



CIVIC ENGAGEMENT and OUTREACH COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM



The GFWC Civic Engagement and Outreach Community Service Program reminds GFWC members that each of us is a part of a larger society and is responsible for undertaking actions that will create a better quality of life and foster a sense of community—locally, regionally, nationally, and globally. The four “broad strokes” of this effort include:
1) Citizenship; 2) Crime Prevention, Safety, and Disaster Preparedness; 3) The Needy, Hungry, and Homeless; and
4) Our Military Personnel and Veterans.



CHALLENGE PROJECT
Support and aid women veterans in your community

**GFWC-NC Chairman
Lois Nixon**

Resource Organizations



Be Inspired and Get Creative!

- Engage the community on key issues, identify positive solutions, and stimulate public policy initiatives.
- Work together to “Get Out the Vote!” Send out postcards with reminders on how to register and vote, absentee voting, early voting and/or election day polling locations and times.
- Advocate for civics education in schools, ensuring students acquire an understanding of government.
- Collaborate with bookstores or libraries to create a prominent display of nonfiction books that commemorate Women’s History Month in March, tell the “herstory” of women’s suffrage, and celebrate the centennial of the 19th Amendment on August 26, 2020.
- Make homes and communities safer by providing information on crime prevention strategies, such as neighborhood/park watches and suspicious activity reports.
- Support and thank local Police and Fire Departments for keeping the community safe. Have a breakfast or lunch delivered as a way to acknowledge their service.
- Share fact sheets with members and friends, including “The Top Ten Financial Scams Targeting Seniors,” and “Eight Tips for How Seniors Can Protect Themselves from Money Scams.”
- Work with first responders and your local high schools to provide presentations on at-risk driving practices, such as texting and failure to use seat belts.
- Collect socks at club, district, or state meetings and donate this “number one most requested item” to homeless shelters.
- Organize a club day of service at a local food pantry by donating essential goods and sorting and organizing their shelves.
- Work with your local schools to establish “closets” within the schools where clothing, shoes, backpacks, underwear, socks, outerwear, and personal hygiene items are organized and stored for distribution to children in need.
- Organize a winter clothing drive in the fall, collecting, sorting, and cleaning gently used coats, jackets, sweaters, scarves, and gloves.
- Encourage members to research local or national programs that support our military.
- Work with your VA to identify veterans who need household supplies and furniture, employment assistance, educational scholarships, or other help.
- Create awareness about the high rate of suicide among veterans and suicide prevention programs.
- Support the Quilts of Valor Foundation by donating fabric, quilt squares, or quilts, or by making monetary contributions or becoming a sponsor.

Please sign up for the Member Portal at WWW.GFWC.ORG for access to the Club Manual for additional project ideas, Resource Organizations information and the list of GFWC Affiliate Organizations.