

2021 GFWC-NC Top Ten Projects



ARTS & CULTURE

After the town's July 4th children's parade, Wake Forest Woman's Club members greeted approximately 225 children in the community house where they could participate in craft making and decorating cupcakes. Craft activities for children consisted of a photo booth, washable tattoos, spinners, star launchers, tote bag collages, paper plates, crayons, and coloring pages to take home. Twenty club members, and their family members helped, along with four Wake Forest High School Junioresettes. Leftover cupcakes were donated to a local fire station, Hope House, and Raleigh Rescue Mission. Club members baked the cupcakes, donated frosting, planned for and prepared all crafts, and assisted children with the activities throughout the day of the event. **20 Members, 136 Hours**

GFWC of Holden Beach - Upcycling Wine Bottles into Decorations and Centerpieces - What started out as an idea for a hands-on project, became a series of rewarding projects that were fun and contagious! A plan to create centerpieces out of used wine and liquor bottles for the Brunswick Community College (BCC) Foundation's annual Scholar and Donor Luncheon was developed. Members were asked to donate used bottles and they partnered with two local restaurants to collect their bottles. Over 260 bottles were collected! Clear bottles were painted aqua, and included fishing net, shells, twine, and a dolphin charm, the college mascot. The production was done in small groups in ten three-hour sessions at the member's home. Creating 134 bottles required teamwork. They delivered, set up, and decorated the tables. The BCC Foundation staff wanted to assure that the scholarship recipients, donors, and staff each received a bottle, so they established a system to distribute one to each as a commemorative favor. The committee offered three creative sessions for members to decorate bottles using twine based on an everyday or holiday theme. Each session offered a much-needed chance to mingle and have fun. 24 bottles were created. The project was posted on the club's Facebook page. Centerpieces were donated to the Hope Harbor Home and Providence Home. An Arts & Culture committee member passed away during the project, so 24 bottles were created for her memorial service luncheon. **3 Projects, 16 Members, 517 Hours, \$297 Donated, \$751 In-kind**

SOUPer Bowl XII - GFWC-South Brunswick Islands partnered with area potters, local restaurants, and caterers, along with the Brunswick Beacon (local newspaper) for their 12th Annual SOUPer Bowl "Empty Bowls" event. The SOUPer Bowl was held at Shallotte Presbyterian Church as a "drive-thru" curbside pick-up only event due to the pandemic. \$20 tickets were sold to the event and ticketholders received soup, bread, dessert, and a beautiful handmade, keepsake pottery bowl to serve as a reminder of all the empty bowls in our community. 22 varieties of soup were donated by local restaurants, caterers, and club members. Homemade bread and cookies were donated. 300 handmade pottery bowls were donated by area potters. Leftover soup was donated to a local non-profit to help feed the homeless in our community. The club hosted an online silent auction the day before the event. They promoted the SOUPer Bowl on their website page, Facebook page, South Brunswick Magazine, and Brunswick Beacon. 100% of the funds were donated to South Brunswick Interchurch Council Food Pantry, Brunswick Family Assistance, and WINGS Ministry. **3 Projects, 49 Members, 400 Hours, \$12,895 Donated, \$7,500 In-kind donations**

The Woman's Club of Raleigh – The He'ART' Bag project consisted of handcrafted fabric tote bags that were filled with arts and crafts supplies and delivered to homeless children living in motels or other situations. They used the heart theme of "Art from the Heart" with supplies given from "our hearts to yours" and the children were encouraged to express their hearts through art. They delivered through the Club's Motel Connect, whose mission is to break the cycle of poverty for families in Raleigh. 45 children's bags, 17 parent bags, and 25 bags for the future to homeless families residing in motels were delivered and 30 bags were distributed to other children in transitional housing. Members and friends made the 130 fabric tote bags. The typical bag held crayons, colored pencils, pencil sharpener, markers, a pencil bag, construction paper, scissors, coloring book, sketch pad, glue stick, portfolio, and craft supplies. **60 Members, 400 Hours \$3,835 In-kind donations**

GFWC-NC Statesville Woman's Club - The Nutcracker brings ballet and joy to our Clubhouse.

The event of 2021 was the annual Holiday Luncheon. Following the meal, advanced students from Betty's School of Dance provided a sneak peek of their Nutcracker Ballet taking place the following weekend. Their appearance allowed the dancers to showcase their skills. The program was flawless, with their instructors, between dances, explaining the fine points of the story. Following a standing ovation, the President shared that the Dance Studio owner learned of our club's interest and support of the McKinney-Vento program for homeless students. The owner was moved and offered to donate a full-time scholarship to her dance school for one homeless student, including classes and costumes, and some part-time scholarships as well. Members were impacted as well and at least eight visitors asked for membership applications. Five have joined club.

22 Members, 110 Hours, \$3,738 Donations, \$8,441 In-kind donations

Little Picasso Painting Station: The Woman's Club of Clayton held a "Quarter Mile" fundraiser in the new Harmony Playground at East Clayton Community Park. The playground, designed to be an inclusion play destination, enables children of ALL abilities to play together in a safe and educational environment so families, caregivers, and citizens can come together. The CSP Committee members offered a station where kids could hone their artistic skills. They provided paint, brushes, easels, paint shirts to wear while painting, and the paper to create a picture they could take home. More than 100 children came to the painting station!

10 Members, 21 Hours, \$20 In-kind donations

Wilmington Woman's Club - To celebrate Youth Arts Month, Fifteen second and third grade girls at the Brigade Boys and Girls Club gathered on March 24th for an after-school event called the "Prissy Girls Day." The girls had the opportunity to decorate two popsicle stick ornaments with a variety of gems, ribbons, and beads. When finished, they could be hung by ribbon or attached to a metal surface with a magnet. They laughed and chatted as they worked on the project. Once completed, their work was judged, and six girls received small trophies. All received goodie bags filled with pencils, pads, and candy. At the end of the day, the girls proudly shared their personal creations. **3 Members, 7 Hours, \$15 In-kind donations**

Henderson Junior Woman's Club did one project twice! It was so successful the first time, that they decided to do it again. Members collected and assembled **art care packages for seniors and shut ins**. They included ceramic paint sets, wood paint sets, wood coloring sets, sticker/foam creations, cross stitch, and sun catchers to paint and paired them with fuzzy socks, hand lotions, bottled water, and snacks. They had so much fun packaging individual bags and seeing the smiles that they did it again!

2 Projects, 11 Members, 14 Hours, \$275 In-kind donations

The Fuquay-Varina Woman's Club sponsored the **El Plein Air contest** which was held in town, part present and part virtual. Each artist costs \$150. Our club sponsored one artist. Also 3 club members served as local representatives to accompany an artist at the assigned outdoor painting location. These artists are given an area in town to paint, and then the paintings are judged for awards. It is a beautiful sight to see 10 to 14 artists painting around the town. Town people will walk the town and watch the artists. So, each artist needs a representative to answer questions and help while the artist paints – since the artist has a limited time to finish the picture. Our club has had an enormous impact in the Art Center and the arts in the town of Fuquay-Varina. As a club, they lobbied for the Art Center and are thrilled to be part of the art scene.

3 Projects, 46 Members, 121 Hours, \$1,600 In-kind donations

Charlotte Woman's Club - Girls Rock Charlotte teaches youth the confidence and compassion to stand up for themselves and for each other...using the power of music, film, and more! Educational camps for girls include music camps, where campers learn an instrument, form a band, write an original song with their peers, and perform their songs for family and friends at a concert at the end of the week. Another option available is a summer film camp. They are taught how to form a film crew, create storyboards, write, direct, shoot, record, edit, and debut their own film through accessible technology such as smart phones, tablets, and laptops. Girls Rock Charlotte launched over 50 FREE online workshops for both their summer camps! Their priority is to keep their programs accessible for teens and families, and for that reason, our Club donated \$700.00 to support their programming. **30 Members, 15 Hours, \$700 Donations.**

***"Both culture and art are two wonderful ways of preserving a community's sense of place, forging a personal identity, and showing creativity."** - unknown*



CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH

The **Junior Woman's Club of Raleigh and Mary Stewart Woman's Club** worked together to assist with the Governor's official NC State **Capitol Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony** in early December. In addition to promoting the event, club women were in attendance to assemble and place luminarias throughout the paths of the Capitol grounds; they were also responsible for setting the program, securing all presenters, and general oversight of the exciting holiday extravaganza as hosted by the Governor and First Lady. They provided refreshments and volunteered at the annual event.

20 Members, 62 Hours, \$325 In-kind donations

The **Wilmington Woman's Club** hosted the 5th Annual **Tea for Women Military Veterans**. Veterans from four of the five branches of the military were recognized as the branch song was played. The twenty-two veterans in attendance enjoyed the pomp and circumstance of the tea in addition to meeting other women veterans from the community. The keynote speaker, Dr. Constance Foreman, mesmerized her audience as she detailed her growth over the years to stay true to herself, her culture, and her ambitions as she pursued a medical career associated with military service. Information on local veterans' events and resources was also provided. **21 Members, 175 Hours, \$819 Donations, \$125 In-kind donations**

The **Wake Forest Woman's Club** was one of five clubs that participated in **Wreaths Across America** to honor and remember men and women who served our country in the military. Clubwomen helped to place the donated holiday wreaths at each veteran's headstone at Oakwood Cemetery in Raleigh. Prior to placing the wreaths on the headstones there was a brief ceremony that included guest speakers, a local high school color guard and band, a representative placing a large wreath for each branch of service, the National Anthem, and the playing of Taps. It was a touching and heartfelt ceremony. Over 800 wreaths were placed by 4 clubs at four other cemeteries in North Carolina. Clubwomen helped to research the veterans in cemeteries where this program had never been done and made donations to purchase more wreaths. Due to our large military presence in North Carolina, we continue to encourage even more clubs to participate in Wreaths Across America in coming years.

5 Projects, 89 Members, 166 Hours, \$5,045 Donations, \$120 In-kind donations

North Carolina Sorosis - Donations for the Needy They partnered with the New Hanover County Senior Resource Center on the treat bags for Seniors. Members donated snacks and candies for 250 Halloween treat bags. It was reported by the Meals on Wheels Coordinator that these bags brought back joy. They partnered with Yesterday's Child, a St. Mary's Outreach program at the "Sister Isaac Center," to provide 36 gift boxes filled with multiple presents for Christmas. They collected and donated 951 diapers, 312 wipes and 67 feminine products for the Lower Cape Fear Branch of the Diaper Bank. The Diaper Bank ensures that families with babies and children have a supply of diapers and personal hygiene products. They collaborated with Salvation Army and filled 77 stockings to bring the magic of the Christmas season to boys and girls.

4 Projects, 54 Members, 132 Hours, \$575 In-kind donations

The **Burlington Woman's Club - Honoring Veterans**. The club collected clothing (shirts, socks, and sweatpants) for homeless veterans brought to the VA Hospital in Durham for treatment, so that these vets can leave the hospital with clean clothes. A major flood destroyed the hospital's supply, so the members, prompted by emails and a newsletter articles, rallied to collect 89 shirts, 18 sweatpants and socks. They also participated in a Memorial Day Service at the Graham Memorial Wall and the Graham Veterans Day Parade where they handed out thank you cards to veterans in the parade and along the parade route. Two members carried the Burlington Woman's Club banner. In addition, they delivered 93 Christmas cards to the USO at Raleigh Durham Airport with handwritten notes for deployed veterans. A tip from the Burlington Woman's Club when your club participates in a local community festival: Put out sidewalk chalk, bubbles, crayons, construction paper, and stickers for children to play with, and sunflower seeds to plant!

4 Projects, 19 Members, 73 Hours, \$333 In-kind donations

The Woman's Club of Clayton partnered with First Baptist Church of Clayton to assist 200 Afghan families that were relocated to the Triangle area. During a two-week period, club members collected gift cards to be used for food and clothing, as well as hygiene items and diapers. The **Afghanistan refugees** served America for the past 20 years and needed help as they relocated in the U.S. This activity encompassed three of the CSP's five areas. Clubwomen collected gift cards, food, clothing, hygiene items and diapers. This will be an ongoing project. **40 Members, 55 Hours, \$860 In-kind donations**

Cards for Veterans – GFWC Triad Woman's Club - At their December meeting, the 5 members of the club brought Christmas cards to be signed and delivered to community members who might be forgotten over the holidays. They delivered 141 cards to Brookdale Nursing Home, Family Services of the Piedmont-High Point Center, and the Labor/Delivery Department patients at High Point Regional Hospital. This would also be effective for Valentine's Day or for sending to troops who are serving overseas. This small club made a big impact in their community. **5 Members, 20 Hours, \$30 In-kind donations**

The Woman's Club of Raleigh – Program for the Hungry It is estimated that as many as 1 in 5 of the students may be coming to school hungry and inadequately clothed. At the October General Meeting they held a program with the theme - Hunger, School Food Pantries & Food Shortages. A "Centerpiece Masterpiece" contest was held at the luncheon with donated non-perishable foods. NC State University mascot, Ms. Wuff, was the surprise judge. Prizes were given for the winning centerpiece. Ceramic pumpkin was auctioned. Money was donated at each table in candy dishes. Earline Middleton, VP Partner Services & Public Policy from The Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC, was our speaker. Members donated 798 pounds of non-perishable food to The Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC along with \$249 in cash. \$100 was donated in her honor. **60 Members, 65 Hours, \$349 Donations, \$1,564 In-kind donations**

The **Greensboro Woman's Club** recognizes the importance of meeting the needs of the **homeless population**. To that end, we have established an ongoing partnership with the Greensboro Urban Ministry to raise funds and promote programs to assist the homeless. Each year Greensboro Urban Ministry requests help to organize, sort and count honor cards that are delivered to area churches and businesses. The artwork for the honor cards is created annually by a local artist. A \$5 donation is pledged to Urban Ministry for every honor card sold. Members sorted and boxed pottery donations, as well as coordinating the honor cards. After the honor cards were distributed, the Greensboro Urban Ministry sponsored their largest fundraiser, The Feast of Caring, a two day "drive through" event. The YWCA family shelter is unique in serving women and children who are experiencing homelessness. Members donated new clothing and toiletries to the shelter. They donated \$300 to Interactive Resource Center, a center for the homeless. **62 Members, 140 Hours, \$300 Donations, \$668 In-kind donations**

GFWC - South Brunswick Islands - Military Assistance & Recognition - The September general meeting featured special guests Canines for Service Executive Director Bethany Leighton and Kennel Manager David McConnell in honor of "Service Dog Month." They were accompanied by Tabby, a service dog in training, who gave a demonstration of skills. Information was shared about how dogs are trained to help veterans who suffer from PTSD, the Therapy Teams Program, and their MCIE Brig Program where military prisoners help train dogs. The Chairman presented a check for \$300.00 to Canines for Service and an additional \$140 was raised through club polo shirt sales. They had a private tour of the facilities with a focus on their veteran's programs. Club members were encouraged to make personal donations through the Canines for Service Amazon Wish List. Members donated \$120 in amazon gift cards and delivered to Canines for Service. This effort supported the "Challenge Project" helping Veterans and Women Veterans. A photo and article about GFWC-SBI and Canines for Service was placed in our local newspaper. **3 Projects, 47 Members, 50 Hours, \$440 Donations, \$300 In-kind donations**

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world: indeed, it's the only thing that ever has. – Margaret Mead



EDUCATION & LIBRARIES

Outer Banks Woman's Club - Kid Fest Pirate Adventure - The Outer Banks Woman's Club hosted a pirate themed event for children five and under as part of the Children & Youth Partnership's Virtual Kid Fest. Club members planned the activities and volunteered at the event, held at a local park for the purpose of promoting parent-child interactions in a fun setting. Activities included: storytelling about a boy who became a pirate, science experiments using water where the kids guessed if an item would sink or float; a treasure hunt which featured such obstacles as "walking the plank," leaping on lily pads, throwing a "cannon" ball, zigzagging through a jungle of pool noodles, and finding a treasure chest. There was a story walk and a book walk to pirate-themed music such as "Pirates of the Caribbean" and "Baby Shark" where winners received gently used books. Over 50 children and parents attended the event. The Club was recognized as a "Champion for Children in Dare County" by the Children and Youth Partnership.

12 Members, 120 Hours, \$200 In-kind donations

Burlington Woman's Club - "Hobo" Bags for the Bookmobile - The Alamance County Public Library System achieved a long-time goal with the debut of their Mobile Library. The Education & Libraries CSP Committee met to discuss ideas for projects that would show support in creative low-cost ways. Luckily, the club came across directions for making "hobo" bags from t-shirts and decided to make them for those who visited the bookmobile. The bags could be used to easily carry more books, and they would protect the books in case of inclement weather. When members had completed this project, 112 colorful hobo bags and 196 bookmarks out of used greeting cards they had on hand were ready for donation to the new bookmobile.

4 Projects, 10 Members, 55 Hours, \$141 In-kind donations

North Carolina Sorosis - Adopt Our Neighborhood School - College Park Elementary School. The NC Sorosis President's Project, "The World is Your Oyster" focused on leadership. We partnered with College Park Elementary School Principal, Dr. Maria Madison, who has a mentoring program with the girls at the school. Dr. Madison wears pearls daily and the girls admire her and wish to do the same. The girls earn the pearls by presenting leadership skills. In support of this program, 23 pearl bracelets, necklaces and earrings were provided through donations from members as well as store purchases. Dr. Madison was thrilled to receive the donation for her project and be able to increase the number of young women becoming leaders of tomorrow. The members also delivered 512 items to the school eliminating the need for teachers to purchase them. **73 Members, 180 Hours, \$275 Donations, \$1,130 In-kind donations**

The GFWC-NC Statesville Woman's Club Virtual Read Across America - The Club made it their goal to develop a learning kit based on Read Across America that could be used independently and for a family. The learning activity kit they put together had activities for all ability levels, ranging from hands-on activities to family lessons. They provided forty-seven first grade students with a Dr. Seuss Green Eggs and Ham packet, as well as a new Dr. Seuss book. The Virtual Read Across America project increased awareness of the Statesville Woman's Club significantly. They were recognized in the Statesville Record & Landmark with three different articles, the Iredell Free News twice, and on WAME (local radio station).

14 Members, 210 Hours, \$500 In-kind donations

Greensboro Woman's Club - STEM Project - The Club issued a challenge this year to support STEM programs and activities for special needs students. The Greensboro Woman's Club was proud to accept this challenge! They coordinated with several local exceptional children's teachers to create STEM Bins. Each bin contains materials to be used independently as children explore mathematical and engineering concepts. Laminated instruction cards were created and included with each bin. Children were challenged to re-create geometric shapes using play dough and straws. They had an opportunity to manipulate dominoes and blocks to illustrate and explore math concepts. Members assembled 58 bins to be distributed to teachers at three schools. **33 Members, 86 Hours, \$758 In-kind donations**

Cary Woman's Club - Purchase of eBooks for School Library – Kingswood Elementary library had a small e-book collection of titles suitable for students in all grade levels (PK-5). Cary Woman's Club wanted to assist the library in increasing their selection of e-books and donated money toward the purchase of e-books. The e-books ranged from non-fiction to high-interest graphic novels to picture books and fiction chapter books for early readers. All Kingswood Elementary School students had access to the books through the online catalog, which made it easier for students learning remotely. The Club has had an ongoing relationship with the school for several years and this was a way to make an impact by reaching more students during a challenging time. **29 Members, 2 Hours, \$475 In-kind donations**

Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman's Club - Child Literacy Initiatives - The Club participated with Read and Feed of North Carolina. This program's mission is to strengthen literacy skills among under-served elementary school children and provide meals in a nurturing neighborhood environment. Throughout Wake County over 600 children are served each year. The arrival of the Covid-19 Global Pandemic limited hands-on services, but the club was able to donate \$400 in 2021 to further the mission of Read and Feed. The Club partnered with Fuquay-Varina Woman's Club to help participate in and promote their Book Drive with Wake Up and Read in February. Wake Up and Read is a local charity organization which distributes books to children who may not have ready access to new resources to read. The club shared the Wake Up and Read Book drive on their Facebook and Instagram pages and were able to reach 110 people.

31 Members, 8 Hours, \$400 Donations

Fuquay-Varina Woman's Club - Wake Up and Read, a community-based coalition in Wake County, was chosen as a project by Fuquay-Varina Woman's Club. A flyer was cut, pasted, printed, laminated, and distributed electronically and in person to members and to the GFWC Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman's Club. The local Fuquay-Varina Library and Cultural Arts posted the flyer, too. This was subsequently distributed to other groups in which our women were involved. Individuals collected from their grandchildren and from friends. Members consistently picked up books, arranged to box the books, and delivered them to Raleigh to the coalition. They collected an amazing number of books - 1,053!

46 Members, 36 Hours, \$293 Donations, 1,053 In-kind donations

GFWC - South Brunswick Islands - Reading Programs - In support of increasing literacy awareness in our community, GFWC-SBI donated money to Brunswick County Literacy Council. Club women also volunteer with the non-profit organization assisting in their reading programs and providing reading materials. GFWC-SBI donated money to Smart Start of Brunswick County to support their early childhood education programs. Smart Start of BC donates a book to every newborn in the county. One club member also serves on the Board of Smart Start and club members gave additional monetary donations in her honor. At their December general meeting, Executive Director Kristen Campana was presented an additional donation and 38 book pocket pillows made by the Sewing Committee. Club members donated pillows, books, and fabric. A club member hosted an oyster roast fundraiser at her home with proceeds benefitting Smart Start. **49 Members, 205 Hours, \$8,750 Donations, \$1,475 In-kind donations**

The Woman's Club of Raleigh - School & Education Programs - WAKE Up & Read Book Donations at the November 2021 General Meeting totaled 288 books to be distributed in the Wake County Public School System. The goal of the WAKE Up & Read Program is to help promote childhood literacy. The Education & Libraries CSP places mentors into the Wake County Public School System to read with struggling first and second grade students with the Partners Read program. (Due to Covid, a limited number of schools participated). For Communities In School (CIS), the Education & Libraries CSP Committee donated the table decorations created with school supplies for the use of their students. The CSP awarded a community grant in the amount of \$1,000 for the Literacy Boost Project sponsored in the Teach 4 REACH that helps homeless children read and three \$1,000 scholarships were given to mature women.

204 Members, 129 Hours, \$4,000 Donations, \$708 In-kind donations

“Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself.” - John Dewey



ESO - ALPHA ETA CHAPTER

ESO Meetings & Communications: The Woman's Club of Clayton ESO Book Club meets the first Monday of each month to report on books read and any projects the group may want to consider. The Chair keeps a list of all book reports from ESO members. At the September 2021 ESO meeting, members enjoyed hearing from guest speaker Hilda Jernigan, State Chair of ESO. The ESO Chair writes an article for the club newsletter each month (9 times/year) to keep all club members informed about the ESO book club and encourage members to join the group. The following was in the September 2020 newsletter: Epsilon Sigma Omicron Book Club (ESO) held their annual "Kick Off" meeting. The guest speaker was Hilda Jernigan, GFWC-NC State ESO Chair. She explained the steps in ESO, the new spreadsheet, and brought gifts of books for the members. The meetings stimulate interest in reading, provides an opportunity to discuss books and projects, and provides the information needed to be an ESO member. They live by the motto "Enlighten Your Own Pathway." **15 Members, 1,702 Hours**

GFWC of Holden Beach partnered with GFWC Pennsylvania to share ESO information through a monthly newsletter created by their chairman. In the newsletter, they shared information on all things related to reading, libraries, and books. Topics included books related to specific holidays, new authors, suggested books from members, nationally popular books and GFWC information. **6 Members, 42 Hours**

The Woman's Club of Clayton made bookmarks which encouraged reading and advertised their club. The bookmarks featured the club's seal and a photo of their clubhouse as well as quotes like, "Today a reader, tomorrow a leader," "Reading is a gift we give ourselves," and "The world belongs to those who read." The ESO members gave the bookmarks to the club members at the December meeting as a gift and gave the remaining bookmarks to the library for distribution to library patrons.

15 Members, 20 Hours, \$59 Donations

The **Fuqua-Varina Woman's Club** focused on **Reading and Publicity of ESO** to inspire members to join both their state ESO and the new Facebook GFWC ESO. They forwarded the materials on Facebook GFWC ESO the first month and succeeding ones to inform members of the book being discussed. Their club newsletter included an article featuring ESO in September and included the report form and membership application for members' convenience. They contacted previous members who had stopped reporting. **7 Members, 705 Hours, \$5 Donations**

The Woman's Club of Clayton renewed their support and membership in Friends of the Library. Members helped raise funds for materials and programs not included in the library budget, promoted the continued enjoyment of reading, book sales, supported library special events, projects and purchases, such as Card Catalog, iPads, Box Club wishes, summer reading programs and staff appreciation, Mother and Daughter story time, and children's reading times.

4 Members, 8 Hours, \$50 Donations

Burlington Woman's Club members were unable to gather in person which prevented their lively and informative book club meetings in 2021. Nevertheless, Burlington Woman's Club members continued to read enthusiastically. Enthusiastic leadership encouraged members to continue sharing their recommendations. **508 Books Read, 2,540 Hours**

GFWC of Holden Beach has six members currently participating, and all reached new levels in 2021. The chairman wrote articles for each issue of the Communique, a monthly newsletter sent to every member, and provided a report at each meeting. The chairman made a concentrated effort to encourage members to report, which led to an increased number of books reported. **532 Books Read, 4,105 Hours**

"A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies... The man who never reads lives only one." - George R.R. Martin



ENVIRONMENT

Outer Banks Woman's Club - "Bags to Bench" Recycling Project - The Club collected 500 pounds of plastics over a six-month period. Community partners made this possible by allowing the placement of collection bins in their lobbies, making scales available for weighing the plastic, and shipping the plastic to the TREX Company. A thermometer with current pounds collected and reminder of donation locations was posted. Close to 22,000 people were reached through the postings. Once the goal of 500 pounds of plastics was reached, TREX rewarded the Outer Banks Woman's Club with a 48" yacht bench made from the recycled plastics. The bench was placed in a local community park for all to enjoy. A dedication ceremony was conducted on America Recycles Day and attendees included representatives from the town, community partners, and club members. Collection is continuing. They prevented 500 pounds of plastics from ending up in waterways or landfills and brought the community together for the common good.

51 Members, 475 Hours, \$360 In-kind donations

GFWC of Holden Beach - Sea Biscuit Wildlife Shelter is a non-profit wild bird rehabilitation organization in Brunswick County, founded in 2007, to provide medical treatment for wild birds that are injured, sick, or orphaned. From herons to pelicans and redtail hawks... all are rehabilitated. Members of the Environment CSP Committee toured this facility and determined continued education and assistance were needed. They generated support from the beach community and set up a collection of needed items. To encourage participation, the project was featured in the newsletter, at club meetings, in neighborhoods, and local newspapers. Items collected included towels, crates, cleaning supplies, pill bottles, and printer paper. The shelter director invited members to participate in the release of two rehabilitated pelicans. After the initial release, committee members continued to assist in the recovery and release of wildlife. One has become a volunteer and first responder to assist with rescues. The project was featured in a GFWC-NC Podcast. **4 Projects, 36 Members, 812 Hours, \$50 Donations, \$1073 In-kind donations**

GFWC North Wilkesboro Woman's Club - Recycling to help Small Businesses - The onset of COVID helped the club realize that two small businesses experienced issues. They needed cardboard boxes; bubble wrap, newspaper, plastic bags, and paper bags to wrap fragile items. The club stepped up to help Carolina Treasures, an antique store, and Ebenezer's Attic, an extension of the Ebenezer Christian Children's Home. All profits from the thrift store go to the programs and services provided by Ebenezer Home. Members collected cardboard boxes, bubble wrap, newspapers, and bags. They delivered 72 newspapers, 54 cardboard boxes, 56 pieces of bubble wrap, 1,811 plastic and paper bags. **9 Members, 108 Hours**

The Woman's Club of Clayton - Main Street Community Garden: The goal of the Garden is to teach people how to plant and grow different vegetables and species and improve interaction with the community. The Environment CSP Committee maintains a plot in the garden where they plant vegetables in the Spring and Fall and maintain plants throughout the year. This year the club decorated the garden for Easter, Halloween, and Christmas. All three of the events were a major undertaking and club members were encouraged to participate in decorating, working at the garden during the different holidays, and dismantling. Easter: An Easter Celebration where kids enjoyed searching for 300 plastic eggs and getting bags of candy as a reward. Several hundred came through the garden including 247 children. Halloween: The Garden was transformed into the Stallings Station Undertakers and Cemetery. There was an area for young children to paint small pumpkins. More than 2,800 people came through the garden and 3000 bags of candy were given out. Candyland at the Garden: The club decorated the Garden by transforming it into the children's board, including life-size characters like King Kandy, Candy Castle, and Lord Licorice.

3 Projects, 60 Members, 444 Hours, \$735 In-kind donations

Cary Woman's Club was able to maintain their high standards for the **Pollinator Garden** despite the Pandemic. They worked on the garden alone, or in groups, wearing masks and remaining 6 feet or more apart. They thinned plants, especially iris, and potted them for sale at HerbFest to raise funds for plants. The citizens who walk, jog, or bike by the garden see the volunteers and it raises awareness. Many visitors stopped to thank members who we were working. **6 Members, 93 Hours, \$87 Donations**

The **Greensboro Woman's Club** is committed to supporting **recycling programs**. They collected over 16,000 wine corks. The corks are shipped to Cork Club, an initiative which recycles corks and donates toward ocean and forest conservation. They collected over 400 neckties that were shipped to Prairie Moon Quilts, which were made into large quilts donated to worthy charities to be auctioned to raise money. It takes 150 ties to make one queen sized quilt. Prairie Moon kindly sent a quilt to raffle off and raise funds for the Greensboro Woman's Club. The Environment CSP Committee was concerned that Styrofoam cannot be recycled in our municipal recycling bins. They discovered that the Tiny House Community, a local non-profit, collects Styrofoam to be compacted, sold, and made into picture frames and other products. For America Recycles Month, we were asked to count plastic bags and bottles that were reused, recycled during the month. 1,680 bags and 588 bottles were recycled. Members participated in "No Straw November" saving 103 straws from the landfill! **63 Members, 111 Hours**

Henderson Junior Woman's Club – Re-usable bags with club logo - This year the Chamber hosted "Welcome Bags" for 140 new teachers in our community. Different organizations, businesses and non-profits contributed items to these bags. Our club was able to donate 140 re-usable bags to this project. Each bag had their name and logo printed on them. Attached to the bag was a card with the Club name, purpose, contact info, and details about what they do. They were happy to send 140 bags into the community. **16 Members, 6 Hours, \$250 In-kind donations.**

The Woman's Club of Raleigh - The Gardening Girls group in the Environment CSP joined forces with the Woman's Club of Raleigh (WCR) Grounds Committee to plan a project to clean up the back lot behind the WCR clubhouse. With the assistance of an anonymous donor obtained by the Grounds Committee, they were able to fund and implement a "**Grazing Goats**" project. Goats were rented, permission was obtained from the City of Raleigh, and electric fences were put up around the back part of the property. The Goats grazed in the fenced area for approximately three weeks. They ate the ivy and briars and beautified the whole area behind our amphitheater. WCR volunteers came daily to feed the goats and replenish their water. They brought their children and friends, and everyone had a great time watching the goats every day. One especially frisky little goat escaped from the fence several times. When it was time for the goats to go, volunteers in the club gave a "goat party" in honor of the volunteers who had taken care of them. One member, who is an artist painted a goat picture and donated it to the club. This was a fun experiment in conservation. **204 Members, 200 Hours, \$22,500 In-kind donations**

The **Sedgefield Woman's Club** held a "**Shred and Share**" event at the Adams Farm Harris Teeter shopping center parking which was a tremendous success. The shredding event was free to the community. Everyone was encouraged to share food items, gently used books, and magazines and food items. The idea was to dispose and recycle confidential documents, keeping materials from landfills and involve all the CSP's. Arts and Culture CSP Committee designed the flier to advertise the event. They shredded five thousand pounds of documents filling half of the shredding truck. The community involvement was huge. Education and Libraries CSP Committee collected twenty-one boxes of books to donate. Civic and Outreach CSP Committee collected the magazines with the plan to donate them to a worthy organization and Health and Wellness Committee collected the food items. **19 Members, 78 Hours, \$247 Donations**

Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman's Club Earth Day Events - The club began an annual tradition of celebrating Earth Day with other local citizens by organizing a litter pick-up. Our club titled the event "Clean the Quay." We publicize the event through our website, social media, and by word of mouth. To continue to celebrate our earth and encourage future generations about conservation, our club held a social media photo "party" about Earth Day. Many of our members and their families participated in this virtual project tagging their posts with #EarthDay2021 and #CleantheQuay to encourage followers and friends to get outside and beautify our Earth for Earth Day. **2 Projects, 8 Members, 20 Hours**

"Keep close to Nature's heart... and break clear away, once in a while, and climb a mountain or spend a week in the woods. Wash your spirit clean." - John Muir



HEALTH & WELLNESS

The Women's Club of Raleigh - Motel Connect and Reach. During the pandemic, Wake County DHHS moved the homeless population from the county operated homeless shelters to motels across Raleigh for COVID protection. The Club worked in connection with the Food Bank to take bags of healthy foods and fresh produce weekly to the homeless living in these motel rooms across the city. Teams of two members have prescribed "route" to collect, bag, or box and deliver food weekly to the homeless people housed in motels on their route. Special gift bags were created for mothers and 39 Christmas stockings for children during the holidays. **204 Members, 3,538 Hours, \$900 In-kind donations**

GFWC-NC Statesville Woman's Club - Laundry Love. The Club partnered with the Iredell-Statesville School System to support the McKinney-Vento program which aids homeless students. Club members donated detergent pods as well as quarters (dryer use) to fund "dirty laundry days." The school system sent out a request for the pods and quarters and requests were sent to members by email, club newsletters and Facebook posts. Member collections occurred during the Holiday Paint and Sip event and the December luncheon. **3 Projects, 25 Members, 73 Hours, \$120 Donations, \$86 In-kind donations**

Charlotte Woman's Club - Hope Vibes was founded in 2017 with the goal of bringing awareness, hope and real solutions to the homeless epidemic in Charlotte-Mecklenburg region. The program provides access to personal hygiene products and services. The Club provided informal days of service bringing donated hygiene items to areas where homeless individuals gathered, soon gave way to a more formal approach to street outreach. Also, they provided funding for a mobile shower and laundry center. Our club members were moved and inspired by Adrienne and immediately went to work, collecting 3 large blankets, 23 large bottles of shampoo, 20 bottles large conditioner, 47 body washes and soaps, 160 rolls of toilet paper, 1 lotion, and 3 big boxes of feminine hygiene products! We wanted to help so we donated \$250 to Hope Vibes. **3 Projects, 30 Members, 50 Hours, \$950 Donations, \$600 In-kind donations**

GFWC - South Brunswick Islands – Health & Hygiene. The Health and Wellness CSP partnered with elementary and middle schools in the county to provide hygiene products. The CSP asked members to donate boxes of feminine pads, underwear, cosmetic bags, deodorant sticks/body sprays, socks, toothpaste, and toothbrushes. GFWC-SBI aided the New Hope clinic with a \$500 donation to purchase needed supplies to provide quality medical, dental and pharmacy services to low income, uninsured adults. They discussed how to assist children in the county with hygiene needs after contacting the local elementary and middle schools. At the September General Membership meeting members were asked to donate items. Members of CSP Committee delivered the following to the schools: 29 Packs of Feminine Pads, 65 pairs of panties, 64 cosmetic bags, 76 deodorant sticks, 131 pairs of socks, 94 tubes of toothpaste and 115 toothbrushes. **5 Projects, 49 Members, 125 Hours, \$2,250 Donations, \$2,500 In-kind donations**

GFWC of Holden Beach - The Race Is On - The Health and Wellness CSP partnered with the Town of Holden Beach and Coastal Race Productions and volunteered for two races. Coastal Race Productions supports 20 different nonprofits in the county. The organizer of the race presented a program at the monthly club meeting. The club registered as a non-profit to earn money for their designated charity, Hope Harbor Home. Members donned reflective vests and guided traffic safely past the runners. Taking their designated race stations in the early hours of the morning and watching the sun rise on the beach was a benefit of volunteering. Members worked with race production management to provide safe intersections and directional guidance. They provided water at designated water stops for runners and met at the finish line to cheer the runners as received their medals! They see this as an annual opportunity to have fun and help those in need. **36 Members, 66 Hours, \$230 Donations**

Southwest Guilford Woman's Club - The February general meeting provided the members of the Club to interact and a way for the Club to raise money for Lifespan and a local artist. **Lifespan empowers children and adults with disabilities** by providing education, employment, and enrichment opportunities in their communities. In this instance, Lifespan provides resident artists the opportunity to create art in a safe, open, and fun environment. Dawn Caldwell, Director of Arts with Lifespan shared pottery made by a resident artist which were sold to club members through group messaging on Zoom. The competition for the pieces brought laughter and a little competition to the clubwomen. The artist retains half of the selling price leading to a sense of pride and income. Lifespan uses the other half to maintain and supply future classes. **18 Members, 36 Hours, \$450 Donations**

Greensboro Woman's Club has a goal to support the **mental health of citizens**. They partnered with the Meals on Wheels program to provide holiday gifts for their clients. Word search, Sudoku, word scramble, crossword puzzle books and adult coloring books were included in this collection. These books will help to reduce anxiety, enhance memory, promote mindfulness, and alleviate boredom. Our homebound seniors need to know that they are not forgotten. The Health and Wellness CSP recognizes that Mental Health is as important as physical health. To help assure that Women and Girls can receive counseling services, a donation was made to Restoration Place Counseling Center. In addition, a donation was made to Sanctuary House, a non-profit organization dedicated to the rehabilitation of adults living with mental illness. **28 Members, 32 Hours, \$450 Donations, \$506 In-kind donations**

Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman's Club - Treat Local Urgent Care Workers - During the month of November, club members came together to take on the very special project of treating local urgent care workers to show appreciation for their ongoing commitment to this community. Two members of the club volunteered to call each urgent care facility in town and find out the total number of urgent care workers we would need to treat. They purchased all the supplies including coffee gift cards, hand lotion, Chapstick, stress relief balls, and containers of mints along with gift bags and tissue paper. The club then came together to package the gifts. Members and two prospective members packaged the gifts and delivered 100 urgent care worker treat bags. **12 Members, 8 Hours, \$1,000 Donations**

Burlington Woman's Club – Healthy Awareness - Health tips provided were included in the monthly newsletter which is mailed or emailed to every member and emailed to about 25 former members and friends. In August, a member offered a link to “September is Healthy Aging Month” with tips on diet and exercise. It included information about heart disease. Reminders to discuss medical screenings with doctors were highlighted in October. Healthy eating tips were shared for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. They wanted to keep members healthy and happy for many years to come. Breast Cancer Awareness Month was emphasized during October. Pink ribbon pens and silicone wristbands were placed at the Thrift Shop for visitors, shoppers, and members to take. The 85 pens and 92 wristbands which were given away were donated by a member. The Health and Wellness CSP committee hosted the General Meeting in November 2021 at the Kernodle Senior Center in Burlington. The program was The Health Benefits of Coffee given by Bill Murray, President, and CEO of the National Coffee Association. The presentation was informative and enjoyed by the members and guests in attendance. A \$120 gift to Heifer International for a Dream Basket was made in Mr. Murray's honor. **5 projects, 21 Members, 40 Hours, \$695 Donations, \$177 In-kind donations**

Due to the pandemic, the **Hickory Woman's Club** members completed “Thinking of You” cards for a project at Frye Regional Hospital. We prepared 200 signed cards with well-wishes and appreciation for devotion during a stressful time! The cards were delivered to the hospital for staff to disperse to the hardworking medical staff to boost their mental health!
15 Members, 30 hours, \$60 In-kind donations

“Health is state of body. Wellness is a state of being” - J. Stanford



JUNIORS' SPECIAL PROGRAM: Advocates for Children

GFWC - South Brunswick Islands developed a program to address the needs of **At-Risk Children**: There are currently 200+ children in need in Brunswick County. Two GFWC-SBI Board members serve as a guardian with Brunswick County. At any given time, there are 130+ children in foster care in Brunswick County because their own families are in crisis and are unable to provide for their essential well-being. Two GFWC-SBI clubwomen, members of New Beginnings Community Church, assist in preparing "transition bags" for Brunswick County Dept. of Health & Human Services on an ongoing basis. These bags are prepared per sex for ages newborn to 18, and contain one set of clothing, underwear/diapers, personal hygiene items, book/journal, a comfort toy/item, and a personal note letting them know they are loved and being prayed for in this time of change. Children are typically taken from the home immediately and either do not have time to gather many personal items or live in poverty and do not have items to take. Providence Home provides free short-term and safe shelter to Brunswick County youth who, due to an emergency, high-risk or a crisis, cannot remain with their families. A \$500 donation was made to this program. A \$500 donation was made to Prevent Child Abuse America, a GFWC Affiliate Organization committed to preventing child abuse and neglect for At-Risk Children. When a petition alleging abuse or neglect is filed, the judge appoints a volunteer Guardian ad Litem advocate and an attorney.

4 Projects, 48 Members, 75 Hours, \$1,000 Donations, \$500 In-kind Donations

Members of the **Junior Woman's Club of Raleigh** and invited guests gathered in their homes with their children for a **virtual pajama party** co-hosted by the Advocates for Children, Arts & Culture and Education & Libraries CSP Chairmen. They met on Zoom and watched the free 40-minute, one-act play "One Destiny". The production from Ford's Theater in Washington DC, shares the events of the evening of the Lincoln assassination through multiple perspectives from people there on that day/night. They included discussion time after the play was over and found that the children thoroughly enjoyed this fun event. In lieu of a registration fee, attendees were asked to wear pajamas and donate a new pair of pajamas to the Pajama Program, a national organization which supports a comforting bedtime routine and healthy sleep for all children to help them thrive. 22 new pairs of children's pajamas were collected that evening.

6 Members, 6 Hours, \$200 In-kind Donations

Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman's Club – March of Dimes Support - The FVJWC helped support the General Federation of Women's Clubs in their partnership with March of Dimes to provide baby blankets for military families. March of Dimes hosts baby showers for military families through their Mission: Healthy Baby program. Clubwomen purchased supplies, provided 30 handmade blankets, and crocheted baby hats to this worthy cause. In addition, they gathered supplies for and packed 30 Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) Mom Care Packages, which contained toiletry items for self-care during a stressful time in a mother's life. **3 Projects, 8 Members, 13 Hours, \$100 Donations, \$200 In-kind donations**

GFWC of Holden Beach partnered with The Southern Charm Company, a local boutique, to sponsor six shopping days in 2021, which gives 10% off to shoppers on all purchases and 10% of the total sales donated to GFWC-HB. Club members were encouraged to participate in and informed of this project via the Communique, a digital monthly newsletter sent to all members, and reported at monthly ZOOM club meetings. The event was publicized in local neighborhood electronic monthly newsletters. Two, local, non-profit child advocacy organizations, **Carousel Center and WAVES4K.I.D.S**, were selected as the beneficiaries. **36 Members, 29 Hours, \$700 Donations, \$10 In-kind donations**

In December, members of the **Henderson Junior Woman's Club** successfully **adopted two young age children** from Vance County Social Service for Christmas. The members collected clothes and toys that were listed on the children's wish list. **6 Members, 6 Hours, \$215 In-kind donations**

The **North Wilkesboro Woman's Club** collects used coats from family and friends and purchases new coats each year. This year many of our club members also donated gloves, hats, and scarves to go with the coats. A local dry cleaner cleans all donated used coats for free. **Ministries of h.o.p.e.** provide the distribution site for the coats through their Christmas for Needy Children program. If coats are left over, the Child Abuse Prevention Team leaves coats, hats, gloves, and scarves on a coatrack outside their offices with a sign for anyone who needs an item to take it for free. The program continues to grow every year, as the needs of families continue to increase. This small club collected 59 used coats, 14 new coats, 10 hats and 16 pairs of gloves. **9 members, 23 Hours, \$327 Donations, \$270 In-kind donations**

For several years in a variety of ways, **The Woman's Club of Clayton** has supported the **House of Hope**, a Christian home, school, and counseling center for girls ages 12-17 with emotional and/or behavioral problems. During 2021, club members provided the young ladies and staff at House of Hope with 15 home cooked meals. Members used to enjoy eating and interacting with the young ladies but due to COVID restrictions, it was not allowed this year. As a result, the club contacted staff to see if the young girls had any needs our club could address. In 2021, we gave them soccer balls and ball pump and items on the young girls' Amazon Wish List. In 2021, there was a campaign from an interior designer to get decorative house items donated. The information was sent out to all members and some donations were made. It is very rewarding for members to be a small part of the healing process for these troubled young ladies. The staff is wonderful and great to keep our club informed. The Club is proud to help this agency any way they can. **123 Hours, 24 Members, \$36 Donations, \$1440 In-kind donations**

GFWC of Holden Beach After watching the GFWC Partner webinar featuring **St. Jude Children's Hospital**, GFWC of Holden Beach sent all club members an email encouraging them to "Share the Love" by sending a free, easy Valentine card to a child in St. Jude Children's Hospital. This provided the membership with a quick, easy, and meaningful way to support these children from the safety of their homes due to COVID 19 pandemic. **3 Members, 3 Hours**

Junior Woman's Club of Raleigh - The Welcome House Raleigh is a Cooperative Baptist Fellowship organization that provides for the immediate and long-term **needs of refugees** in our area. In the fall, members assembled Halloween treat bags for the Fall Festival for the refugee children served by The Welcome House Raleigh. During the October General Meeting, club women made birthday cards for the children, writing words of encouragement, and sending kind messages to them as they as they celebrate their birthdays in a new and unknown country. These children are primarily refugees from Afghanistan following the recent political unrest in that country following the US withdrawal. **12 Members, 32 Hours, \$90 In-kind donations**

Fuquay-Varina Juniores partnered with the local **MOPs organization**. (MOPs= Mothers of Preschool children) The clubs recognize that mental health is important, and MOPs enrich women monthly by teaching, mentoring, and giving an opportunity for fellowship with other mothers. During MOPs meetings, the children are welcome and free babysitting is provided. This enables the mothers to enjoy dinner and a lesson without worry and with the relaxation of a kid-free evening. The lessons often cover different family issues such as finance, discipline, or how to properly deal with relationship issues. The Juniores provided the childcare in the fall of 2021. The Juniores club members must pass a background check and make a commitment to be there as scheduled. Each month members tended to 12+ children for 2-3 hours. The MOPs club is extremely grateful for their willingness to assist. Two Junior club members attend each MOPs meeting with 2 junior club members organizing the volunteer efforts between the organizations. **11 Members, 33 Hours**

"Children are our most valuable natural resource." – Herbert Hoover



SIGNATURE PROGRAM: Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention

GFWC of Holden Beach - Blooming for a Cause - Because members realized that during the pandemic with shelter in place regulations, incidents of domestic and sexual violence increase and funding decreases, a decision was made to turn the non-event into a virtual reverse raffle fundraiser for the 13th Annual *Blooming for a Cause* Charity Gala. Proceeds benefit Hope Harbor Home, a shelter for domestic violence victims/survivors and their children, and Providence Home, the only Family Emergency Teen Shelter in the county. The raffle took place at the Holden Beach Chapel via Facebook Live. Six members of GFWC of Holden Beach participated in the live event and filled the following positions: pulling tickets from the ticket hopper, announcing ticket holders and prize winners, overseeing awarding of prizes, recording the event on Facebook Live, and recording prize winners as they were announced. 19 cash prizes of \$50, \$75 or \$100, and a grand prize of \$1,000 going to the last ticket drawn were awarded totaling \$2,275. 43 prizes of gift cards and certificates donated from local businesses were awarded totaling \$2981. Representatives from Hope Harbor Home and Providence Home were each presented with a \$10,000 check with a picture published in local newspapers. **36 Members, 443 Hours, \$20,000 Donations, \$36,231 In-kind donations**

Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman's Club- Safe shelter, SafeNight, SAFEchild – The club focused on safe solutions for victims of domestic violence, human trafficking, and child abuse. Each year they hold a charity ball to raise funds for the local community. In 2021, the Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman's Club furnished a 6-bed room at InterAct's new **safe shelter**. This project was considered an immediate need and funded by online and in-person sales for our 50/50 raffle at Charity Ball. The posts to our club Facebook and Instagram pages saw social media engagement of 1,584 people! InterAct is the only provider of domestic violence and sexual assault services in Wake County - saving lives, rebuilding lives, and securing safer futures for individuals and families in our community. **SafeNight** provides support to people seeking urgent shelter. The support requests come from trained staff and volunteers at domestic violence, anti-trafficking, and sexual assault organizations, ensuring best practices for the safety of all individuals are followed. In 2021, the Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman's sponsored \$150 to cover a night at a hotel for a person in immediate need through the Durham Crisis Response Center. **SAFEchild** stands for Stop Abuse for Every child – supports families having a wide range of needs. They are the only organization in Wake County that offers a full range of child abuse prevention and intervention services to families at no cost. Annually they protect 12,000 children through our school-based Funny Tummy Feelings program and educate 1,650 parents and caregivers. **31 Members, 3 Projects, 6 Hours, \$1,297 Donations**

A.L. Brown Juniors Club members held a first quarter campaign, focusing on an area of the signature program each month. In January, they focused on **Human Trafficking Awareness**. In February, members focused on **Teen Dating Violence** and in March, they focused on **Domestic Violence**. Members focused on awareness, and they collected used cell phones each month to donate them to a local battered women's shelter for emergency use. **3 Projects, 36 Members, 36 Hours**

North Wilkesboro Woman's Club partnered with **The Child Abuse Prevention Team of Wilkes**. They learned that an important need in the county is diapers, to help keep children safe from abusive situations. Many families are faced with a dilemma of whether to pay rent, buy food, or medicines or buy diapers. Diapers usually wind up at the bottom of the list, but they are needed to keep a baby happy and dry, instead of crying and uncomfortable. We collected diapers and wipes at every meeting throughout the year. We also recruited friends, neighbors, and church members to do the same. As parents came in to ask for diapers, they offered free parenting classes that help relieve some of the stresses and strains of parenthood. We feel that this is meeting a big need in our county and is certainly appreciated by the clients of CAPT of Wilkes. **9 Members, 81 Hours, \$765 Donations**

Greater Alamance Woman's Club – Three members of this six-member club purchased yarn to crochet and knit over 100 purple coffee cozies (sleeves). Each sleeve was attached to a card with contact information for the local domestic violence service provider. Two members distributed the completed purple cozies to four local coffee shops. Customers were given a free cozie on "**Wear Purple Day**" held on October 21st. The intent was to raise awareness about domestic violence and to connect community members with services.
3 Members, 102 Hours, \$100 In-kind donations.

Henderson Junior Woman's Club – In October, Domestic Violence Month, 38 "**Blessing Bags**" were delivered to the Vance County Sheriff's Department on behalf of the Henderson Junior Woman's Club for their annual Domestic Violence Awareness Event, which was held at Clearview in Henderson, NC. They consisted of feminine hygiene products, snacks, etc. These bags went to current victims of domestic violence, who are currently living in shelters or are seeking help through the Sheriff's Department. The Sheriff's Department partnered with our Club and donated bags for the items, but since we collected more products, our club purchased more bags! The event's organizer was very gracious for our project and gave our Club praise during the event. **4 Members, 9 Hours, \$30 Donations, \$155 In-kind donations.**

Burlington Woman's Club – In support of GFWC and the GFWC-NC Presidents' Project for support of Domestic Violence Awareness, a project to support **Family Abuse Services** of Alamance was carried out in December. When discussing plans for the Christmas party, members voted overwhelmingly to collect new unwrapped items and monetary gifts for Burlington's Family Abuse Center instead of having a "Secret Santa" gift exchange among ourselves. The party invitation sent to members included a list of appropriate items. As always, members responded generously, and hundreds of necessities were collected for the women and children staying at the shelter. When members delivered the gifts, personnel at the Family Abuse Services expressed genuine appreciation for the donations because contributions were severely affected by COVID, while needs increased. **31 Members, 56 hours, \$65 Donations, \$600 In-kind donations**

Wake Forest Woman's Club - Safe Space Staff Appreciation Gift Bags - Members created appreciation bags for the support staff of Safe Space, Inc., a local organization dedicated to reducing relationship violence and sexual assault. Their tireless efforts have assisted hundreds of women and children in domestic violence situations. CSP members sewed fabric bags and packed them with inspirational items, such as a hand-sewn fleece warming heart, a mug, a heart with a poem, sweets, tea bags and painted rocks. The CSP also used budgeted funds to buy protective masks and wipes for the Safe Space office. The Wake Forest High School Juniors participated by creating handmade cards and members added personal notes of appreciation. The bags were presented to the Executive Director of Safe Space.
10 Members, 103 Hours, \$92 Donations \$98 In-Kind donations

Cary Woman's Club partnered with **InterAct**, a private, non-profit agency that provides safety, support and awareness to victims and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, on their holiday program. InterAct employees made boxes for the women which contained gift cards and other items such as hot chocolate, a fun family game, gingerbread house kit, ornament decorating kit, a winter themed book to read together, and sweet treats. All items for families create positive memories of the holiday season. They collected gift cards and presented them. **10 Members, 13 Hours, \$405 Donations**

Wilmington Woman's Club collected toiletries, food, gas cards, and grocery store gift cards. In addition, \$235 was donated to a **Domestic Violence Shelter** (DVS) to be used as needed. In the fall, as Covid-19 cases increased, the needs of the local Shelter continued to increase at a faster pace. Members rose to the occasion and purchased 18 gift cards. Some of their clients were able to continue working despite Covid-19, so the gas and gift cards were appreciated. Sometimes victims of domestic violence must move from one safe house to another, so members donated 32 suitcases and tote bags to assist them with urgent moves.
25 Members, 41 Hours, \$595 Donations, \$703 In-kind donations

"Sexual, racial, gender violence and other forms of discrimination and violence in a culture cannot be eliminated without changing culture." - Charlotte Bunch



COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS

Wake Forest Woman's Club 60th Anniversary Year of Service Publicity focused primarily on the 60th year anniversary and the many charitable projects accomplished. Interacting with a local reporter, a front-page news article and accompanying second page in *The Wake Weekly*, highlighted the 60-year history, present, and future of the WFWC with member interviews, historical events, photos, and congratulations. In addition, the Town of Wake Forest presented the Club with its Proclamation, citing the many service and monetary contributions the WFWC has made and continues to make over the last 60 years. The Town proclaimed September 7, 2021, Wake Forest Woman's Club Day. A half-page article featured in *The Wake Weekly*, highlighted the Club's sixty years of service, organizational structure, and CSPs. Their GFWC-NC award-winning virtual Federation Day Tea Party video is posted on Facebook.

5 Projects, 47 Members, 41 Hours

GFWC-NC Statesville Woman's Club - Integrated Communications: This initiative had two components: Integrated marketing and community PR. Using an integrated approach allowed us to build awareness of our mission and goals, philanthropy, community service, historic clubhouse, and rental procedures. A brochure developed by the four-member Publicity Committee and two different types of business cards provided reach to larger organizations. The goal was to reach as many audiences as possible. They designed flyers and handouts to be dispersed throughout the community. Sixty-five percent of the membership participated. The President and different members appeared on the local radio morning show, which is the largest growing show in the market with a reach of 45k -50K listeners, three times during prime airtime. They included the broadcast on Facebook Live - 5,284 Likes and 6,463 Followers.

22 Members, 475 Hours, \$150 Spent, \$75 In-kind donations

Greensboro Woman's Club - Traditional Media: The *Greensboro News and Record*, has a circulation of 81,000 and is the third largest newspaper in the state. In May, an article and photo of the President and House Board of Trustees' Chairwoman at the 100th anniversary of the club's purchase of the Weir-Jordan House, was printed. Additionally, an article announcing and congratulating our student arts winners was printed in the *News and Record*. *Spectrum News North Carolina* provides 24-hour local news seven days a week through cable channels. During the March celebration of Woman's History Month, four members were interviewed for a segment about the mission of the Greensboro Woman's Club. They included footage of members working to assemble STEM bins, an innovative project promoting the "Challenge Project."

2 Projects, 80 Members, 35 Hours

Welcome to the Historic **GFWC-NC Statesville Woman's Club - Open House and Ribbon Cutting** In this project, the club reintroduced itself and its historic clubhouse with an Open House and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. Their goals included increased rental traffic, membership, awareness, and showcasing the "grand ole lady," the clubhouse. Members spruced up the clubhouse with fall décor and prepared refreshments. The mayor, six visitors, three Ambassadors and the CEO from the Chamber were in attendance. The Statesville Record & Landmark, Iredell Free News and Chamber's newsletter, included coverage of the Open House and Ribbon Cutting. **12 Members, 115 Hours, \$205 Spent**

The Woman's Club of Raleigh - Tools for Communicating program. The club focuses on 6 areas: newsletter, website, upcoming events, yearbook, e-communications, and Facebook. The newsletter is emailed to 204 club members each and mailed to the 12 members that do not have email. The Upcoming calendar of events was updated for 10 months of meetings and club members and guests in attendance received a monthly meeting program. The Club's website co-chairs spent hours posting newsletters, scholarship information, items for sale, managing the website and more. The club has gained 3 members through the website. The 160-page Club Yearbook was compiled, printed, and delivered to all members sheltering in place and mailed to the rest. Fifteen local businesses placed ads in the yearbook. Each week they use eFlash Communications to remind members about events, and post articles and activities on Facebook. **6 Projects, 204 Members, 2,286 Hours, \$4006 Spent, \$100 In-kind donations**

GFWC Holden Beach Media (Social, Email, Web, Newspaper) - Use of social media -The Facebook Chairman and five editors post pictures while attending events and information of upcoming activities of all GFWC levels. There was a concentrated effort to utilize Facebook for communication, both with members and the public. Editors were asked to post more frequently, and members were encouraged to share GFWC-HB posts on personal Facebook pages in 2021 - 81 posts and 14,147 people reached. The website is a tool for members, recruitment, and community outreach. Web Administrator maintains the site, which includes links to GFWC and GFWC-NC, calendar, club newsletter, and more. GFWC of Holden Beach uses email to distribute information to the membership and local newspapers to published articles to raise awareness about the club. **3 Projects, 36 Members, 112 Hours**

Greensboro Woman's Club – Social Media is a fabulous tool for promoting projects and activities. In 2021 the club's Facebook page had 73 unique posts, plus 26 reposts. Two of the reposts were from local businesses. This brought the total to 99. A short series on women entrepreneurs was highlighted for the GFWC-NC President's Special Project, *She Elevates the World*. In each of these four posts, they featured the successful female business owners. The total reached was 29,712 with an average of 300 people. The most active post was the donation to Greensboro Parks and Recreation for use in the Community Garden at Keeley Park. The posts are linked to @GFWC, @GFWC-NC and @GFWC-NC District 4. They also share to the GFWC-Volunteer group page, providing inspiration and ideas. **80 Members, 102 Hours**

Cary Woman's Club's Webmaster, who is also a long-time club member, provides updates, forms, and pictures and maintains the site. The purpose is to provide a ready reference for members and member recruitment information to anyone interested in joining the club. They have gained several new members through this website. The site is an archive, a digital scrapbook of activities and successes, a link to the community for grant and scholarship applications and information on current projects or fund raisers. During 2021, the following were updated, added, or enhanced: Home Page, membership and scholarship application forms and eligibility requirements, grant information, CSP descriptions to align with GFWC, new pages for Tidbits (newsletter), and more!! **29 Members, 54 Hours, \$107 Spent**

The Woman's Club of Clayton's Website informs the community about the club, events, and fundraising activities. It houses essential club information in a secure environment accessible only to members. The club understands the importance of keeping information on the website current. The Special Events Page includes cost information and the ability for users to pay online. Users can book and pay for clubhouse rentals as well. On the Events Calendar page, Google Calendar is used for all meetings and special events. There is membership and historical information for prospective new members and copies of newsletters. From the Contact page, the club's webmaster receives communications and refers inquiries to appropriate club members. In 2021, ten ladies reached out using the website Contact page expressing an interest in the club. The Resource page includes links to GFWC-NC, GFWC and the Clayton Chamber of Commerce. **60 Members, 50 Hours, \$443 Spent, \$100 In-kind donations**

Charlotte Woman's Club Hand-Written Notes are commodity. In this wired world where tweets, emails and text messages are so prevalent, opening the mail and seeing a hand-written note seems like a gift. And it is. Taking the time to write a note shows that the recipient was worth the time and effort. A hand-written note feels like a warm hug in a sealed packet. Birthday, holiday, thank you, get well and sympathy cards and notes of congratulations were sent. A campaign to honor the GFWC-NC President's Special Project, "She Elevates the World" was most successful. As women, it is vital that we foster encouragement and positivity to all women and girls, so they feel supported. As such, the club asked our members to write notes of thanks and encouragement to the women and girls in their lives who "Elevate the World." Clubwomen took time to jot them a card or note to let them know their efforts were appreciated. It was worth the time!
4 Projects, 37 Members, 35 Hours, \$20 In-kind donations

"If you just communicate, you can get by. But if you communicate skillfully, you can work miracles." – Jim Rohn



FUNDRAISING & DEVELOPMENT

Charity Ball: In October, the **Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman's Club** held their 31st Annual Charity Ball at The Pavilion at Carriage Farm. Charity Ball is not only a fun evening, but also their largest annual fundraiser. The theme of this year's ball was "Small Town, Big Hearts." With 100% participation of club members, committees were formed and covered every detail from the festive fall themed décor, sponsorships, silent auction items, and the signature cocktail – an Apple Cider Moscow Mule (thanks to a sponsorship from Tito's Vodka). In addition to sponsorships and silent auction, funds were generated from ticket sales, a wine pull, and a 50/50 raffle. **31 Members, 415 Hours, \$26,867 Dollars raised**

Beaches, Baskets, and Buck\$ Online Reverse Raffle: **GFWC - South Brunswick Islands** held their "Beaches, Baskets, and Buck\$" Reverse Raffle Fund'Racer' on Saturday, May 1st. This year's "Juleps & Jazz Kentucky Derby style event with a pandemic friendly twist" was online via Facebook Live. All club members participated either by selling \$50 tickets (300 were sold), donating or soliciting items for the prize baskets, and/or working at the event which was held at the Brunswick County Chamber of Commerce building. Local businesses supported the Reverse Raffle either through monetary donations or with items for the gift baskets awarded. The event was promoted on the club's website, Facebook page, and in the local newspaper. Supporters tuned in on Facebook Live for the reverse raffle drawings and witnessed as the last remaining ticketholder was named the \$500 winner. A Grand Prize (\$4,000+ value) drawing was held. All participants were eligible to win a 7-night stay at the Galleon Resort in Key West, FL. The 25 gift basket prizes each had a minimum value of \$75. **49 Members, 160 Hours, \$17,570 Dollars raised**

Thrift Shop: The **Burlington Woman's Club** established their Thrift Shop over 50 years ago and to increase income, raffles of gift cards from 5 different local restaurants were made available to customers. To enter the raffle, customers had to make a purchase and provide minimal contact information. Email addresses were entered into a database for distribution of future sales information and birthday wishes. In December, the club contacted an independent living facility inviting their residents to enjoy a few hours of Christmas shopping while having the shop all to themselves and enjoying refreshments served by BWC members. The Thrift Shop is open 18 hours over four days each week with 28 members volunteers. Responsibilities include collecting and processing donations (hanging, tagging, and pricing) and storing inventory, as well as staffing the sales floor. The pandemic created a backlog of inventory, so member work parties were held to process merchandise. **28 Members, 5,297 Hours, \$13,582 Dollars raised**

Flower Sales: The **Woman's Club of Raleigh** held their annual sale of "Spring Flowers, Pansies & Poinsettias" which has become a neighborhood and member service fundraiser. The Woman's Club of Raleigh club house is located near the entrance of a growing area of apartments, condos, and office buildings. Club members distributed flyers to their area neighbors informing them of the flower sale. Orders were taken and prepaid. Flowers were delivered to the front of the clubhouse and customers were scheduled to drive through for a curbside pick-up of their prepaid flower order. Members planned the event, gathered, and placed orders, received the shipment, and distributed them to their customers via a drive through curbside pickup at the club house. **75 Members, 150 Hours, \$8,136 Dollars raised**

Christmas Luminarias: As part of the town's Holiday festivities, the **Zebulon Woman's Club** sold luminarias in memory or in honor of individuals. Club members participated through selling, prepping, and displaying these luminarias. Part of the preparation involved club members writing the name of the individual being honored or remembered on each luminary bag along with their respective sponsor. The white luminary bags were then placed around each lighted tree on Candy Cane Lane in downtown Zebulon on Christmas night. A total of 389 luminarias were sold. Once lit, they lined the street beautifully on Christmas night. **11 Members, 80 Hours, \$4,890 Dollars raised**

Holiday Cheer Giveaway Drawing: GFWC-NC Statesville Woman's Club. This "spirit" filled fundraiser featured three distinct prizes. The "spirits cooler" touted a RTIC cooler filled with top shelf liquors and bar accessories, a "Wine basket" offered a substantial wicker basket filled with assorted wines, wine tastings vouchers and bar essentials and finally "Statesville Eats" promised a dining tour of a dozen local restaurants, as well as an overnight stay at the newest Statesville hotel. 80% of club members participated in this fundraiser through ticket sales, securing sponsorships, preparing the prize baskets, gathering donations, and assisting with the drawing on Facebook Live. 15 Sponsorships and Donations were secured from local and in-state wineries, wine representatives, local restaurants, businesses, and club members. Each prize package was valued at approximately \$750. They promoted the event on social media, fliers, and an appearance on a morning radio show. **27 Members; 1,771 Hours \$7,438 Dollars raised**

Virtual Smalltown Gala: The Woman's Club of Clayton adapted their major fundraiser "Smalltown Gala" into a two-month virtual event due to the pandemic. Tickets, \$50 each, offered the opportunity to win one of three prizes: Dinner for twelve at Manning's Restaurant; Dinner for four at Clayton Steakhouse; or Dinner for two at Skylines Café. The Gala was advertised on the club's newsletter, website, Facebook, Chamber of Commerce email blasts, the community calendar, and various other sources. An invitation was sent to companies and past sponsors offering opportunities for sponsorship which also included tickets for the drawing. All members were encouraged to sell tickets. The drawing, held at Manning's, was broadcast live on the club's Facebook page. **60 Members, 30 Hours, \$6,614 Dollars raised**

Mrs. Pumpkin's: Greensboro Woman's Club realized in the fall of 2021, that people were still not eating in restaurants and had a need for great, easy meals at home. They partnered with **Mrs. Pumpkin's**, a veteran owned, scratch-made bakery and gourmet kitchen located in Winston-Salem. Members used their social media accounts and the club website to sell delicious chicken pies, baked spaghetti, and brownies. Many of these items are baked in the Moravian tradition, which is famous in the Greensboro. The Ways and Means Committee spent over 30 hours researching and coordinating the event. Members assisted with advertising, selling, and delivering Mrs. Pumpkin's products. They raised more than ever before with a 20% increase over 2020. **43 Members, 110 Hours, \$3,721 Dollars raised**

Pocket Tree Fundraiser for Note in the Pocket: The Cary Woman's Club partnered with a local non-profit, "Note in the Pocket," that provides two weeks of school clothing to students who are homeless or have lost their housing and unable to attend school due to lack of appropriate clothing. Each year the club participates in the **Cary Giving Tree** project at Christmas, where nonprofits and organizations decorate one of 62 Christmas Trees that line Cary's Academy Street for the month of December. The Cary Woman's Club dedicated their tree to support Note in the Pocket. They hung a total of 190 "Pocket" decorations on the tree, each listing the website URL on the backside so that citizens could take pockets home and donate to the cause. **29 Members, 47 Hours, \$3,650 Dollars raised**

A ("Very Dangerous") Raging River Duck Race: GFWC of Holden Beach fully embraced the GFWC-NC's "Woman of the Decade" fundraiser when one of their clubwomen was selected as their District's representative for this fun event. This club hosted, A ("Very Dangerous") Raging River Duck Race at a Wyndham Resort Lazy River. 100% of club members supported this project. Members bought and sold rubber ducks, made banners, designed fliers, Facebook posts, and posters, and entered the chilling April raging waters of the Lazy River to catch ducks as they crossed the finish line. The Town of Holden Beach provided traffic cones to mark the Finish Line! Club members numbered ducks and created spreadsheets to detail the names of duck owners and their corresponding numbers. Over 800 ducks were sold at \$10 each or as part of a sponsorship package. Club members contributed \$2,625 which was 43% of total funds raised by District 7 in support of this GFWC-NC "Fun"draiser! Their district representative was announced as the "Woman of the Decade" winner at the State Convention, as she received over 6,000 "votes" "with every dollar raised equaling one vote each. **36 Members, 422 Hours, \$2,625 Dollars raised**

"I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver."

- Maya Angelou



LEADERSHIP

Charlotte Woman's Club - Community Leadership: Members of our Club believe in the importance of supporting our community, not only through their club work, but through other avenues as well. Even though some are holding down fulltime jobs and/or are dedicated to being a parent, many still find time to be civic leaders. Twenty-seven of our members dedicated their time to other organizations, serving in seventeen different positions and volunteering 689 hours! While some are Trustees on Boards, others are on PTA's or committees at their church. These women are faithfully dedicated to the ideals of family and community. **27 Projects, 689 Hours, 14 Members, \$400 Spent**

GFWC of Holden Beach - Strategic Planning During the fall of 2021, the President asked a club member experienced in the strategic planning process to lead the Executive Board, Advisors, and two additional club members in the process. Prior to beginning the process, the GFWC and GFWC-NC Strategic Plans were reviewed. A session was held in December. A holiday lunch was served. Upon polling the participating members, two topics surfaced as most important: Leadership Development and Fundraising/Financial Stability. The Leadership Development goal adopted was to prepare and develop members for success in leadership roles. Two Financial goals adopted were to maintain the financial stability of the club and continue past fundraising projects while exploring new projects. The final draft will be presented to the club members during 2022. The Executive Board, realizing that a strategic plan is a roadmap that must be reviewed timely, plans to review, revise, and expand the document in the future.

11 Members, 89 Hours, \$50 Spent

GFWC-NC Statesville Woman's Club - Leadership Development Initiatives - Development of the leadership team began before their term started via an enjoyable BOD retreat. Nine of the 12-member board met to review the Statesville Woman's Club current projects and performance, foster relationships and set goals for the next administration. They participated in a 4 1/2 hour workshop on various topics: membership retention and recruitment, preserving their historic clubhouse and designing a mentoring program. As a result of this workshop, their leaders created a detailed plan that included preparing and presenting reports, creating agendas in a timely fashion, and improving the clubhouse. The leadership development of the 2021 Board of Directors shows through how active they are in all aspects of club development, including, but not limited to, recruiting new members, and implementing the successful "Holiday Cheer Giveaway Drawing."

9 members, 270 Hours, \$100 Spent, \$305 In-Kind Donations

GFWC Triad Woman's Club - New Leadership - Since this club is still relatively new, the two long-standing Federation members strive to encourage the other three members to chair a project, help with fundraising and become an officer in the future. They encouraged them to get involved not only on the local level, but on the district and state levels by attending events to learn more about our Federation. They give new members information about the Federation every chance they get. They encourage members to receive the GFWC and GFWC-NC Clubwoman magazines. **5 Members 25 Hours**

The Woman's Club of Raleigh - Living the Volunteer Spirit Award. During 2021, the Woman's Club of Raleigh recognized groups and individuals within the club who provided leadership to the club with the Living the Volunteer Spirit Award. An award certificate was presented at general club meetings, and information about the recipient was published in the Club newsletter. The groups and individuals recognized truly exemplified outstanding leadership. In addition to presenting certificates to the honorees, a monetary contribution was made in their honor to the Club's Community Impact Program. The Living the Volunteer Spirit Award was a creative way to recognize leaders and make members aware of the numerous leadership opportunities in the Club. **60 Hours 205 Members**

Mary Stewart Woman's Club – Operation Installation – The 2022-2024 GFWC-NC President-elect is from the Mary Stewart Woman's club, so five members were enlisted to work on her President's Special Program and installation in April 2022. Many of the plans are still secret at this point but these wonderful women have done a lot of leg work and planning. **5 Members, 150 Hours, \$50 Donation**

GFWC of Holden Beach - Past President's Committee SENDING ALL THEIR LOVE! GFWC of Holden Beach Past President's Committee decided to initiate a contactless CARE PROJECT for the community to celebrate a very special group of Front-Line Workers. The 50 full-time Health Care Workers at the Local Nursing Home appreciated the special attention. Fifty cards and a variety of handwritten appreciation messages were distributed to all committee members. During a stuffing party, inserts were included with the history of St. Valentine and GFWC of Holden Beach. Foil wrapped chocolate candy hearts were placed in the cards and they were delivered to the Nursing Home. They also mounted a campaign to collect new and unused all occasion cards. They worked to repurpose them into "thank you for your service" cards. They partnered with OPERATION GRATITUDE who provides 250,000+ care packages to our heroes to show that others care about them. Members of the committee collected cards from club members and divided the cards into two groups-Christmas Cards and "Thank you for Your Service" cards. They collected 335 Christmas cards to be mailed to military service men and 650 all-occasion cards which were repurposed. A total of 10.2 pounds of "thank you for your service" cards was mailed to Operation Gratitude!

3 Projects, 36 Members, 152 Hours, \$438 Spent

Outer Banks Woman's Club Communication and Publicity Plan - With committee input, the Chair of the Communications and Publicity Committee developed an external communications plan with the goal of informing the community about OBWC's 50th Anniversary. Tactics used by committee members to achieve this goal included: Outer Banks Woman's Club - Posts on OBWC's Facebook page (890 followers) and on the Outer Banks Chamber of Commerce's Facebook page (10,180 followers) Email blast announcing the celebration sent to approximately 3,000 Outer Banks Chamber of Commerce members News and Notes and announced at GFWC-NC Annual Meeting. A Proclamation written and presented to the Dare County Board of Commissioners declaring April 21, 2021, as Outer Banks Woman's Club Day; proclamation was read by OBWC President at a monthly meeting of commissioners and approved by the commissioners; they were very appreciative of the work done by the OBWC for the citizens of Dare County. **6 Members, 36 Hours**

GWFC - South Brunswick Islands – Leadership - Sixteen members performed administrative duties on behalf of the GFWC-SBI which includes the positions of President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Treasurer, Co-Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Parliamentarian, Past President, Historian, and five CSP Chairmen. Three club members served three positions on the district level. These positions include Secretary, Arts & Culture CSP chairman, and Civic Engagement & Outreach CSP chairman. Four club members serve at the state level. **49 Members, 1,750 Hours, \$2,300 In-Kind Donations**

Valuing Club History: Charlotte Woman's Club is the oldest civic organization in Charlotte. Organized in 1899 as the Study Club for Mothers, the group enlarged its membership and civic activities in 1902 and became the Charlotte Woman's Club. Their history has been involved in numerous civic activities. The Club established the city's first kindergarten, staffed the bus and Southern Railway stations during both World Wars, and organized the YWCA, PTA, and Traveler's Aid in Charlotte. Preserving this impressive and important history is significant to our club. We have rented a storage unit to house and save historic publications, photos and artifacts and keep them safe and preserved for future generations. They held a special celebration to honor the past 120 years, toast the present and prepare for the future!

2 Projects, 28 Hours, 30 Members, \$832 Spent

“Who you are comes before what you do. Leadership is being before doing.”

- John Maxwell



LEGISLATION & PUBLIC POLICY

The **Zebulon Woman's Club** sponsored a Candidate Forum along with the Zebulon Chamber of Commerce at the club building for the Town of Zebulon Commissioners running for election. The club put out signs at various locations around town, advertised it on our social media and it was on the Chamber of Commerce page on social media. A moderator asked questions of each delegate that were turned in. Each delegate was allowed a certain time frame for each question. The forum was attended by approximately 100 people from the community. **6 Members, 40 Hours, \$75 Donations**

The Woman's Club of Raleigh - School Food Pantries & Food Shortages Panel Discussion.
Description of Activity: A Panel discussion was held at the Club with panelists from local high school food pantry, The Food Bank of Eastern NC, Inter-Faith Food Shuttle, Raleigh City Council and Wake County Commissioners to discuss public policy and the need to address food insecurity in the county. As a result of the panel discussion, in-kind donations of clothing and toiletries valued at \$710 were collected and donate as well. **204 Members, 20 Hours, \$40 Donations, \$710 In-kind donations**

Wake Forest Junioresettes meets Mayor Vivian Jones Mayor Vivian Jones talked to the Junioresettes via Zoom during their March 17 meeting about her responsibilities as Mayor and her re-election campaign. She began with a short summary of growing up in a small town in Randolph County, studying at North Carolina Woman's College in Greensboro and receiving a one-year certificate in secretarial studies, living her dream as a stay-at-home mom for her son and daughter, and more. The Junioresette officers prepared questions for Mayor Jones; Did you always want to be a mayor? Is there a maximum number of terms? Have you had to work harder as a female? Favorite accomplishments as mayor? What is your advice for today's young women? What are important ideas for those in leadership positions? and more. The Junioresette Club President Natalie Loop commented in her participation as a WFHS Junioresette what she learned about Leadership was the most important. **7 Hours, 11 Members**

GFWC of Holden Beach – Yes, We Can! The steps to enroll in the GFWC Legislative Action Center were provided by the Chairman at monthly meetings and members were encouraged to visit the site to remain updated and to act on all Alerts. Articles highlighting legislative issues were included in The Communique, a digital newsletter sent to every member. The chairman maintained a log of issues and number of actions taken. Calls for legislative action were placed on Facebook for extended coverage. Responses received from legislators were forwarded to GFWC. The Schoolhouse Rock video from 1975, I'm Just a Bill, which teaches about legislation and the procedures and steps followed by the House, Senate, and President, was shown to members. The GFWC-HB Chairman relayed the negative effects of underage marriage. Members wrote letters, articles, and contacted legislators encouraging them to raise the age to 16. Members were requested to contact legislators on H.R. 2119, The Family Violence Prevention Improvement Act of 2021 to increase the funding authorization to ensure more programs can receive Family Violence Prevention and Services Act funds (FVPSA). Additional focus was on Military Sexual Assault, one of the eight areas of concern in the GFWC Signature Program. Following contact with GFWC Signature Program Committee Member Carla Pyle, plans were made to have a cooperative project with the Club Legislation/Public Policy Chairman and the Club GFWC Signature Program Chairman to educate members about sexual assault in the military. A grassroots effort to contact legislators for passage of the National Defense Authorization Act began. This Act ensures that sexual assault in the military is prosecuted by attorneys with specialized expertise independent from the chain of command. The agreement also establishes sexual harassment as a specific offense under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. They held a meet and greet the local candidates night as well to encourage civic engagement. The number of Legislative contacts by members - **352** in 2021, up from 95 in 2020, showed the effectiveness of these promotions. **36 Members, 215 Hours**

In 2021 **Mary Stewart Woman's Club** members made concerted efforts to keep up to date on legislative and public policy issues particularly the consideration of increasing the legal marriage age in North Carolina, a GFWC-NC state initiative. Members reported responses from their legislators. A bill increasing the minimum wage for marriage was passed and signed into law during the 2021 legislative session. All club members signed up through the GFWC website to receive the legislation action alerts. During one meeting, a program focused on the activity to **increase participation** in response to a GFWC Southeastern Region challenge to heighten awareness and participation in the GFWC Legislative Action Center.

3 Projects, 12 Members, 31 Hours

Wake Forest Woman's Club - Pocket Constitution Booklets to Northern Wake Senior Center.

The Northern Wake Senior Center offers adults ages 55 and older a full schedule of recreational activities, such as aerobics, line dancing, ballroom dancing, wood carving, painting, and craft making. The center also provides several social events each month, as well as educational classes on subjects including computers, ceramics, clay, and more. The Civic Engagement and Outreach CSP purchased 100 pocket constitution booklets to donate for the senior center government classes to promote civic engagement and advocate for all rights, including voting rights. **4 Members, 4 Hours, \$25 Donations, \$19 In-kind donations**

North Carolina Sorosis - Crime Prevention Unit & Citizen's Academy - The New Hanover County Sheriff's Department educated members on scams and identity theft. The focus was the effect on the senior population. The club was thankful to learn that the Sheriff's Department was concerned and developed a Scam Prevention Unit. In addition, they learned about programs that citizens can attend such as the Citizens Academy which educates the public on day-to-day operations such as crime scene units, canine handling and more. **73 Members, 73 Hours**

AL Brown Juniores - Register to Vote – Members became involved in civic engagement with a project for the primaries and general election, reminding teachers and staff to vote with the delivery of fun notes and treats! **2 Projects, 36 Members, 2 Hours, \$30 In-kind donations**

Fuquay - Varina Woman's Club - Flag collection and retirement project - To honor the American Flag and ensure it is retired properly, the CSP started a new project in 2021. The club offered a convenient way for citizens to dispose of the "old" flags. Merchants visited by citizens were asked to place a receptacle in their store as a depository for "old" and "worn out" flags. The CSP Chairman contacted various merchants. Two grocery stores (Food Lions) agreed to participate in this project. Members also collected and placed these flags in receptacles. Citizens were notified via Facebook and website resulting in 60 flags being collected. The flags were taken to the American Legion for disposal. One member of this CSP taught two Girl Scout Troops the official protocol for flag retirement. **46 Members, 55 Hours, \$60 In-kind donations**

Dispelling the Myths about the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier – In March, a member of the **Wilmington Woman's Club** who had researched the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and visited the site presented a program about dispelling the myths of this national monument. The speaker based her presentation on member participation to understand the history of the monument and the qualifications to be a monument guard. Each member was given an envelope with a question about the monument or the qualifications to be a guard. Questions were read and the speaker would answer and elaborate or clarify misinformation. By the conclusion of the presentation, the members in attendance appreciated the responsibilities of being a guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and were eager for a field trip to Washington, DC to revisit the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. **20 Members, 24 Hours**

The best public policy is made when you are listening to people who are going to be impacted. – Elizabeth Dole



MEMBERSHIP

Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman's Club - Recruitment Socials (Recruitment/Retention) During warm months, they hosted informal meetups at local parks. These children-friendly events allow members and prospective members with children more opportunities to meet, socialize, and brainstorm project ideas. They offered prospective members the opportunity to meet members and form connections. At February's social at the park, four members and two prospective members gathered for an afternoon of fun. In March, another five members connected to socialize and brainstorm an upcoming project. In April, they held an adults-only social at a local brewery for a casual opportunity for fellowship with eight active members in attendance. In December, they held the annual Christmas Social at a Putt-Putt golf park where eleven active and two prospective members showed off their mini-golf skills, participated in an ornament exchange, and enjoyed Christmas cookies provided by the club's social committee. By the end of December, they had eight new prospective members attend meetings. The variety of events increased participation - 87% club member engagement! **4 Projects, 28 Members, 55 Hours, \$145 Spent**

GFWC of Holden Beach - Recruitment Re-imagined (Recruitment/Retention) The club decided to hold a Summer Social in a club member's backyard. It was a fun excuse for members to gather after the pandemic, and an opportunity to meet and recruit potential new members. Members were invited as well as their spouses and/or significant others. The setting was informal with five guests attending. The Membership VP provided each guest with an informational packet and the guests were introduced by the club member that invited them. In September, a Strategic Planning meeting was set for the sole purpose of focusing on Membership. This insightful brain-storming session yielded actions that would directly impact recruitment efforts. Greeters were instituted at each meeting. Duties included welcoming all guests and introducing them. Follow-ups with potential members were set up to provide information. The trifold GFWC-HB brochure was updated to include meeting info, CSPs, and instructions on how to access all GFWC platforms. **3 Projects, 36 Members, 224 Hours, \$370 Spent – 13 New Members!**

Outer Banks Woman's Club - 50th Anniversary Video (Recruitment/Recognition) OBWC decided to hire a local videographer to produce an OBWC 50th Anniversary Video. The purpose of the video was twofold: to record and share our club history and accomplishments and to provide information about the club for recruitment and publicity purposes. After all the filming was completed, the videographer put together an amazing product that captures the heart of the Outer Banks Woman's Club. This video was shared at our last club meeting of the club year and members were overwhelmed with emotions. You could see the pride and joy in their faces. The video was also posted on the homepage of the club's website gfwc-obwc.com. Over 250 people have viewed the video and several new members viewed the video to learn more about the club before joining. **30 Members, 40 Hours, \$950 Spent**

Charlotte Woman's Club - 120th Anniversary Celebration (Retention/Recognition) The Club is the oldest civic organization in Charlotte. Organized in 1899 as the Study Club for Mothers, they grew their membership and civic activities. In 1902 they became the Charlotte Woman's Club. To celebrate in 2022, they went "back home" to the historic Charlotte Woman's Club House in December to toast 120 years of history. Afterward, they went to a restaurant for a bite to eat and more celebration! They announced the Anniversary on social media and shared their history, including old photos and memories submitted by members. The information included civic activities over the years; the Club established the city's first kindergarten, staffed the bus and Southern Railway stations during both World Wars, and helped organize the YWCA, PTA, and Travelers Aid. Sharing "the old days!" created a sense of pride and belonging. **3 Projects, 7 Members, 10 Hours, \$100 Spent**

Greensboro Woman's Club - Breakout Room Zoom Sessions (Retention/Mentoring) They established a Teleconferencing Chairman whose job was to coordinate the Zoom meetings for the club. As they became adept at "Zooming" the Chairman added a new twist; breakout sessions before each general meeting, where members were randomly sent to a small group "room." A pre-determined question was published to facilitate conversation. This added a social component to meetings and gave members a chance to get to know each other. **3 Projects, 48 Members, 183 Hours, \$200 Spent**

GFWC-NC Statesville Woman's Club - Coffee with the Prez - Knock, Knock Who's There (Recruitment/Retention) Their favorite recruitment activity was the monthly *"Coffee & Conversation"* events at the local coffee shop. Prospective members and members alike, could sit and talk about the club without the pressure of being at a business meeting. It was relaxed and potential members asked questions and found out about upcoming events. With each one, the members started to catch on and the event grew. Having two out of four women join after having coffee with the President, we consider this a successful undertaking. Also, after seeing the success of "Knock, Knock, Who's There" with current members, they decided to adopt it as a recruitment tool too. Any prospective member who attended a meeting or Coffee & Conversation event received a special postcard. They felt a hand-written note was more personal. The initial contact thanked guests for attending. They followed up with a second and third contact. Results: +3 NET membership. **17 Members, 85 Hours, \$75 Spent, \$110 In-kind donations**

Wake Forest Woman's Club - 60th Anniversary Celebration (Recognition) The September general meeting of the Wake Forest Woman's Club was a true celebration of the club's history. President Tracy Mahl took the opportunity to honor charter members who established the club in 1961 and have served Wake Forest for 60 years. Members of the Youngsville Woman's Club, the sponsor of WFWC in 1961, joined members and guests for the evening. Additionally, our State President-elect Kim Fulcher attended to extend her congratulations. It accompanied a double candle-lighting ceremony to honor our history as well as our commitment to the Wake Forest Woman's Club's volunteer service for years to come. Memorabilia was on display, dating back to September 7, 1961. This memorable evening as a special tribute to 60 years of community service inspired all in attendance. In addition, Wake Forest Mayor Vivian Jones offered an official proclamation declaring September 7, 2021, as "Wake Forest Woman's Club Day."
24 Members, 48 Hours, \$250 Spent, \$150 In-kind donations

The Woman's Club of Raleigh - Caring, Connecting, and Committing (Retention) The membership team met at the beginning of June to plan for the upcoming club year. They decided to show our members we care. Thus, the project Caring, Connecting, Committing came about. As a large club, we divided up the membership list and began to make phone calls to members. Our purpose for calling was threefold: we **cared** about them, we wanted to **connect** with them, and we shared opportunities for **"committing"** to club activities that could be done without in person attendance. We shared how meetings would be available on ZOOM and encouraged those who had not renewed to do so. Members were grateful and happy to receive the phone call. One member who is bilingual wrote cards to each member on her list as she was more comfortable with that. She received two cards in return and was thrilled. Members who did not know each other before connected. It was successful so they repeated it the first and second quarters.
2 Projects, 137 Members, 120 Hours

GFWC-NC Statesville Woman's Club Buys Stock in Membership (Mentoring) At its Board Retreat in August, nine members of the BOD developed a mentoring plan of action. They worked in teams and as a group to design a plan that would be effective. The BOD settled on a program called "M & M" as their mentoring strategy. "M & M" stands for Mentor and Mentee and is meant to pair an established member with a new member to teach her the "ins and outs" of life at GFWC. The Board felt strongly that it is necessary for members to connect and make it last! The plan starts with the Mentor attending the New Member Orientation with their Mentee. **9 Hours, 9 Members**

Greensboro Woman's Club - Provisional Membership Model (Mentoring) The Club follows a structured model of recruiting and orienting members into the club. Upon admission to the club, the prospective applicant becomes a Provisional Member. Attendance at orientation sessions is mandatory. These Provisional Members are then inducted at the May Installation and Awards meeting, at which time they become full-fledged members. By creating yearly "classes" of new members the Greensboro Woman's Club is better able to mentor, nurture, and orient them. Bonding is accomplished through the orientation sessions. The new members learn about GFWC as a group. A new member social was held in August. In October, Provisional Members joined members for orientation. **3 Projects, 50 Hours, 42 Members**

***Teamwork divides the task and doubles the success.* - Anonymous**



WOMEN'S HISTORY AND RESOURCE CENTER

Greensboro Woman's Club - Inspiring the Future: To inspire members to continue important community service and build leadership for the future, club members need to understand and appreciate the impact of General Federation of Women's Clubs. The club's "Federation Liaison" prepared a PowerPoint presentation titled, "Our Federation Foundation - GFWC and GFWC-NC" which was presented at the April meeting. The graphic presentation explained the various levels of federation, numbers of GFWC members internationally and in our state, and what clubs make up our district. It presented reasons for being a federated club such as: A diversified framework for programs; Information and assistance available from the federation; Pride in the numbers when all clubs work toward common goals; Networking opportunities through meetings, workshops, and speakers; Leadership training. Also highlighted in the presentation was the valuable impact that GFWC advocacy continues to have on our country and world. They explained that being advocates of GFWC's legislative agenda is a non-partisan action and included a timeline of GFWC advocacy beginning in the 1800s. **58 members, 30 Hours**

North Wilkesboro - Recording History and Celebration at the Wilkes Heritage Museum - The Club worked with the curators at the Wilkes Heritage Museum to exhibit historical items in glass cases from the North Wilkesboro Woman's Club and the Wilkesboro Woman's Club which withdrew in June 1993. With vintage hats, gloves, and purses, we visited the 19th Amendment display to celebrate 100 years of Women's Right to Vote. Clubwomen were surprised by a special decorated cake to celebrate the club's centennial. **8 Members, 27 Hours, \$300 Donations**

Mary Stewart Woman's Club - Federation Day The club celebrated Federation Day by honoring Juanita Bryant, past GFWC International President. Juanita is a mentor, not only to the members of our club, but to clubwomen across GFWC-NC. She shared inspirational stories from her seven decades of service in a memorable Federation Day Celebration held on April 25, 2021. Joining the Boonville Woman's Club in 1953, Juanita first attended GFWC convention in 1957. "I've only missed two since that time." Club members and Debby Bryant, Juanita's daughter, organized the gathering. Club member Jennifer McLean interviewed Juanita prompting a fountain of information from her years at all levels of Club work. They were so excited and honored to have several special guests join us for this event. A video will be sent to the WHRC at GFWC headquarters. Juanita advised, "make your decision and stick with it." Juanita put that into practice to compete the Women's History and Resource Center as international president. Juanita relied heavily on her NC Clubwomen who were key to that success. **5 Members, 36 Hours, \$100 In-kind donations**

Wake Forest Woman's Club Federation Day Tea Party The club recognized "Federation Day" by making a charitable financial donation to the Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina, a partner organization with GFWC-NC. Their celebration of the ratification of the General Federation of Women's Clubs on April 24, 1890, continued with the clubwomen virtual Tea Party, which included vintage teacups and hats. The highlight of the afternoon was a "live" reenactment traveling back in time and eavesdropping on two clubwomen, "member-actors" in costume, chatting about the beginnings and accomplishments of GFWC and the outstanding women who first organized "All Women." **19 Members, 75 Hours, \$200 Donations, \$83 In-Kind donations**

GFWC of Holden Beach - Federation Day - Annually, on April 24th, GFWC of Holden Beach renews its commitment to service with reflection on how they can best meet their challenges. To meet them today and build a better tomorrow, we unite around a renewed commitment to service and civic duty. GFWC-HB members were asked to collect items needed by the Boys and Girls Home of North Carolina. To encourage participation, the project was featured in the Communique newsletter for several months and reported at club meetings. The hundreds of personal care items and a check were delivered to Boys and Girls Home of North Carolina on April 24th. This project *Recognized* our combined efforts to improve the lives of others through community service, *Remember* our founding, and *Rejoice* in our accomplishments. **36 Members, 68 Hours, \$575 Donations, \$825 In-kind donations**

Outer Banks Woman's Club - 50 Compilation of History - Leadership felt it was important to capture our community impact from the past 50 years to share with the public. The challenge was where to start. There were boxes of unorganized documents in the club storage unit and several past officers had documents in their homes. We collected all the boxes and a committee of officers gathered to review the documents. By consensus, we agreed on the documents to donate to a local preservation group for historical purposes and what to purge. We also put aside pictures to use during our celebration. Once we had all the paper documents together, we gave them to a member who agreed to compile the 50-year history into one document. A spreadsheet describing contributions in ten-year increments from 1970 through 2020 was created. Compiling this information was a labor of love! Our intent is to update this document annually and move away from keeping paper documents. **6 Members, 40 Hours**

Junior Woman's Club of Raleigh - Club History & Reporting Workshop - With the changes in membership, the Club noticed the need to train and educate members on the history of GFWC. This was primarily so that younger, less knowledgeable members had the opportunity to learn from long-term members. Also, several Juniors are aging out and moving to General level Federation involvement, so they wanted to ensure they left the younger members with the tools for continued success and growth in size and outreach. For Federation Day, they invited the GFWC-NC District 6 President and Junior Director to conduct a History of GFWC and Reporting workshop. After the presentation, members - older and newer - commented on the value of the presentation and how it can be used for future training and a refresher. **10 Members, 10 Hours**

Mrs. Howard: A little history on the **Charlotte Woman's Club**. By the 1920's the club's 500 members meant the club had to find a new meeting place, so the club made plans to purchase property and build a place where they could meet. The CWC clubhouse stands on 1001 East Morehead Street. The women received the deed in 1923. It became a dedicated historic landmark in 1978. By the early 2000's, the maintenance and upkeep became overwhelming, so a committee was appointed to investigate selling the clubhouse. They worked hard to find the right buyer who did not want to tear it down to "build a parking garage or high-rise." Today the building remains, to historic specifications, as an upscale design and furniture store, Mrs. Howard. To kick off the celebration of Charlotte Woman's Club's 120th Anniversary, the club members visited and toured the Charlotte location and made a \$100 donation to the charity of their choice. The Charlotte Woman's Club accomplished so much over the years and wanted to go back and celebrate. **30 Hours, 30 Members, \$100 Donations**

Wilmington Woman's Club Honors Wilmington City Firefighters - With the general unrest throughout the country and some distrust of the country's service personnel, the members of the club decided to honor the firefighters within the city of Wilmington for Federation Day 2021. They honored firefighters at eight fire stations by preparing a variety of home baked goodies. These goodies included coffee cakes, cookies, cookie bars, pies, brownies, chocolate saltine crackers, cakes, and cupcakes. They decided they should be homemade when the firefighters said they were "over" donuts! Members visited each fire station to make the delivery and shared their appreciation for the work they do to protect families, their homes, churches, and businesses. Celebrating the firefighters in honor of Federation Day supports GFWC's dedication to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service. **26 Members, 102 Hours, \$288 In-kind donations**

Greensboro Woman's Club - Promoting the Present: In recognition of Women's History month, the March newsletter included an article devoted to the Equal Rights Amendment. The focus was the amendment's seventy-seven-year history. Members were encouraged to contact their congressional representatives to act to remove the amendment's ratification deadline and any other barriers to its ratification. A link to "Take Action" was provided. In 2021, highlighting present-day women who have achieved success due to the efforts of suffragists became a column in the newsletter entitled "Our Road to Equality." The women in the articles included those who were on the forefront in the development of COVID vaccines and the nine women of the Artemis Space Program. **69 Hours, 58 Members**

"Encourage member participation in diverse club and community projects developed to preserve the past, promote the present, and inspire the future. - GFWC