

GFWC of North Carolina Juniors Special Program Advocates for Children Top Ten Projects- 2022

GFWC-South Brunswick Islands (GFWC-SBI): Backpack Buddies Program- WINGS Backpacks Full of Blessings helps combat the issue of childhood hunger by filling backpacks weekly with healthy food and snacks for over 300 school age children in the local area. Backpacks are sent home with children on Friday to secure the weekend need and returned on Monday to be filled for redistribution. GFWC-SBI collected non-perishable, single serving foods that were donated to the program. One club member volunteered weekly to refill the backpacks and then delivered the filled packs to local schools for distribution. At the December General Meeting, members donated 93 new child-sized blankets that sent home with children prior to the Christmas holiday. Three members attended the WINGS Purse Auction, a fundraiser for their Backpack Buddies program. **53 MEMBERS 932 HOURS \$1,875 DONATED \$1,930 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

GFWC Cape Fear Woman's Club: Cinderella's Closet of Wilmington- The GFWC Cape Fear Woman's Club is a new club formed in 2022 with 12 members. Nine of these ladies are new to the Federation. This club volunteered time and talent to Cinderella's Closet of Wilmington. This organization provides formal wear to girls that could not otherwise attend prom. Cinderella's Closet provides an experience like other for these young ladies. Once they enter, they are lavished with hospitality, love, and grace. They leave believing they are cherished. **4 MEMBERS 8 HOURS**

Fuquay-Varina Woman's Club (FVWC): Read for the Record/Jumpstart- FVWC enrolled their school with the official Jumpstart (formerly Read for the Record) site. Ten copies of the book chosen for 2022, Nigel and the Moon by Antwan Eady were ordered. Club members contacted ten schools within their local area requesting their participation in the October 27th event. Six schools committed to participating in the Jumpstart program and then FVWC hit a snag as the books did not ship as expected. FVWC reached out to the company only to learn a paper shortage was blamed for the delay. Knowing the book would not arrive by the October 27th deadline, FVWC explained the situation to the schools that agreed to participate. The books shipped on November 19th and club members delivered them to the six schools. When the schools completed the reading of the book, they reported back to FVWC. While the school readings were not included in the Jumpstart Record Day, a total of 1,730 students listened to the reading of Nigel and the Moon, which may have been better than the one day of reading. **7 MEMBERS 5 HOURS \$120 DONATED**

GFWC Triad Woman's Club: Activity Pouches for Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Piedmont Triad- GFWC-NC collected items to fill activity pouches for RMH at the State Arts Festival. A portion of those collected were donated to RMH of Winston-Salem. This club donated 8 more pouches. Items included: pens, crayons, activity books, coloring books, construction paper, scissors, markers, and more. Ronald McDonald House Charities® of the Piedmont Triad provides a "home away from home" for families with children receiving treatment in the community's medical facilities. **5 MEMBERS 6 HOURS \$95 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

GFWC-South Brunswick Islands (GFWC-SBI): March of Dimes is a GFWC Affiliate Organization whose purpose is to improve the health of mothers and babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth, and infant mortality. In promotion of the 2022 Walk for Babies "A Mother of a Movement", two GFWC-SBI clubwomen attended the Kick-off Rally in Myrtle Beach. The GFWC-SBI Sewing Committee and other club members collectively completed 10 no-sew, fleece blankets with children's themes, for donation to the March of Dimes Blanket Challenge program. These blankets were mailed to Alabama to be given to military families upon the birth of their babies. Ten members attended the March for Babies Walk in May held in Myrtle Beach, SC. One represented in the Opening Ceremony. **53 MEMBERS 85 HOURS \$ 1,796 DONATED \$150 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

Fuquay-Varina Woman's Club (FVWC): Wake Up and Read – FVWC partnered with Wake Up and Read a rewarding reading program for the young people of Wake County who have little or no access to books. This club adapted their email and Facebook posts with new book collection details. A bin was placed at the Cultural Arts Center as their cooperative collection site. The FVJWC and the FV Garden Club were enlisted as partners. Members found books from their grandchildren, neighbors, and friends. Monetary donations were also made. 1200 donated books were delivered to Wake Up and Read in Raleigh. An email of appreciation, with a photo, was sent to club women and contributors. **46 MEMBERS 25 HOURS \$200 DONATED**

GFWC Triad Junior Womans' Club: Samaritan's Purse's Operation Christmas Child Warehouse - Since 1970, Samaritan's Purse has helped meet needs of people who are victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease, and famine. Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes is one of many ministries they offer around the world. This club purchased items and filled (8) shoeboxes for girls ages 12-14. Members delivered the shoeboxes to the Processing Center in Charlotte. They verified the contents, taped, scanned, and prepared the shoeboxes for shipping. 40,560 shoeboxes were processed that day at this center and being sent to Malawi and the Philippines. **3 MEMBERS 17 HOURS \$120 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

GFWC-South Brunswick Islands (GFWC-SBI): UNICEF Collection- GFWC-SBI donated \$500 to the U.S. Fund for UNICEF, a GFWC Affiliate. The organization provides funding and resources to ensure the world's most vulnerable children have access to health, immunization, clean water, nutrition, education, emergency, and disaster relief. **53 MEMBERS 2 HOURS \$525 DONATED**

GFWC of Holden Beach: WAVES 4 K.I.D.S Fundraiser- 2022 SOUTHERN CHARM SHOPPING DAYS- In recognition of April being National Child Abuse Month, GFWC of Holden Beach partnered with The Southern Charm Company, a local boutique, to sponsor shopping days from March 17-19. Shoppers received 10% off all purchases and 10% of the total sales were donated to GFWC of Holden Beach with proceeds going to WAVES4K.I.D.S. The project was featured in the club's monthly digital newsletter, reported at club meetings, and announced in local neighborhood newsletters. The mission of WAVES4K.I.D.S. is to raise funds to assure if public funds are not available, that children under the care of the Department of Social Services, or children in difficult situations in Brunswick County, are provided resources and services, based on financial need to meet their health, educational, and social welfare needs. **46 MEMBERS 33 HOURS \$500 DONATED**

Charlotte Woman's Club (CWC): Boys and Girls Homes of NC (BGHNC)- CWC honored a request from BGHNC for the purpose of helping them fund the *Carolyn's Kaleidoscope Child Advocacy Center (CAC)* which serves children who are victims of sexual assault in Columbus, Bladen, and Robeson Counties. BGHNC is responsible for protecting each child victim's well-being, including physical, mental, emotional, even electronic narratives of shared truth. Their goal is to establish, maintain, and improve safety on all levels, from ongoing security and surveillance to preserving the integrity of evidence by providing internet, cyber, and physical safety protocols at the site. When child victims tell their stories, their accounts are video recorded in consultation with an MDT (Multi-Disciplinary Team) from social and law enforcement agencies in an unobtrusive satellite room with a live video feed. The primary justice piece of the process is the forensic interview. The District Attorney utilizes the recording of the child-sensitive forensic interview to prosecute the perpetrator. The child also receives a sexual assault medical exam, and they provide follow-up mental health services to the child to help them heal from the trauma of assault. BGHNC provides this at no cost to the family. Last year alone, 184 children were served by the CAC. The CWC donated \$6,000.00, helping provide the comprehensive security systems needed for the health and well-being of the children served. **39 MEMBERS 15 HOURS \$6,000 DONATED**