



GFWC Advancement Plan

**Leadership
Chairman
Nikki Ratliff**



GFWC's goal is to support club, district, state, and national leadership efforts with ideas, resources, and tools to assist all members in developing their leadership skills.

Bottom-up or top-down, leadership involves taking risks, being innovative, and promoting new directions. While some may talk about being born leaders, most of us have to learn it, which is why as an organization, we promote and encourage Leadership activities and development.

PROJECT IDEAS to further Leadership Growth and Development:

- Rookie of the Year - Establish a Rookie of the Year award. The Rookie can receive a plaque, certificate or a sash. Rookie of the Year graduates go on to serve as chairs and officers.
- Set an example or use more direct influence skills to get people on board. Setting the example is probably the most important leadership skill. It is the most effective way to show others the proper way to conduct themselves and is even more effective than verbal communication.
- Encourage communication and GFWC pride via subscriptions to GFWC Clubwoman, GFWC's e-newsletter News and Notes, and other GFWC publications. Every GFWC-NC member receives the *North Carolina Clubwoman* magazine.
- Establish and maintain a file of club members' talents, skills, and interests as a leadership resume tool. Most volunteers are asked to volunteer, and everyone likes to be recognized for the skills and experiences that they bring to the club.
- Encourage participation in the GFWC-NC Special Individual Awards: the Junior Clubwoman of the Year Award, the Outstanding Work in Citizenship and Patriotism Award, the General Clubwoman of the Year Award, as well as the Clubwoman with Heart Award and the Junior Magic Award.
- Dedicate at least one meeting per year to leadership development for members. Suggested topics include: parliamentary procedure, public speaking, conflict resolution, and strategic planning. Seek speakers or presenters with backgrounds in leadership training from local colleges or universities to conduct or moderate the meeting.
- Establish a mentoring program in your club to identify, guide, and assist potential club leaders.
- Support members' attendance at district, state, region, and national GFWC meetings, conferences, and conventions; and permit time for members who do attend these events to share their experiences.
- Initiate a "dollars for delegates" program where a percentage of the proceeds of your fundraising efforts is designated to defray expenses of officers representing the club at various meetings.
- Review information regarding GFWC LEADS (Leadership, Education, And Development Seminar) in the GFWC-NC Administration Book.
- Hold an administration transition meeting with all incoming and outgoing officers where outgoing officers can provide outlines of job descriptions, tips, challenges, and successes to incoming officers, and where incoming officers can ask questions openly.
- Encourage members to represent your club on community coalitions, boards, councils, and in other organizations.

For more information refer to the Leadership Advancement Plan in the GFWC Club Manual

AWARDS FOR LEADERSHIP ADVANCEMENT PLAN:

- One overall award is given from all club entries
- One Club Creativity Project award is given from all club entries