FOR
SUBMISSIONS
APRIL 1, 2025

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To Register, Visit

<https://www.eventsquid.com/event/25737>



The Season of Giving



On Wednesday, December 4, 2024, GFWC International President Suellen B. Brazil hosted the first Holiday Open House for the 2024-2026 Administration. With more than 250 guests in attendance, Madame President and members of the GFWC Executive Committee were thrilled to mingle and exchange good tidings of the season. The décor of 1734 N Street NW, done to perfection, included silver, gold, pink, cream, and pale blues to perfectly coordinate with the hand-painted murals adorning the walls of the mansion's drawing room. Jan Conant, GFWC Delaware State President, artfully planned the piano, and the president's assistants prepared a delightful array of fine hors d'oeuvres, desserts, and holiday punch for the enjoyment of guests. Enjoy highlights of the "Season of Giving" seen on the following pages. For those that attended, thank you for taking time from your busy schedules to join us. Those of you unable to be with us, we hope you'll join us on Wednesday, December 3, 2025, for another memorable event. Mark your calendars!





2024-2026 GFHC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(L to R): Juliet Casper, Treasurer; Mary Beth Williams, Second Vice President; Wendy Carriker, President-elect; Shannon Bailey, Director of Juniors Clubs; Suellen B. Brazil, International President; Jolie Frankfurth, First Vice President; Dr. Susan Gettys, Secretary; and Carol Habgood, Parliamentarian.



NATIONAL WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE MONUMENT

International President Suellen Brazil with Kay Durante, Vice President of Operations & Chief of Staff at the Women's Suffrage National Monument Foundation



GFHC MIAMI WOMEN'S CLUB (FL)

GFHC Miami Women's Club of Florida represented by (l to r) Linda Joseph and Metris Batts made a generous donation to the GFHC Headquarters Façade Restoration and Beautification Project Fund.





PRESIDENTS PAST & PRESENT

GFWC International Past President Carlene Garner (2010-2012)



GFWC International Past President Marian St.Clair (2020-2022)



(l to r) International President Suellen B. Brazil, Debby Bryant, and Melina Melazzo, Director of Public Policy for the National Network to End Domestic Violence discuss the 2025 GFWC International Day of Service, September 27, 2025, which spotlights the issues of domestic and sexual abuse.



GFWC STATE GARLAND

GFWC State Presidents and Directors of Junior Clubs thoughtfully chose an ornament that beautifully represents the unique qualities of their states, enriching this striking display.

SWEET HOME ALABAMA

GFWC International President Suellen Brazil's home state featured prominently in the center of GFWC's front entrance.



MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT LIST

FOCUS ON: RECRUITMENT – MEMBERSHIP VALUE AND THE BENEFITS OF BELONGING

REPORTING PERIOD: OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2024

Clubs recognized added 3 or more members

GFWC Muskego Woman's Club - 25

Muskego, WI

GFWC Tucson Woman's Club - 24

Tucson, AZ

GFWC Bradenton Woman's Club - 17

Bradenton, FL

GFWC Chapin Woman's Club - 17

Chapin, SC

GFWC Plainfield Junior Woman's Club - 17

Plainfield, IL

GFWC Brookline Women's Club - 13

Brookline, NH

GFWC Granada Hills Woman's Club - 13

Granada Hills, CA

GFWC Royal Oak Women's Club - 13

Royal Oak, MI

GFWC Braintree Women's Club - 12

Braintree, MA

GFWC Hemet Woman's Club - 12

Hemet, CA

GFWC The Woman's Club of Colorado Springs - 12

Colorado Spring, CO

GFWC Cocoa Beach Women's Club - 11

Cocoa Beach, FL

GFWC Lincoln Woman's Club - 11

Lincoln, IL

GFWC North Pinellas Woman's Club - 11

Clearwater, FL

GFWC Coral Gables Woman's Club - 10

Coral Gables, FL

GFWC Menominee Women's Club - 10

Menominee, MI

GFWC St. Petersburg Woman's Club - 10

St. Petersburg, FL

GFWC Woman's Club of Playa del Rey - 10

Playa del Rey, CA

GFWC Lexington Woman's Club - 9

Lexington, SC

GFWC McAlester Fortnightly - 9

McAlester, OK

GFWC Orange Park Woman's Club - 9

Orange Park, FL

GFWC Rhinelander Woman's Club - 9

Rhinelander, WI

GFWC Selbyville Community Club - 9

Selbyville, DE

GFWC Woman's League of the Lowcountry - 9

Bluffton, SC

Lakeland Area GFWC - 9

Harshaw, Hazelhurst,
Minocqua, Woodruff, Arbor
Vitae, LDF, WI

GFWC Glendale Woman's Club - 8

Glendale, AZ

GFWC Juniorette Club of Jupiter-Tequesta - 8

Jupiter, FL

GFWC Lombard Junior Women's Club - 8

Lombard, IL

GFWC The Woman's Club of Clayton - 8

Clayton, NC

GFWC Woman's Club of Ste Genevieve - 8

Ste. Genevieve, MO

GFWC Austintown Junior Women's League - 7

Youngstown, OH

GFWC Dallas Woman's Club - 7

Dallas, GA

GFWC Flushing Women's Club - 7

Flushing, MI

GFWC Space Coast Woman's Club, Inc. - 7

Viera, FL

GFWC Sparta Woman's Club - 7

Sparta, NJ

GFWC Tempe Woman's Club - 7

Tempe, AZ

GFWC Vera Woman's Club - 7

Viera, FL

GFWC Zwaanendael Women's Club - 11

Lewes, DE

GFWC-MFWC Homochitto Heritage Club, Inc. - 7

Liberty, MS

GFWC Roosevelt Neighborhood Woman's Club - 6

Phoenix, AZ

GFWC Woman's Club of Inverness - 6

Inverness, FL

GFWC Cartersville Woman's Club - 5

Cartersville, GA

GFWC Dover Area Woman's Club - 5

Dover, NH

GFWC Granger Women's Club - 5

Granger, IA

GFWC Gun Lake Area Inc. - 5

Gun Lake, MI

GFWC North Myrtle Beach Woman's Club - 5

North Myrtle Beach, SC

GFWC The Garner Woman's Club - 5

Garner, NC

GFWC The Monday Club - 5

Prescott, AZ

GFWC Winterport Woman's Club - 5

Winterport, ME

GFWC Woman's Club of Tallahassee - 5

Tallahassee, FL

GFWC Women's Club of Sweetwater County - 5

Rock Springs, WY

GFWC Yankton Women's Club - 5

Yankton, SD

GFWC Fort Benton Woman's Club, Inc. - 4

Fort Benton, MT

GFWC Kalamazoo Area Women's Club - 4

Kalamazoo, MI

GFWC Ossoli Circle - 4

Knoxville, TN

GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club - 4

Rotonda West, FL

GFWC Satellite Beach Women's Club - 4

Satellite Beach, FL

GFWC Woman's Club of Lakeside - 4

Lakeside, CA

GFWC Woman's Club of Saraland - 4

Saraland, AL

GFWC Woman's Club of the Midlands - 4

Columbia, SC

GFWC Berea Woman's Club, Inc. - 3

Berea, KY

GFWC Bitterroot Woman's Club - 3

Bitterroot Valley, MT

GFWC Clermont Woman's Club - 3

Clermont, FL

GFWC Hearts and Hands - 3

Indianapolis Area, IN

GFWC High Springs New Century Woman's Club - 3

High Springs, FL

GFWC Jacksonville Beach Women's Club - 3

Jacksonville Beach, FL

GFWC Lilburn Woman's Club - 3

Lilburn, GA

GFWC Monday Forum - 3

Pryor, OK

GFWC Naperville Woman's Club - 3

Naperville, IL

GFWC of LA Past State Directors of Juniors Club - 3

Louisiana

GFWC Outlook Club - 3

Hartland, ME

GFWC Peoria-West Valley Women's Club - 3

Peoria, AZ

GFWC Plains Woman's Club - 3

Plains, MT

GFWC Sebastian Woman's Club - 3

Sebastian, FL

GFWC Seminole Junior Woman's Club - 3

Seminole, FL

GFWC Sorosis Club - 3

Waurika, OK

GFWC Sorosis Club of Springfield - 3

Springfield, MO

GFWC The Dover Century Club - 3

Dover, DE

GFWC The Fortnightly Club of Durant - 3

Durant, OK

GFWC Woman's Club of Booneville - 3

Booneville, MS

GFWC Woman's Club of Laurel - 3

Laurel, MD

GFWC Woman's Club of Madisonville - 3

Madisonville, KY

GFWC Woman's Club of Merchantville - 3

Merchantville, NJ

GFWC Woman's Club of Sarasota - 3

Sarasota, FL

GFWC Woman's Club of Odessa - 3

Odessa, DE

GFWC-MFWC Florentines Evening Club - 3

Florence, MS

GFWC-MFWC Luka Twentieth Century Club - 3

Luka, MS



When your club supports Heifer International, you support women around the world, giving them the resources, education and opportunity needed to thrive.

LEARN MORE AT HEIFER.ORG/GFWC OR CALL 888.548.6437.

