

## 2022 GFWC of NORTH CAROLINA TOP TEN PROJECTS

# Congratulations!

### COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS

#### ARTS AND CULTURE:

**PROJECT WARMTH** was created by 14 knitters and crocheters in the **Wake Forest Woman's Club**, who were looking for a way to use their skills to serve others. This club used their creative talents of knitting and crocheting for 1,773 volunteer hours to create 190 items. The mittens, gloves, scarves, shawls, and blankets were delivered by club members throughout 2022 to the following: Hillside Rehab and Nursing Center in Wake Forest, Tri-Area Ministry Food Pantry, and Duke University Hospital in Durham. From shawls for elderly – hats, scarves, and gloves for neighbors who are financially insecure – and preemie caps for babies in the neonatal unit – this group of talented ladies spread warmth throughout their community and across the lifespan. **14 MEMBERS 1,733 HOURS \$200 DONATED \$180 IN-KIND DONATIONS**



**GIFTING TREE** is a project that **The Cary Woman's Club** developed from an established relationship with a local nonprofit, Note in the Pocket, which provides 2 weeks of school clothing for students in need. Also, the club annually participates in the Cary Gifting Tree project; by decorating a tree in the downtown area for the month of December-this year, club women decorated the tree with 'pockets' held by sparking pipe cleaners. As visitors strolled thru town, they could pick up a pocket, read the information provided, and communicate with Note in the Pocket to donate to a child in need. There was a unique website/URL on each 'pocket' ornament so their club would get credit. **29 MEMBERS 35 HOURS \$150 DONATED \$13 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**FABRIC PUMPKINS: The Henderson Jr Woman's Club, Henderson Juniores and a local school EC Class** worked together to create beautiful Fabric Pumpkins for the families of the EC students and the Cancer patients at a local hospital. The 70 pumpkins were made of Styrofoam, cut material, a wooden limb, and a cute bow. One club woman took the initiative and made an in-kind donation of \$225 to buy all the materials, make all the bows, distribute the materials, make a few herself, pick up the finished product, and take the finished pumpkins to the local cancer center to be distributed to patients with a note of Thankfulness. The pumpkins had a positive impact on the lives of 70 patients and students. **13 MEMBERS 20 HOURS \$225 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**NEWSLETTER ARTICLES: The Burlington Woman's Club** provided newsletter articles about various cultures and traditions in the club's monthly newsletter. The February article offered the history of Black History Month and highlighted the African-American Cultural Arts and History Center of Alamance County (AACAH). The executive director of that organization spoke at a meeting via Zoom. In addition to this, Elon University provides many cultural opportunities for local club women. Nine events were attended by one or more clubwomen. **16 MEMBERS 68 HOURS**

**WOMEN SUPPORTING WOMEN CRAFT BAZAAR: The Wendell Woman's Club** hosted their 1st Annual 'Women Supporting Women Craft Bazaar', which was intended to encourage town residents to shop locally during the holiday season and also to support local female artisans on Small Business Saturday. Club women created applications for this event to select participants and they ensured the event was well-publicized. During the event, clubwomen partnered with The Crafty Corner Arts and Crafts Club to provide craft projects for children in attendance. This day was a success and they are planning to make this a semi-annual event next year. **6 MEMBERS 46 HOURS \$146 DONATED \$100 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**CHRISTMAS WREATHS: The Wilmington Woman's Club** presented Christmas Wreaths to low-income nursing home residents who either have no family or have family members who never visit. Club women decorated 15 small wreaths with miniature ornaments, colored tinsel, small Christmas balls, and tiny packages. When they delivered the wreaths the recipients and staff were excited and overjoyed to receive these beautiful gifts. **10 MEMBERS 40 HOURS \$195 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**PENNY'S PASSION MEMORIAL FUND: GFWC-South Brunswick Islands (GFWC-SBI)** - Penny Redwine, a founding member with 45 years of service to the Federation passed away in March of 2022. Penny held an art degree from ECU and was an accomplished visual artist who served as one of the first visual art teachers locally. At her husband's request, the club established a fund that would support her passion for art education and honor her legacy within the community – initial donations exceeded \$3,500.00. The first contribution from this fund was made to a local middle school in the form of gift cards to encourage students to enter the local GFWC-SBI Arts Festival. Plans were also laid to donate funds for adaptive art supplies at the district level for students with special needs. **53 MEMBERS 15 HOURS \$250 DONATED**

**ENCOURAGEMENT CARDS: The Wake Forest Juniores** made 28 Encouragement Cards by hand that were mailed to Letters of Love, a non-profit charity. The Letters of Love organization distributes handmade cards to children who are hospitalized. Using construction paper and other crafting supplies, the Juniores made one-of-a-kind personalized cards to let the children know they are loved and remembered. These handmade cards were sent to the headquarters in Minnesota and distributed to children experiencing extended hospital stays. **8 MEMBERS 4 HOURS**

**WATERCOLOR GREETING CARDS: The Mary Stewart Woman's Club** held a hands-on watercolor painting tutorial at one of their club meetings. Members painted greeting cards in Autumn, Christmas, and abstract floral designs. The cards were signed by clubwomen and distributed to shut-ins visited monthly while delivering Meals on Wheels treats during the 2022 Fall season. **9 MEMBERS 14 HOURS \$8 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**CREATIVE CENTERPIECES: GFWC of Holden Beach** got crafty with multiple uses for their creative centerpieces. Clubwomen met and created the coastal-themed centerpieces which incorporated a cylindrical vase, jute twine, starfish, and a decorative dolphin that held sand and a battery-operated candle. This club hosted the District 7 Fall Meeting and used these centerpieces on the tables. After the meeting, the centerpieces were carefully wrapped and donated to the Brunswick Community College for use at their upcoming events. **16 MEMBERS 100 HOURS \$280 DONATED \$203 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

## CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH:



**SOCK IT TO ME: GFWC of Holden Beach:** Members of this club's CEO CSP Initiated a sock collection for the homeless as having a clean pair of socks is often taken for granted. The homeless walk often, rarely remove their shoes, and seldom have laundry facilities available. To encourage participation in this, the project was featured in the Communique, the Club's digital monthly newsletter. A "Sock Tree" was created and collected socks were hung on the tree. Over a two-month period 183 pairs of men's, women's and children's socks were collected. With no homeless shelter designated in Brunswick County, socks were delivered to Hope Harbor Home, Brunswick County's only program for victims of domestic violence and their children, Providence Home, Brunswick County's only emergency youth shelter, and the Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina. **46 MEMBERS 56 HOURS \$25 DONATED \$925 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**CELEBRATING ESSENTIAL WORKERS: Zebulon Woman's Club:** Once a month, this club donated pies, cakes, meals, and baskets filled with goodies from club members to first responders, including police departments and firemen to celebrate these Essential Workers. **22 MEMBERS 50 HOURS \$100 DONATED**

**STRONG WOMEN: Fuquay-Varina Woman's Club (FVWC):** FVWC created this project to highlight strong women in their community for their strengths and to share this information so that others are aware of their contributions to the town. Members nominate women from the community. A member of this CSP interviews the monthly nominee and prepares the write-up for the newsletter and Facebook. The interview consists of questions about the nominee's life, work, skills, strengths and deeply held beliefs. This effort also connects FVWC with other local organizations by way of these strong women. The nominees for 2022 ranged from a lifelong resident that owned a diner, a middle school assistant principal making change in Fuquay-Varina one child at a time, a member of Rotary Club and Campbell University staff, a kind and loving real estate agent that made a huge impact in the town, a club member that makes a difference in all of their lives, and a veteran and restaurant owner. The articles are published in the club newsletter and on Facebook. The posts and photos are seen by all who like the page and see the shared posts. The articles are archived in the Fuquay-Varina Museum for long-term availability! **3 MEMBERS 42 HOURS**

**TOWN EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION LUNCHEON: Wendell Woman's Club:** Club members brought back an honored tradition: the annual Wendell Town Employees Appreciation Luncheon. With COVID coming to an end, the Wendell Woman's Club honored and thanked the Wendell Town employees for their service and ongoing commitment to the Town of Wendell. In November, the club hosted their 16th annual appreciation luncheon to express their gratitude for all that the town and its employees do for their community. **8 MEMBERS 96 HOURS \$100 DONATED \$845 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS AT THE CLUBHOUSE: The Woman's Club of Raleigh:** The November General Meeting and Luncheon hosted "Embracing Raleigh's Diversity", Claudia Velasco, the Consul General for the Mexican Consulate and Monica Colin, overseer of the health and medical sector at the Consulate as guest speakers. Members and guests were informed about the Consulate's work for the Latino community in both North and South Carolina. Women's health care in the Latino community needs improvement. On November 17th, "Embracing Raleigh's Diversity" Community Conversation was held at the clubhouse. The panelists were a diversity expert, a newly

elected public official, representatives from the Mexican Consulate and an inclusivity promoter. Printed materials were shared. Nine local media outlets, TWCR newsletter, and eFlash advertised the event. **87 MEMBERS 38 HOURS \$175 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**TOWN PUBLIC MEETINGS: Zebulon Woman's Club:** Members attend monthly Town of Zebulon public meetings to share town happenings with the club. **4 MEMBERS 96 HOURS**

**BLOOD DRIVES: Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman's Club (FVJWC):** FVJWC has been named the 2022 Biomed Partner of the Year for the American Red Cross - the highest honor for biomed service partnerships - for their efforts in arranging and encouraging blood donations. At the time of the award, FVJWC had hosted 14 drives that collected over 670 units of blood. For the 2022 year the total collected was 228 units. The average drive size has been 47 units collected per drive, which is the largest of ANY group in eastern NC. Roughly translated to helping save 76 lives in just the last year. FVJWC members gather (often with their children) to decorate signs or create shirts and assemble snacks every two months. They have had over 81 first-time donors, and their fun and festive themed experiences has the Red Cross staff regularly swapping locations to be able to attend the FVJWC drives. They proudly partner with local businesses and churches to arrange highly visible locations for the event, and encourage passersby to stop in. **16 MEMBERS 122 HOURS \$100 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**DRUG ADDICTION AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH: THE ROSE HOUSE: GFWC-South Brunswick Islands (GFWC-SBI):** GFWC-SBI President was an honored guest speaker at the Grand Open House of The Rose House, the female treatment facility of Brunswick Christian Recovery Center. It is the first and only treatment center for women in the local area. The seven-bedroom facility houses twenty women at a time through a 16-week recovery program providing them with skills needed to integrate back into the work force and return home to being wives and mothers. This club presented a \$1000 donation for operation of the facility and treatment programs as well as a "Rose Blanket" hand-made by the GFWC-SBI Sewing Committee. In addition, members had in-kind donations of a TV mount, and sheets for the residents. **53 MEMBERS 10 HOURS \$1,000 DONATED \$700 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**HUNGER PREVENTION: Greensboro Woman's Club (GWC):** The annual CROP WALK for hunger sponsored by Church World Service is a nation-wide event! Nineteen GWC members walked for a total of 39 volunteer hours. \$845.00 was donated to Church World Service by club women to fight hunger both locally and abroad. Local food banks are the greatest source of help for the hungry in the local community. Out of the Garden Project, a local food bank, has a food warehouse staffed by volunteers. Seventeen club members volunteered 42 hours at the warehouse filling back packs with food for school children to take home on the weekends. **27 MEMBERS 81 HOURS \$845 DONATED**

**GOLD STAR MOTHERS ACROSS NC: Cary, Raleigh, & Mary Stewart Woman's Clubs:** The Gold Star Mothers Dinner was held at the Sheraton Hotel in Durham in conjunction with the Purple Heart Foundation to honor the mothers of families who have lost a loved one in military service. This is the first time Gold Star Mothers from all around NC were honored as a group. Over 700 people from all over NC attended to honor them and their families. The Cary Woman's Club led the planning effort and collaborated with The Woman's Club of Raleigh and Mary Stewart Woman's Club members to assist and/or sponsor families. Several members volunteered their time, with a club member serving as project lead for planning and organizing of the program. Attendees experienced an amazing

patriotic and meaningful event recognizing those who fought for our country while honoring their families. **26 MEMBERS 360 HOURS \$385 DONATED \$619 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

## **EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES:**



**STORY WALK: Greensboro Woman’s Club (GWC):** Club members created a mobile Story Walk which featured the book *From Head to Toe* by Eric Carle. The first installation of the story was on the grounds of the local public library. Children could walk or run from page to page, reading and reacting to the story. Approximately 60 children participated during the first week of the Story Walk. GWC members then moved the portable Story Walk to more than 15 locations during the spring and summer. Children at various schools, libraries, and parks had an opportunity to take a walk and read the story independently or with their families. **20 MEMBERS 157 HOURS \$462 DONATED \$25 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**LIBRARY OUTREACH: Burlington Woman’s Club:** Club members partnered with the local public library and volunteered to support a variety of programs. Club members assisted with the local bookmobile by shelving books and helping patrons, planned and shared stories with children at the local parks, and picked up and delivered books from the public library for homebound adults. Club members also supported the bi-annual book sales for special library programs by volunteering at the events and providing refreshments. **14 MEMBERS 144 HOURS \$348 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**TEACHER GRANTS: Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman’s Club (FVJWC):** This Junior Club created an online application process for teachers to request needed classroom supplies. They partnered with two elementary schools, one middle school, two high schools, and one charter school to fulfill these needs for the educators that work so hard for the community. Thirty-one requests were submitted, and the club ordered and delivered at least one wish-list item to each teacher. Many of the requested items were related to STEM subject areas. Other notable requests included items such as an adaptable desk, pool noodles for a drama class, foreign language magazines, and bibs and aprons for a Foods and Nutrition Class. **18 MEMBERS 26 HOURS \$2,500 DONATED \$250 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**IMPORTANCE OF HOME LIBRARIES: Wake Forest Woman’s Club (WFWC):** To help increase the number of books that children have at home, WFWC sponsored a “Books for Laundromats” Program. Throughout the year, new and gently used children’s books were dropped off every other week at two area laundromats. The books were stamped with the club’s logo and placed in a special box. A sign on the box encouraged families to take home a book. Books were also donated to the Wake Forest Community Table and used as weekly giveaways at community meals. Funds were provided to purchase STEM books for families to borrow at a local community center. **24 MEMBERS 57 HOURS \$200 DONATED \$600 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**TUTORING OF AT-RISK STUDENTS: Charlotte Woman’s Club (CWC):** CWC is committed to providing caring and highly trained tutors for children whose families cannot afford to pay for private tutoring or special programs. They donated funds to a local literacy project that works to improve the reading, writing, and spelling skills of young readers in under-resourced communities. This literacy project provides readers with free, long term, one-on-one instruction from highly trained tutors. Charlotte Woman’s Club also believes that all elementary students deserve an opportunity to develop a strong foundation in math. They provided funds to sponsor math tutoring for 15

economically challenged Title I students through the Heart Math Tutoring Program. This donation will cover the costs of math manipulatives and take-home math materials used by tutors and students.

**30 MEMBERS 30 HOURS \$5,700 DONATED**

**PARTNERSHIP WITH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS: GFWC of Holden Beach:** This club partnered with a local elementary school and provided 90 kindergarten students Dr. Seuss books and snack bags to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday and to encourage literacy. They collected over 130 books from the club and community members. Additional books and snacks were distributed to two other elementary schools and at a shelter for women and children. In March, members read Dr. Seuss books to kindergarten classes. The club also supported a local middle school by providing snacks for the school's "Book Bistro" events. The purpose of the program is to encourage reading and introduce students to a variety of books. **35 MEMBERS 132 HOURS \$870 DONATED \$301 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**LET'S END PERIOD POVERTY: GFWC-NC Statesville Woman's Club (SWC):** SWC partnered with two local non-profit organizations to end period poverty in their school communities. Period poverty is defined as the unaffordability of menstruation products which negatively impacts school and work attendance. The lack of these necessary supplies for middle and high school students results in personal embarrassment, a decrease in school attendance, poor grades, and isolation from peers. As a result of this project, six middle and high schools now have red carts located in the girls' bathrooms. These locations provide supplies in a less embarrassing way for young women and decreases the need for them to visit the clinic for supplies. The club donated funds to support the project and provided supplies for the carts. SWC also submitted press releases and posted information on social media to bring awareness to the community. **25 MEMBERS 50 HOURS \$350 DONATED \$250 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**MIDDLE SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP: The Woman's Club of Raleigh (TWCR):** TWCR established a partnership with a local Title I Middle School that provides specific instruction to identified students with the goal of returning them to traditional classrooms. The club agreed to provide wish list items for the teachers and monthly award bags for teacher and student recognitions throughout the school year. They also agreed to coordinate the Interfaith Food Shuttle's mobile kitchen for a cooking demonstration at the school's Family Night. The volunteer chef cooked and served tacos to the families. Graduate school interns from a local college also presented information about a healthy diet program. **200 MEMBERS 50 HOURS \$2,065 DONATED \$30 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**SUPPLIES FOR BEGINNING TEACHERS: North Wilkesboro Woman's Club:** This club partnered with a local non-profit organization and provided supplies to 52 "first-year" teachers. It takes years for teachers to build up classroom materials and club members wanted to supply beginning teachers the items they needed to get started in their profession. They collected and distributed requested items during each nine-week grading period. The teachers were overwhelmed with gratitude for the kindness and materials. **8 MEMBERS 24 HOURS \$275 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**DIGI-BRIDGE: Charlotte Woman's Club:** The club partnered with Digi-Bridge to provide ten scholarships to middle school female students from Title I Schools to attend a three-week summer camp: "SheCanCode". Digi-Bridge aspires to create a generation of well-equipped 21st century learners and is committed to gender parity in STEM courses, majors, and careers. The camp provides

girls with experience and skills training in coding, robotics, and application development with female mentor support from local STEM companies. **30 MEMBERS 15 HOURS \$2,000 DONATED**

## ENVIRONMENT:



**CRAYON INITIATIVE: Greensboro Woman's Club (GWC):** The Greensboro Woman's Club is committed to recycling. They were intrigued when they discovered the Crayon Initiative. This is a unique nonprofit that collects unwanted crayons from restaurants, schools, and homes, then melts them down and remanufactures them for art programs at children's hospitals across the country. Five of these hospitals are in North Carolina. 19 club members distributed special collection boxes to schools, day cares, restaurants, scout groups and others. 315 pounds of used crayons were collected and shipped to Crayon Initiative. **26 MEMBERS 77 HOURS \$100 DONATED \$329 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**BOTTLES FOR BOWSER: GFWC of Holden Beach:** This club's Environment CSP collected empty pill bottles to distribute to two local animal shelters to recycle, repurpose, and keep these items out of landfills. The clean and empty pill bottles are used by these shelters to distribute medication to the animals that they service, either at the shelters or when they are sent home on medication. Collection boxes were placed at three locations in the area. Club and community members were notified about the project. Committee members created collection boxes, wrote collection notices, collected, cleaned and removed labels. 575 used pill bottles were collected and distributed, along with donations of blankets, sheets, towels, puppy pads and cans of dog food. **46 MEMBERS 37 HOURS \$235 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**LEMUR ADOPTION: Cary Woman's Club:** This club renewed their adoption of "a Grey Mouse Lemur, who lives at the Duke Lemur Center. This lemur is part of the breeding program at Duke University and participates in Alzheimer's disease research. The research is non-invasive, teaching the lemurs to respond to signals on a laptop, and recording their changing responses as they age. Since lemurs are prosimians, and close relatives of humans, the research can predict human responses to aging. Club members have also adopted lemurs to support this research. **29 MEMBERS 3 HOURS \$200 DONATED**

**POLLINATOR GARDEN: Wake Forest Woman's Club (WFWC):** Aligning with the GFWC Community Connection Initiative, "Sparkling seeds, brilliant butterflies, glamorous garden gloves" WFWC recognized the importance of pollinator gardens, which provide a natural safe habitat and food source for pollinators to help pollinate fruit and vegetables. The garden at Tyler Run Park was established in 2019 and is enjoyed by hundreds of people each year. In partnership with the Town of Wake Forest, the garden continued to thrive in 2022 attracting pollinators and curious children. The garden is maintained by the club and town providing maintenance twice a year. In May a garden clean up and planting event was held. During this event, several children and families inquired about the garden and members educated them about their importance. In October the garden was again cleaned, mulched, and weeded. **20 MEMBERS 18 HOURS \$50 DONATED \$40 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**PLAY FOR ALL....ALL FOR PLAY: Mount Airy Junior Woman's Club (MAJWC):** MAJWC secured a grant for the Mount Airy City Schools and B. H. Tharrington Parent Lighthouse Team to purchase playground equipment. The updated playground equipment will be used for ALL students with and without physical disabilities. The equipment is modern, safe, and used for recess. It also provides a

means of health and wellness for children utilizing the equipment. The school and playground are within walking distance of lower income residential rentals and is purposely in an un gated area so that the community may partake and find enjoyment in using the playground. Three club members worked to secure the \$25,000.00 grant. Installation completion expected in April 2023. **3 MEMBERS 40 HOURS \$25,000.00 DONATED**

**EARTH DAY “CLEAN THE QUAY”:** Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman’s Club (FVJWC): FVJWC traditionally celebrates Earth Day by organizing a community litter pick-up known as “Clean the Quay”. This annual event is publicized on their website, social media, and word-of-mouth. Club members picked up roadside litter to ensure waste doesn’t end up in the local watershed and creek system. Trash bags, fishing hooks, and cigarette butts were among the collected debris. FVJWC also held a social media photo “party” featuring Earth Day. Club members and their families participated in this virtual project, tagging their posts with #EarthDay and #CleantheQuay to encourage followers and friends to go outside and beautify the Earth for Earth Day. **4 MEMBERS 8 HOURS**

**LORD’S MIRACLE ACRE VEGETABLE GARDEN: GFWC-South Brunswick Islands (GFWC-SBI):** GFWC-SBI partnered with a local ministry to support local food pantries and provide a healthy addition to the non-perishables typically donated. New Beginnings Community Church established the Lord’s Miracle Acre Garden Ministry where volunteers gather and tend it as needed. Over 14,000 pounds of vegetables were raised in this garden in 2022. The vegetables were all gathered, cleaned, bagged, and delivered to local food pantries for distribution to those in need. Vegetables were also provided to the local Meals on Wheels program serving our elderly at-risk populations. GFWC-SBI donated \$1,000 and club members volunteer where needed. **53 MEMBERS 10 HOURS \$1,000 DONATED**

**BIRDS, BEES, AND BUTTERFLIES: North Wilkesboro Woman’s Club (NWWC):** NWWC participated in a fun, hands-on project beginning with a quiz about birds, bees and butterflies from Our State Magazine. The quiz provided participants with the opportunity to see how much they knew about the importance of these animals in our ecosystem. With most of the club members failing miserably, a short presentation provided information on what they could do to ensure these wonderful creatures survive, pollinate, and reproduce. Club members made bird feeders from recycled China teacups and saucers to hang in their trees at home. They also made water-dishes for butterflies that were placed around their homes. An educational, fun, and easy project! **8 MEMBERS, 12 HOURS \$75 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**RE-TREE OAKDALE CEMETERY- ARBOR DAY: Wilmington Woman’s Club:** Members of this club began saving their spare change to purchase live oak trees for planting in the fall at Oakdale Cemetery. Established in 1852 as North Carolina’s first rural cemetery, Oakdale encompasses 65 acres of land. Hurricane Florence caused severe damage and destruction to hundreds of trees and flower beds. The club purchased (8) trees and delivered them to the cemetery for planting in November. Fast growing oaks are a necessity to replace the tree mantle that provides homes for many birds and insects. Wilmington Woman’s Club has joined others from the local community as members of the Wilmington Tree Initiative to help repair the damage created over four years ago and is now a community focus. **11 MEMBERS 20 HOURS \$600 DONATED**

**RECYCLE GREETING CARD FRONTS INTO BOOKMARKS: GFWC Wake Forest High School Juniorette Woman’s Club :** During their February 16, 2022, general meeting, this club emphasized



positive traits of leadership by completing a hands-on project of recycling greeting card fronts into 100 handmade bookmarks to be offered free to customers of a local bookstore. Club members wrote inspirational words on the backs of bookmarks that had been cut from the colorful greeting card fronts. They attached yarn fringe and embellished each bookmark with markers, stickers, and a “Juniorettes Step Up, Wake Forest High School Juniette Club” label to each one to gain recognition within the community. **8 MEMBERS 4 HOURS**

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS:



**THE CARYING PLACE: Cary Woman’s Club:** This club contributed household items to The Caring Place, a local non-profit that teaches homeless, working families, life skills for attaining independent living while providing short-term housing and support services. Items donated included coffee pots, silverware, casserole dishes, bed linens, and drapes. Some club members volunteered as mentors or in other capacities. The Caring Place Director spoke at one of the general meetings to educate members on its services. Club members contributed \$795 in gift cards for groceries, gas, and gifts for the holidays. **29 MEMBERS 44 HOURS \$795 DONATED \$550 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**FIGHTING FOOD INSECURITY: Charlotte Woman’s Club:** The mission of the Uptown Farmers Market is to engage neighbors around locally grown, fresh foods to support local farmers, educate on healthy eating, and address food insecurity in the Charlotte community. The club donated \$5,000, providing \$294 weekly during the 34-week season to purchase produce for disadvantaged citizens. Seven members shopped at the Farmers Market to support it through purchases of fresh produce, pasta and baked goods. The club also supported a new food pantry for families identified by school counselors and social workers in 9 area schools. Members collected and donated canned foods and pantry basics with a value of over \$570. **30 MEMBERS 54 HOURS \$5,250 DONATED \$570 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**DENSE BREAST CANCER AWARENESS: The Woman’s Club of Raleigh (TWCR):** One in 10 women with extremely dense breast tissue have a 40% diagnosis failure rate. TWCR held a virtual roundtable discussion with the Executive Director and Founder of Dense-Breast Info.org and a breast cancer patient caregiver. Members were educated on the need for better diagnostic tools, improved education, and adequate insurance coverage for additional testing, such as MRI’s. The club plans to pursue the resolution through the District, State and National levels to address the need for more acceptable information at the time of initial imaging. The club adopted the Resolution, “Earlier Detection of Breast Cancer in Women with Dense Breasts” and submitted it to the GFWC-NC District to pursue this effort. **200 MEMBERS 25 HOURS \$102 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**KEEP THOSE LITTLE BRAINS WARM: Fuquay-Varina Woman’s Club (FVWC):** FVWC participates in the Backpack Buddies program, providing nearly 100 back packs of food items to elementary school children. Deciding that these same children may not have adequate winter accessories to stay warm, the club decided to make warm hats to “keep their little brains warm”. Instead of purchasing hats, one member held a tutorial on how to knit hats using a simple hat loom kit. Kits and yarn were purchased by members who gathered to knit together hats and friendships as they created 150 hats. Ninety-five hats were distributed in the December backpacks. Several hats were also donated to

children of migrant workers during the holidays. **8 MEMBERS 1558 HOURS \$590.50 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**HELPING FEED THOSE IN NEED: Wake Forest Woman’s Club (WFWC):** WFWC partnered with four organizations addressing food insecurity in Wake County where 10% of the population lives in poverty. Members participated with hands on activities, serving hot, nutritious meals, volunteering as an Operations Manager for the Northern Community Food Security Team, and delivering food to distribution sites. Members collected and donated over \$400 in feminine hygiene products, allowing the non-profit to divert funds to purchase additional food items. Food was delivered weekly for the Backpack Buddies program and Meals on Wheels. Information about food insecurity was posted on Facebook for awareness and education. **27 MEMBERS 350 HOURS \$1,415 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**SOUPer BOWL XIII: GFWC South Brunswick Islands (GFWC-SBI):** GFWC-SBI partnered with area potters, local restaurants, caterers, and the local newspaper for this event, raising \$13,608, with the entire proceeds distributed equally to the South Brunswick Interchurch Council Food Pantry, Brunswick Family Assistance Food Pantry, and WINGS Ministry Backpacks Full of Blessings. SOUPer Bowl XIII was held the Saturday prior to the NFL Super Bowl as a drive-through event. \$20 tickets were sold in advance and ticketholders were provided soup, bread, dessert and a handmade pottery bowl to remind them of the “Empty Bowls” in the community. Leftover soup was donated to Streetreach-HOPE for the Hopeless and to Hospice to serve family members. As part of this effort, on Friday preceding the event, an online silent auction and lunch delivery to local businesses were held. **53 MEMBERS 480 HOURS \$13,608 DONATED \$13,200 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**BACK TO SCHOOL COLLECTION FOR AIMHigh: Henderson Junior Woman’s Club (HJWC):** AIMHigh-Keep Pressing is a non-profit in Vance County that is dedicated to the culture shift of health and wellness awareness post-pandemic. In an effort to help build a stronger, healthier community, HJWC partnered with AIMHigh for a back-to-school event held at a local apartment complex. Outside play, healthy snacks, conversation about overall healthy living habits and a give-away of needed items for younger students, were part of the event. The members collected toiletry, haircare, and hygiene items, as well as new socks and underwear for elementary students. **7 MEMBERS 4 HOURS \$125 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**MEBANE TRAIL RANGERS: Mebane Woman’s Club:** The posting of a picture of a Mountains-to-Sea Trail hiker was a club initiative that became a town focus as many Mebanites were unaware that the MST passed through historic downtown Mebane. A club member contacted the Friends of the MST and inquired about the installation of trail signs and becoming a trail town. This resulted in the birth of Mebane Trail Rangers, supporting, and maintaining 8 trails in Mebane, in addition to the MST. The Mebane Woman’s Club initiative has grown into a community club, open to all, with a commitment to Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. Five members of the club were instrumental in starting the Mebane Trail Rangers, with support and participation expanding to all members through monthly meetings, leading hikes and presentations, and fundraising. **12 MEMBERS 600 HOURS \$2,567 DONATED**

**BRA-HA-HA: Camden Woman’s Club:** The club participated in the Chesapeake Regional Hospital’s annual Bra-Ha-Ha event, an “uplifting” campaign to help provide breast cancer services to eligible uninsured and under-insured women. The event celebrates survivorship and artistry. The club’s entry, one of 48 participants was entitled “From the Mountains to the Sea” honoring the GFWC-NC

President's Special Project. They decorated a 38-C bra with items that represented the NC mountains, the ocean and the outdoors. The entries were posted on Facebook and the public could pay \$1 per vote to pick their favorite. Bras were displayed for a week, prior to the awards gala, attended by 9 members. **9 MEMBERS 80 HOURS \$ 555 DONATED \$255 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**FEMININE HYGIENE DRIVE: Fuquay-Varina High School Juniores:** Due to a policy change at school, Juniores members saw a need for feminine hygiene items in the school's bathrooms. FVJWC assisted with the collection of feminine hygiene products at a club meeting. Together the clubs collected \$100 of tampons, pads, and panty liners. The Juniores maintain a basket in several school bathrooms to provide a safe and discreet solution to needs that may arise. **11 MEMBERS 20 HOURS \$100 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

## ADVANCEMENT PLANS

### COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS:



**SUBURBAN LIVING ARTICLE EFFECTIVENESS: Fuquay-Varina Woman's Club:** Suburban Living is the local magazine for our community that is mailed to every household in Fuquay-Varina quarterly. Several club members were interviewed for an article in the Hometown Heroes section. The article contains the Collect for Clubwomen with a photo of our newly inducted board members. It also includes a photo of our clubhouse and a photo of five members working on a project. The article was a great success and brought an increase in web traffic, an increase in followers on Facebook, and it garnered a few new members and visitors that read the article and thought they would love us, too! With the readership being our target market of the Fuquay-Varina area, it gave a basic education to our fast-growing community covering who we are and what we do, giving great information and an inside view of our amazing club. **61 MEMBERS 12 HOURS**

**USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA: The Charlotte Woman's Club:** Social media has become a part of everyone's existence. We use social media to announce our upcoming events and post pics of socials, project and meetings. For example, in the month of November, we posted photos of our members recycling in celebration of National Recycling Day. We posted our Junior members at Junior Fun Day at the Innovation Barn. We posted members fitting children for new shoes at a recent Shoe Closet trip. We've also received "shout outs" from other social media sites for the work we have from projects like collecting items for domestic violence awareness or animal rehabilitation. Having a presence on social media saves a club from investing hundreds or even thousands of dollars distributing pamphlets only to announce they exist. The Charlotte Woman's Club has assigned a dedicated member to keep up with and post on our social media sites. **39 MEMBERS 15 HOURS**

**PRIVATE PAGE ON CLUB WEBSITE: Sedgefield Woman's Club:** The club has a tab that is password protected because it is only for club members. Members can view past meeting minutes, read the GFWC-NC club magazine, and find tools they need such as the club's roster, bylaws and standing rules, Zoom links for meetings, budget information, and club history. The "new member application" is housed there which is used by members to recruit new members. Having these applications available online has encouraged current members to recruit new members. Housing these member resources online saved nearly \$1,000 in annual printing costs. **123 MEMBERS 100 HOURS**

**ZOOM MEETING: GFWC Cape Fear Woman's Club:** It was apparent in February that we should not come together for a meeting. Covid was rampant. For our second meeting, we held our meeting via ZOOM. We quickly put together the invitation and discovered several members had never used ZOOM before. We made sure the directions were easy to follow. Our parliamentarian also put together best practices for meetings using ZOOM. These policies included muting, raising your hand to be recognized, etc. Our speaker, Randy Creech from Boys and Girls Home, was grateful that he could join us from his office. **12 MEMBERS 11 HOURS**

**MEMBERSHIP STRATEGIES-PROMOTIONS-VISIBILITY & IMPACT: Cary Woman's Club:** This club manages and maintains a public Pollinator Garden at the entrance to their meeting space, the Page-Walker Arts & History Center. Each August the town hosts the Lazy Daze Arts & Crafts Festival, attended by 50,000-60,000 people. These clubwomen host an exhibit at the garden during the festival and this serves as promotion for the club and is a great membership recruitment tool. **29 MEMBERS 114 HOURS**

**DAILY ADVANCE ARTICLE: Camden Woman's Club:** Camden Woman's Club had four pieces in the Daily Advance. These include: an interview with one of our newest club members on why she joined and what the club means to her; a full page ad for our annual fundraiser, Holly Days; an article published after Holly Days showcasing the success of the show and the club; and a write up about the District 9 Fall Meeting that included an interview with GFWC-NC President Kim Fulcher and a photo of club member & District President Donna Harrell presenting President Fulcher with our club's decorated bra that was entered in the community's Bra-Ha-Ha supporting breast cancer awareness and free mammograms for the uninsured. **38 MEMBERS 4 HOURS**

**BRUNSWICK MAGAZINE EFFECTIVENESS: Cape Fear Woman's Club:** In March, a press release was drafted and sent to a local community publication, the North Brunswick Magazine. The GFWC press release template was used. An article appeared on the magazine's blog. As a result, we had inquiries from six prospective members. Four attended the next meeting. **12 MEMBERS 2 HOURS**

**COMMUNITY VISIBILITY: GFWC of Holden Beach:** Printed Thank You cards (blank inside), were used for handwritten notes to over 200 donors and sponsors of the 2022 "Blooming for a Cause" Charity Gala and throughout the year. **46 MEMBERS 200 HOURS**

**YEARBOOKS: The Woman's Club of Raleigh:** Yearbooks are distributed to members at the September meeting. This is a massive undertaking that begins in June for printing in August. Sponsors are sought, Board of Directors, CSP Chairpersons, and other committees join forces to plan out the forthcoming year's calendar. Members' pictures and names, addresses, birthday are listed. The seven sections are, Leadership, Financial, Governance, Calendar, CSPs Membership and Sponsors. GFWC information is included with leadership information and featured projects and programs. The calendar lists events from September to August. Members deliver the Yearbooks to members unable to pick them up. **230 MEMBERS 1500 HOURS**

**CLUB LOGO T-SHIRTS: Greensboro Woman's Club:** A few years ago, one club member designed a T-Shirt with the club's name and logo. Each year, new members can order a shirt. Often old members order new shirts or additional shirts. It's fun to have various styles to wear depending on the weather! Some members get multiple styles. This year 12 new shirts were ordered. All members are encouraged to wear the shirts when participating in community projects, thus helping to identify our

organization to the community. Over 60 % of our members have purchased at least one shirt. **80 MEMBERS 10 HOURS \$60 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

## **FUNDRAISING AND DEVELOPMENT:**



**CHARITY BALL:** The Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman’s Club held its annual Charity Ball with the theme of “Once Upon a Time.” The 300 guests enjoyed a buffet dinner and danced to music performed by a local band. “Princess Aurora” and “Maleficent” welcomed guests. Emi’s Enchanted Events, LLC, a non-profit organization providing party expenses for families of children with disabilities, sponsored this appearance. The funds raised were earmarked for the club’s annual night of giving event. Many organizations near and far will be blessed with donations. This Charity Ball, refined and perfected each year, continues to be an event that the community seeks to kick-off the holiday season. **28 MEMBERS 213 HOURS \$22,485 DOLLARS RAISED**

**MYSTERY DINNER THEATRE:** With this new event being held at The Woman’s Club of Clayton’s clubhouse and with members cooking, great profits were yielded. The house was packed, and many people complimented the delicious baked casseroles, breads, salads, and drinks. The event was advertised on local blog sites, Facebook, subdivision newsletters, Nextdoor, and on signs put up around the community. The Clayton High School Drama Club partnered with the club and performed the mystery show for the night’s performance. Parents attending the event had a great time watching and admiring the theatrical performance. A list of past and present club projects to showcase the club’s service to the community was provided. **12 MEMBERS 20 HOURS \$1,041 DOLLARS RAISED**

**FALL FESTIVAL:** The Outer Banks Woman’s Club changed the annual Arts and Crafts Fair to a “Fall Festival” community event. Vendors remained a big part of the event and expansion included community-based non-profit organizations. Three local health care venues provided free COVID tests, flu shots and blood pressure checks. Adult and children’s books were sold to focus on literacy. The Parks and Recreation Department provided activities for children which included an obstacle course, bounce house and hayride. Attendees had the opportunity to paint part of a butterfly mural on the grounds. Local musicians entertained attendees. Local high school students enrolled in a program of first-generation college attendance served as volunteers. Recycling efforts were promoted as unwanted household items were a part of an upscale garage sale. **60 MEMBERS 730 HOURS \$8,925 DOLLARS RAISED**

**THE QUILT RAFFLE:** This Greensboro Woman’s Club project began as an environment recycling project. Members collected old neckties and donated them to Prairie Moon Quilts. One of the quilts created from the donated neckties was donated back to the club. The club raffled this beautiful quilt to raise funds. One member spent 30 hours setting up an on-line raffle page to tabulate ticket sales and coordinate with other members who sold tickets. The raffle was advertised on the club’s Facebook page providing information about the quilt to other GFWC-NC Clubs. **21 MEMBERS 7 HOURS \$3,940 DOLLARS RAISED**

**FALL SIP-N- SHOP:** The Henderson Junior Woman’s Club has never shied away from collaborating with local businesses to fundraise. Hosting a Fall shopping event, known as the “Sip-n-Shop” in the downtown district allows the venue the opportunity to publicize services within the community. An open bar to purchase beverages and snacks highlighted the “Sip-n-Shop.” Extensive advertising

secured thirty-one participating vendors. It was a great opportunity to advertise the business to the public. **10 MEMBERS 24 HOURS \$1,200 DOLLARS RAISED**

**GERANIUM SALE: The Statesville Woman's Club** annual geranium sale is highly anticipated by the community. The flower colors are selected by the geranium committee chairmen and advertised via email, flyers, Facebook, and in the local newspaper. Every year, club members plant 16 flats of geraniums at the Iredell Hospital, Dove House, My Sister's House, and Hospice House. The community is impacted by the beautification brought by the flowers. Bonds were strengthened, good will was created. Club members build confidence in leadership, communication, and salesmanship as well as gain insight into club history. Club member camaraderie is bolstered by the three-day event, which requires many hands and feet to execute. **23 MEMBERS 152 HOURS \$8,456 DOLLARS RAISED**

**JULEPS AND JAZZ: GFWC-South Brunswick Islands** held their 7th in-person Kentucky Derby style "Fundracers" and hosted 200 guests at this year's event. A silent auction filled the perimeter, representing 53 sponsors, accompanied by a live auction and on-line "Derby Spirits" raffle were event highlights. A live jazz band, derby attire, derby raffle and hat contests were featured. Heavy hors d'oeuvres including horse shaped sugar cookies and bourbon balls were enjoyed. The famous "Jazzy Juleps" beverage, along with a Bourbon bar, beer, wine, and non-alcoholic beverages were available. The selfie photo booth was a favorite and added to participant's enjoyment. The live steaming of the Kentucky Derby, 50/50 raffle, and Derby Horse Raffle complete with Win-Show-Place prizes added to the excitement. **53 MEMBERS 520 HOURS \$52,322 DOLLARS RAISED**

**A PAINTER'S PALATE: GFWC of Holden Beach** clubwomen had the opportunity to showcase their artistic talents under the guidance of a local artist who donated materials as well as her time to lead a 2-hour guided class. The project was promoted at club meetings and in club email blasts. A club photo of the project completion was featured in the club newsletter. With the funds raised, club member "shoppers" completed the wish lists for a grandmother and her two grandchildren, an 8-year-old girl and a 10-year-old boy by buying clothing and toys. In addition, the painters enjoyed unleashing their inner Picasso and all took home a masterpiece! **10 MEMBERS 30 HOURS \$290 DOLLARS RAISED**

**HOLLY DAYS: Camden Woman's Club** held its 35th Holly Days craft and gift show featuring 70 booths with items including pottery, wreaths, jewelry, goats milk soap, original art, and numerous other handmade products including giftware and clothing. Three food trucks offered lunch and snacks for the more than 1,200 people in attendance. A donated metal chiminea was raffled off. A pharmacist provided flu shots to shoppers. The club hosted a booth selling Rada Cutlery and Happy Home Flavoring. Shoppers who brought canned goods received \$1 off the admission price yielding four hundred cans of food donated to the Camden Food Pantry. The club's Holly Days planning for the coming year has already begun. **20 MEMBERS 276 HOURS \$14,949 DOLLARS RAISED**

**CHRISTMAS HOME TOUR: Fuquay Varina Woman's Club** hosted a Christmas Home Tour in the historic district. Early planning yielded 10 homes all within walking distance of one another offering lots of distinct charm. Club members printed tickets, made signs and thank you cards for the homeowners and hosted a reception party for the homeowners. Club members partnered with local businesses and advertised on Facebook and on the club's web page. Featured homes included a Bed and Breakfast, a large ornate home built in the 1920's, craftsman style homes from the 1930's and a

new condominium. Homeowners offered cider, coffee and snacks to visitors. Each home had a docent who provided background on the home. As visitors meandered up and down the streets, a group of carolers strolled singing carols. **38 MEMBERS 515 HOURS \$5,630 DOLLARS RAISED**

## LEADERSHIP:

**DISTRICT MEETINGS: Camden Woman's Club:** This club is always well represented at District 9 meetings: Arts Festivals, Fall Meetings, and Executive Board meetings. District 9 encompasses Camden, Pasquotank, Gates, Perquimans, Chowan, and Dare Counties with seven clubs in total. With Camden being centrally located, it is approximately a 90-minute drive in any direction. In 2022, our club was honored to have four members serving on the Executive Board as President, 1st Vice President, Treasurer, and Chaplin. **8 MEMBERS 30 HOURS**



**A NEW CLUB SERVING THE COMMUNITY: GFWC Cape Fear Woman's Club (CFWC):** CFWC is a new club formed in 2022 with 12 new members. Three members have previous club experience. The remaining members are new to our Federation. As a brand-new club, Cape Fear in 2022 performed 32 projects offering 624 volunteer hours. **Cape Fear donated \$782 and \$1,200 in In-Kind donations. 12 MEMBERS 624 HOURS**

**PICK A CARD...ANY CARD: GFWC of Holden Beach:** The Past Presidents' Committee, formed in 2021, charged its members to promote leadership ideas and suggestions to create a strong bond of support to club members and to work together to model GFWC practices and philosophies for their membership. To further their effort to lead by example, the Past Presidents' Committee organized a service project in which they asked members to repurpose all occasion cards as thank you cards for service men and women, librarians, firemen, to-go grocery pick-up workers and other essential workers during the COVID -19 Pandemic. In addition, the committee provided monthly cards to their members ensuring that they felt valued as part of their club. **46 MEMBERS 121 HOURS \$395 SPENT**

**OPERATION INSTALLATION: Mary Stewart Woman's Club:** This club formed a committee to support the club member who is the GFWC-NC President-elect. The committee met, planned, organized, and executed the activities and club obligations of the 2022 GFWC-NC installation, reception, and other ongoing needs. **14 MEMBERS 114 HOURS \$1,503 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**GFWC-NC LEADS: GFWC South Brunswick Islands (GFWC-SBI)** continues to support and participate in the GFWC-NC LEADS Program. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the LEADS seminar was moved to a virtual meeting in January 2022. All presentations were done via ZOOM. A GFWC-SBI club member serves as a member of the GFWC-NC LEADS Committee. She served as a facilitator and presenter at the LEADS seminar. In 2022, the GFWC-NC LEADS forum expanded to include additional attendees. While not attending as a District representative, GFWC-SBI had one member attend the virtual LEADS seminar in January. **2 MEMBERS 32 HOURS**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BOD) LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT: Statesville Woman's Club:** For the Statesville Woman's Club, leadership training began before their term started via an enjoyable BOD retreat. Nine board members met in August to review the current situation of the Statesville Woman's Club, foster relationships, and create goals for the coming term of office. They participated in a 30-minute zoom workshop conducted by GFWC-NC Leadership co-chair Christy Frisbee where she outlined strategies for optimizing the effectiveness of board meetings. Additionally, the retreat

focused on various topics: membership retention and recruitment, planning the preservation capital campaign to preserve the clubhouse which kicked off the club celebrating the 95th anniversary of the home's purchase. **11 MEMBERS 551 HOURS \$400 SPENT**

**ENCOURAGING FEDERATION INVOLVEMENT: GFWC Triad Woman's Club:** The development and support of leaders is critical in maintaining a strong sense of leadership as well as retaining members in these roles. Since this club is going into its 3rd year, the two long-standing Federation members are constantly encouraging the other 3 members to chair a project, help with fundraising and to hopefully become an officer in the future. We encourage them to get involved not only on the Local level, but on the District and State level by attending events so they will understand more about our Federation and the work we do. We give our members as much information about the Federation as we can, at every chance we get, and are always bringing back information to the club that we have learned at the District, State, and international events. We encourage our members to receive the GFWC Clubwoman Magazine so they will learn more about the Federation and how our club fits in the big picture. **5 MEMBERS 50 HOURS**

**COMMUNITY MATTERS FOR STRONG WOMEN: Fuquay Varina Woman's Club (FVWC):** FVWC believes that community matters, and they know they are strong women offering leadership in their community! Club leadership has made a conscious decision to reach out to our community and take part in a myriad of ways. We have a club member that ran and is now a town commissioner. She is a member from her youth and acts as a liaison between the club and the town on matters that we feel need addressing. We have numerous members that gather to work for the Fuquay-Varina Museums and are on the Board. Members that are on Committees, Chairs, Boards, and are Representatives for churches, schools, colleges, Rotary, American Legion, and the Downtown Main Street Program. We also have business owners and leaders in our club. **28 MEMBERS 2,322 HOURS**

**VALUING CLUB IMPACT AND 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. It is no wonder preserving this impressive and important history is significant to their club. When their club house was sold, they knew they wanted to save historic publications, photos and artifacts. They rented a storage unit to house these items and keep them safe and preserved for future generations. So, celebrating their 120th Anniversary was a year-long event! Their members joined them in honoring the past and to prepare for the future. **30 MEMBERS 41 HOURS \$962 SPENT**

**THE GREEN SHEET: The Woman's Club of Raleigh (TWCR):** TWCR utilizes a simple tool known as the "green sheet" or their Areas of Interest form used by all members and is particularly helpful with identifying the skills and interests of new members. Major projects of all Community Service Programs and Standing Committees such as meetings, finance, fundraising and communications, are found on the form. It provides members the opportunity to indicate specific skills and interests such as accounting and auditing, crafting, event planning, database management, mentoring, social media and technology skills, and serving in leadership positions. A committee was tasked with updating the form which was done via ZOOM and email. Revisions were made and projects were aligned with the most appropriate CSP. It was noted that Project Chairmen should be able to explain



activities and volunteer roles and responsibilities. For instance, the Arts and Culture Chairman should be able to explain the difference between a NC Museum of Art volunteer and a docent. The revised form was submitted to TWCR Board of Directors for approval. Members are encouraged to complete the form when they join the club and when they renew their annual membership. The information members provide is very useful to club leaders and committee chairmen as they recruit members to assist with projects and serve in leadership positions. **16 MEMBERS 20 HOURS**

## LEGISLATION AND PUBLIC POLICY:



### LEGISLATION AND PUBLIC POLICY AT GENERAL AND DISTRICT MEETINGS:

**GFWC-South Brunswick Islands:** GFWC-NC Legislation and Public Policy Chairman is a member of GFWC-SBI. At monthly meetings, the steps to enroll in the GFWC Legislative Action Center were provided and members were encouraged to visit the site to remain updated and to act on all alerts. Prior to voting, the Chairman promoted the importance of voting in the upcoming election to make sure your voice was heard. The 2022 General Election Guide from the Brunswick County Board of Elections was provided to members. **53 MEMBERS 10 HOURS**

**YOUR OPINION MATTERS: GFWC of Holden Beach:** This club's October meeting featured GFWC and GFWC-NC Legislation and Public Policy Chairmen. The GFWC Chairman presented statistics and information on the recent midterm elections, including statistics on the number of women elected to positions across the country, states that had abortion issues on the ballot and bills that will be coming up for votes this session. The GFWC-NC Chairman presented her tri-fold display which highlighted all of the Legislation actions. Following an explanation of the purpose of the GFWC Legislative Action Center (LAC), all members were asked use their smartphones to enroll and check alerts. Once enrolled, all thirty-three members present took action on the four of the most recent alerts, each involving contact with three elected officials. Two NC Senators and one House of Representatives Member received 33 letters on each of the four different issues for a total of 363 contacts. It was emphasized to the members that these actions were all completed in less than 10 minutes because of the GFWC LAC. Following the meeting, every member received a response from one Senator on each issue for a total of 132 responses received on these actions. **33 MEMBERS 25 HOURS**

**MOBILIZE TO IMMUNIZE: The Mary Stewart Woman's Club** members maintain their connection to the GFWC Legislative Action Center alert project to keep members up to date on public policy and legislative issues needing attention. All club members are signed up through the GFWC website to receive the alerts. The club sent an additional email in 2022 to promote engagement in support of the Mobilize to Immunize campaign. **14 MEMBERS 14 HOURS**

**VOTER REMINDER POSTCARDS: Cary Woman's Club:** As this was an election year, club members, with the help of some members from District VI, sent individual hand-written nonpartisan postcards to occasional voters reminding them to vote in the election. Over 200 postcards were written, stamped, and mailed about two weeks before the November 2022 election. One member paid for the stamps. Club members hope their reminders helped to encourage more people to exercise their right and responsibility to vote in the election, which featured a large turnout. **16 MEMBERS 51 HOURS \$84 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**ELECTED OFFICIAL- GUEST SPEAKER: Cape Fear Woman's Club:** The GFWC Cape Fear Woman's Club is a new club formed in 2022 with 12 new members. Three members have previous club experience. The remaining members are new to our Federation. At their first meeting (January 2022), the Mayor of Leland, North Carolina was their guest speaker. Brenda Bozeman shared with members the current state of the fastest growing community in North Carolina. She also talked about future development. She stayed for the entire meeting and was impressed with the organization and the club. **12 MEMBERS 6 HOURS**

**FLAG DAY PROGRAM: GFWC Triad Woman's Club:** During the June meeting, the FWC Triad Woman's Club held a program on Flag Day, which is celebrated on June 14th . Facts about Flag Day were presented and the importance of keeping our flag sacred. **5 MEMBERS 3 HOURS**

**VOTER INFORMATION AND DEMOCRACY QUIZ: GFWC of Holden Beach:** In preparation for the mid-term election season, this club collected information from the Brunswick County Board of Elections and provided it to the members at the October meeting. Information included but was not limited to the 2022 General Election Guide, and an Early Voting Schedule. To encourage club members to vote, articles appeared in the October and November issues of the club's digital monthly newsletter and was reported at club meetings. As an incentive, the fun and tricky North Carolina Democracy Quiz was in the October newsletter and all members were encouraged to take it. The answers were distributed and reviewed at the November meeting and published in the newsletter. Members were engaged by the interesting topics covered in the Quiz. For example, did you know that Election Day is NOT always the first Tuesday in November? Or that you can track your mail-in ballot on-line to confirm that it has been received and counted? One more detail discovered while researching the project was in the event of a tie vote in the County, the winner is determined by the flip of a coin! **46 MEMBERS 5 HOURS**

**REFUGEE SUPPORT SERVICES: Charlotte Woman's Club:** Currently, Charlotte is home to over 17,000 refugees and former refugees from all around the world. Most recently, Charlotte has been receiving the most refugees from countries such as Nepal, Burma (currently called Myanmar), African nations, and Syria. Reading and understanding mail, making telephone calls to solve issues or make an appointment, completing government forms, and understanding bills and payment options are all things can be overwhelming for someone new to America. Refugee Support Services teaches self-sufficiency skills to refugees, empowering them to thrive in American society. Refugee Support Services has benefitted from a \$5,000.00 donation from The Charlotte Woman's Club. The money has been used to support the Refugee Family Help Center, specifically the women's activities that include healthcare screenings, food distribution, and volunteer training. Their mentoring program facilitates connections between the refugees and local community members. In addition to helping the refugees, they also educate Americans about refugees and the refugee population. **30 MEMBERS 15 HOURS \$5,000 DONATED**

**GENERAL MEETING SPEAKER: Cary Woman's Club:** The speaker at the April General meeting was Phil Kirk, a public servant who has served in many roles in state government. Mr. Kirk told interesting stories about "The Ten NC Governors I Have Known," with humorous insights, as well as observations from the inside of government, about Governors Sanford through Cooper, spanning the years 1961-2022. **26 MEMBERS 13 HOURS**

**“FOR NOW, AND FOREVER, OUR COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY”:** Fuquay- Varina Woman’s Club (FVWC): Members of this club engaged in supporting the preservation of their town’s History Museum. Numerous club yearbooks and other artifacts are stored and displayed at the Museum. Club members voted unanimously to advocate for the protection and expansion efforts of the museum in its downtown location if possible. Several members of FVWC have become affiliated with the Friends of the Museum through memberships, donations, volunteer hours, and marketing. Members invited town government officials to club meetings and events to promote their desire to partner with the Town in the preservation of the museum given expected future growth and revitalization efforts. Given the status of the museum may be in jeopardy, FVWC members are preparing a task force to devise and distribute a petition advocating awareness and support in utilizing and protecting their town’s History Museum. **61 MEMBERS 300 HOURS \$469 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

## MEMBERSHIP:

**CONNECT SOCIAL:** Fuquay-Varina Woman’s Club (FVWC) planned and organized their 1st Connect Social at the Fuquay-Varina Art and Cultural Center for current and potential members who had been “cultivated” to reconnect after summer break. They invited chairpersons from Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman’s Club for fellowship and an opportunity to discuss connecting and fundraisers. The members provided refreshments, made informative posters and banners, developed a team building game, provided raffle prizes, and both Presidents shared announcements about events and goals for the year. This CONNECT was also intended to help cultivate the Juniors who would soon be transitioning to FVWC as they age out of Junior clubs. They enjoyed the relationship and invited the club to their two socials to continue the team building and fellowship. **54 Members 111 hours \$135 Dollars Spent \$292 In-kind Donations**



**KNOWLEDGE IS POWER: GFWC of Holden Beach:** Knowledge is Power was a new idea introduced in 2022 for members and guests to learn in a more intimate setting. These effective 15-minute sessions before each monthly meeting cover topics from GFWC to GFWC-NC to the local club and are led by a member who is the “expert.” Topics discussed in 2022 included the “Blooming for a Cause” Charity Gala, our biggest fundraiser; Hope Harbor Home and Providence Home, Gala beneficiaries; GFWC Legislative Action Alerts, the Little Free Library Program, ESO Program, and GFWC Signature Project. Each presentation includes a brief overview and history and allows time for questions and answers. Orientations can be overwhelming, and programs change so the sessions are both a great introduction and refresher of all things GFWC for all club members. Knowledge is Power! **46 Members 30 hours \$0 Dollars Spent**

**“MARY MEMBER” INITIATIVE - A “MARY MEMBER” TRI-FOLD BOARD: North Carolina Sorosis:** This club created a tri-fold board featuring colorful Mary Member as the guide to be used at each of the presentations. In February, each member was presented with a small bag containing a poem entitled “Rock with NC Sorosis.” and a colorful smiling face pebble. The project was to encourage members to find a friend, be a friend, and encourage friends. In March, the presentation was a Mary Member Survival Kit - a gift of a peppermint patty, pack of tissues, a penny, and a life saver with explanations of how each of these items can be used to recognize individual value, commitment, and club involvement. In April, a humorous skit entitled “You’re My Cup of Tea” was performed by the

Membership Committee. The theme was that each of us has unique needs, strengths, and ideas. It has been a positive tool, encouraging involvement. **45 Members 203 Hours \$135 In-kind Donations**

**“QUILT” AN INITIATIVE! Wake Forest Woman’s Club:** To commemorate their 60th Anniversary, the club created a memory quilt because it represented togetherness, and their commitment to the people of Wake Forest. It was designed with bright and colorful 8” squares, and alternate white squares. Every woman who was a club member during our anniversary year is on the quilt represented by a white fabric square with her hand outline and her name. These 47 members’ squares were hand embroidered during the year. The center of the blanket was highlighted by squares with iron-on images of District VI, GFWC-NC and GFWC. Members gathered at a local shop to quilt the blanket layers together. At the April meeting they invited everyone to bring in something that represented their personal artistic expression. Sewn items, dancing shoes, photographs, and more were on display. This was the first time they were together to see the completed quilt. It is a source of great happiness and a reminder of their dedication. **43 Members 130 Hours \$90 In-kind Donations**

**BUSY BEE: Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman’s Club** introduced “The Busy Bee”, a festive spirit stick that is awarded each month to celebrate the clubwoman who has been especially “busy” in support of the club. The woman awarded is acknowledged for her dedication in front of the club and keeps Busy Bee until the following meeting where it gets awarded again. Each woman also gets to keep a keychain of Busy Bee as a reminder of the club’s appreciation of their efforts. The Busy Bee materials were selected with purpose. They reflect the Fuquay-Varina Junior Women’s Club and community and include a black and orange tiger print for the Fuquay Bengals (town and high school mascot), a wooden star with a nail, highlighting the inner strength of a woman, and a string of rhinestones, because members bring such sparkle to the club and community. It’s become quite popular with club members’ children! Mothers in the club share their accomplishments, and the importance of teamwork and volunteering. **32 Members 3 Hours \$25 In-Kind Donations**

**WHAT IS MORE SPECIAL THAN YOUR BIRTHDAY?: The Woman’s Club of Raleigh** has over 225 members. Being a member of a large club has advantages and disadvantages. An advantage is the variety of activities. The most challenging disadvantage is not knowing the members, so the membership team designed a birthday celebration to not only celebrate members’ birthdays but to help them get to know one another. A database of member birthdays was created, and birthdays are now listed in the club’s yearbook and published in the newsletter. A Jaquie Lawson subscription for ecards was purchased for personalized Happy Birthday ecards. Many thank you responses have been sent back with positive sentiments such as, “It is so nice to be remembered.” Before each meeting, members’ birthdays are celebrated with candles, napkins, and beautifully decorated, superbly delicious, homemade cupcakes. New members mingle and long-time members share club memories and history. The club believes that this special recognition is vital for a large club to remain strong and viable. **165 Members 74 Hours \$235 In-kind Donations**

**RETENTION AND UBER ENGAGEMENT: GFWC Statesville Woman’s Club:** Each year our members look forward to a unique Christmas luncheon. This year featured an exceptional performance by a relatively new member who led the crowd with her magical voice, singing Christmas Carols and leading “The Twelve Days of Christmas” and “We Wish You a Merry Christmas.” She was the winner of the “Circle of Giving’s” 2022 Finest competition. To honor diversity and foster expressions of

cultural differences, the lunch concluded with an ornament exchange. It was the perfect activity to socialize and get to know one another better and the two guests who participated. While clean-up is mundane, it gave members one last opportunity to bid warm holiday cheer and wishes for a happy new year. Some members cannot drive, so they added “Uber Anyone?” as a component of their retention program to provide rides to and from events. It increased participation at the luncheon and during the year. It was used 15 times during the year! **25 Members 179 Hours \$1,365 Dollars Spent**

**KEEPING MEMBERS HAPPY AND INVOLVED: Charlotte Woman’s Club** values the time of their busy members by trying their best to limit meetings to one hour, realizing this is the “sweet spot” for attention and interest. They also believe that a personal touch keeps members connected, so prior to each meeting they have social time. This half-hour gives members time to catch up and meet any guests. At the Annual Celebration meeting in May, they include more social time for a sit-down dinner. Also, the Chaplain reports any member concerns or highlights at the meeting. It might have been as sad as a member losing a parent or as celebratory as a new grandchild. The approach is working because nearly 80% of their members attend our meetings. **30 Members 76 Hours \$570 In-kind Donations**

**PROSECCO AND POSSIBILITIES: GFWC Cape Fear Woman’s Club** decided to take a definitive approach to recruit new members. They voted to hold a fun prospective member event in August called “Prosecco and Possibilities”. They applied for the GFWC Membership Grant and received \$50 towards the event. They prepared an e-mail invitation, and members were asked to send the invitation to a friend. The GFWC-NC President-elect was invited and attended as well. Members brought an appetizer to share. Guests were given a packet of information that included a GFWC pamphlet. Their 12 members attended and 2 guests, who completed applications which resulted in a 16% increase in Membership! **12 Members 24 hours, \$100 in in-kind donations**

**GFWC MEMBERSHIP GRANT: Southwest Guilford Woman’s Club** - The club applied for a GFWC Membership Grant to sponsor the Sherlock 5K Run/Walk in support of a local breast cancer center promoting free early detection. The club has a history of involvement with the center, providing comfort for individuals receiving treatments. In the spirit of Friendsgiving, this event was the perfect opportunity to continue to increase awareness of the club, thank supporters and partners, and focus on membership. To begin, they sponsored a table at \$50 and developed information cards with details about the Club and GFWC. They made a trifold display with pictures of their community service projects. Members directed runners and assisted with set-up and clean up. The event was well attended and received local television coverage. Visitors were impressed by the club’s service, took information, and expressed an interest in joining the club. **24 Members 33 Hours \$70 Dollars Spent**

## **WOMEN’S HISTORY AND RESOURCE CENTER:**

**GFWC HISTORY AND COMMUNITY SERVICE – FEDERATION DAY: Wake Forest Woman’s Club (WFWC)** hosted their Federation Day Potluck Brunch (April 30th) where decorations included handmade koala refrigerator magnets: “You’re a Koala-T Volunteer.” (5) floral centerpieces in Federation colors with the Unity in Diversity logo on their candles, graced the dining tables. The welcome included an overview of the forming of the GFWC. For entertainment members presented



an original and informative skit about GFWC history using historical facts from [www.gfwc.org](http://www.gfwc.org). Their collaborative service project with the GFWC Wake Forest High School Juniorette Woman's Club was to complete (20) "Birthday Bags" that WFWC members would fill with cake mixes, frosting, sprinkles, birthday candles, and sets of children's birthday plates and napkins. Juniorettes artfully decorated white paper tote bags with Happy Birthday collages. Members delivered the Birthday Bags to the local Wake Forest Tri-Area Ministry Food Pantry for distribution to area families. **20 MEMBERS 134 HOURS \$100 DONATED \$170 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**FEDERATION DAY: Zebulon Woman's Club:** This club held a Federation Day Celebration at their April club meeting and invited Wake Forest and Wendell Clubs to the event. Opening ceremony included the lighting of a memorial candle, pledge to the Flag of the United States of America, and salute to the Flag of North Carolina. GFWC-NC District 6 President was the guest speaker. She delivered an enjoyable and informative message on "What is Woman's Club?" A birthday cake was served paying tribute to Zebulon Woman's Club joining the Federation in 1924. **17 MEMBERS 44 HOURS \$30 SPENT**

**HONORING CITY FIRE FIGHTERS: Wilmington Woman's Club (WWC):** (24) WWC members honored the firefighters at (8) fire stations in Wilmington on April 22nd. A large variety of baked goods (6 cakes, 5 trays of brownies and lemon bars, 57 dozen cookies, and 3½ dozen muffins and pastries), along with apples and oranges, were delivered to each of the designated stations. Members visiting each fire station were warmly welcomed by the firefighters who expressed their appreciation for this special recognition. **24 MEMBERS 108 HOURS \$467 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**WOMEN IN HISTORY: GFWC Triad Woman's Club:** The March Meeting focused on Women's History and International Woman's Day. Members spotlighted important women in history, important women in their lives and learned about the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion. The "Six Triple Eight" was an all black battalion of the Women's Army Corps with 855 black women, enlisted and officers. It was the only all-black, all-female battalion sent overseas during World War II. Due to a shortage of soldiers to manage the postal service for the U.S. Army overseas, these women were sent through basic training and then overseas to handle the postal mail issues and backlog. 17 million items were the estimated backlog for which the "Six Triple Eight" devised their own system for handling. There was no public recognition of their service until 2009. **5 MEMBERS 10 HOURS**

**FEDERATION DAY: The Woman's Club of Raleigh (TWCR):** With a strong Federation history, TWCR membership includes past District and GFWC-NC presidents, as well as past GFWC International President Juanita Bryant. The April general meeting's focus was a Federation Day celebration with emphasis on connections. New members were inducted, and a special cake was shared in their honor. A recent LEADS graduate led an activity that was based on Federation connections. Her introduction included "A federation is a group within which smaller divisions have some degree of autonomy. That is one of the great things about our club. We are part of something larger, but we have a lot of independence when it comes to how we strive to best serve our community." This fun activity began with attendees exploring connections identifying those with friends in other GFWC clubs, districts, states, and countries. To stay connected, ZOOM was offered for those who could not attend in person. **88 MEMBERS 44 HOURS \$80 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**EDUCATION EFFORTS: Greensboro Woman's Club (GWC)** held an event honoring Gertrude Weil, nicknamed "Federation Gertie" because of her extensive work and social activism in the NC

Federation. The event was posted on Facebook for awareness. This club utilized their monthly newsletter to highlight the achievements of (9) outstanding women, including Charlotte Hawkins Brown, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and Lucy Bramlette Patterson. In 1902, Patterson invited representatives of known women's clubs in North Carolina to come together as a federation. We have grown since that first meeting with delegates from 17 clubs. GWC believes we learn and grow by understanding and appreciating the women who came before us and charted the course of history.

**50 MEMBERS 20 HOURS**

**FEDERATION DAY: Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman's Club (FVJWC):** 2022 marked the 120th birthday of GFWC-NC! Since Federation Day and Earth Day fall close together in the month of April, FVJWC planned to recognize and celebrate these together. This club donated \$120 dollars to the One Tree Planted organization to plant 120 trees in honor of the GFWC, GFWC-NC, and FVJWC to give back to the environment, create a healthier climate, protect biodiversity, and help reforestation efforts. **39 MEMBERS 39 HOURS \$120 DONATED \$120 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**New Member Meetings and Connections: Fuquay-Varina Woman's Club (FVWC)** held (2) new member meetings during the year where they covered the history of GFWC. A historical account of their clubhouse, club, and impactful projects, from 1926 to the present, was provided. A Connect Social with FVWC, FVJWC, and visitors was held at the start of the year. Interesting historical facts about the club and Federation were the baseline for a game played by attendees. Historical facts lined the walls with a pop quiz at the end of the event when prizes were awarded to the winners. Great connections were made by all. To further their connections, the club's yearbook was made available online. Past yearbooks are filed with the FV Museums for public viewing and for safe long-term storage. **64 MEMBERS 207 HOURS \$135 DONATED \$416 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**FEDERATION DAY: GFWC Hickory Woman's Club (HWC):** This club celebrated its 105 years of existence along with Federation Day at its regular club meeting on April 26th . The histories of GFWC, GFWC-NC, and HWC were presented by special guests, GFWC-NC and HWC Past President Sandy Jahn HWC and Past President Arlinda Graham. Members brought and showcased small items used during the early 1900's, with at least one of them used during early club meetings. Members wore Federation apparel and pins and enjoyed boxed lunches and a beautifully decorated birthday cake. **16 MEMBERS 16 HOURS**

**WEIR-JORDAN HOUSE: Greensboro Woman's Club (GWC):** The GWC owns the Weir-Jordan House in Greensboro, which is on the National Register of Historic Places. The house was built in the mid-1850's and the club purchased it for their clubhouse in 1921. Day-to-day operations of the clubhouse are overseen by their six-member Board of Trustees (BOT). This has been a busy year for the BOT scheduling for much needed repairs, as well as scheduling events to help cover the costs of those repairs. The dedicated members of the BOT truly embody a belief in the importance of historic preservation. Club members assisted with the upkeep by painting furniture, rehanging drapes, and organizing closets in the spring. Members interested in preserving historic artifacts stored in the clubhouse continue to catalog and organize stored materials. **341 MEMBERS 924 HOURS \$385 DONATED \$1,253 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS

### SIGNATURE PROGRAM: DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE & AWARENESS PREVENTION

**ALBERMARLE HOPELINE: Camden Woman's Club** assisted Albemarle Hopeline, a local domestic and sexual violence non-profit agency, by providing snacks to the Albemarle Hopeline's emergency shelter. The club also provided Hope House with foods that the children staying in the shelter could grab after school and on weekends. The club also served as a sponsor for Hopeline's annual 5K Run for Hope. **25 MEMBERS 35 HOURS \$500 DONATED \$240 IN-KIND DONATIONS**



**GUILFORD COUNTY FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER'S CAMP HOPE: The Greensboro Woman's Club** researched programs and discovered the Guilford County Family Justice Center's Camp HOPE. This program fosters pathways to hope and healing for youth living with domestic violence and trauma through community and evidence-informed camping and mentoring programs. Their goal is to create experiences for all participants that increase hope, resilience, and change destinies. Camp HOPE is a week-long overnight camping experience where youth impacted by domestic violence feel valued, seen, encouraged, and loved. Donations covered all costs for one child to attend Camp HOPE. **3 MEMBERS 5 HOURS \$650 DONATED**

**CHARITY GALA: GFWC of Holden Beach** conducted their fourteenth annual "Blooming for a Cause" Charity Gala to benefit Hope Harbor Home and Providence Home. *Hope Harbor Home* services domestic violence victims and/or survivors and their children in Brunswick County, North Carolina. It is the only such shelter in Brunswick County. *Providence Home*, the Family Emergency Teen Shelter, is a private, non-profit organization and a member of the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council of Brunswick County. Providence Home is the only such facility in Brunswick County. These two primary beneficiaries received donations of \$14,000.00 each, with additional donations made throughout the year to other charities. **46 MEMBERS 1,650 HOURS \$28,000 DONATED \$29,009 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**BLESSING BAGS: Henderson Junior Woman's Club** donated 16 "Blessing Bags" to the Vance County Sheriff's Department for their upcoming annual Domestic Violence Awareness Event. This year the Club did a little something different. Instead of a Ziplock or drawstring bag, members donated old pocketbooks. They filled the inside of the pocketbooks with hygiene items and snacks. These "Blessing Bags" will be distributed to current victims of domestic violence through the Sheriff's Department. **10 MEMBERS 6 HOURS \$206 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**AWARENESS MEETING AND PACKETS: Fuquay-Varina Woman's Club** compiled DV Awareness Meeting & Packets for members regarding the statistics and resources gathered from the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Domestic Violence Awareness Month (NCADV's DVAM) #We are Resilient Toolkit. Club members assembled packets with statistics, local services through SAFE of Harnett County and InterAct of Wake County. They offered a list of the signs of domestic violence in different age groups and statistics showing DV is found in every socioeconomic level. The packets were given to members to take home as a resource. **61 MEMBERS 34 HOURS \$232 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**COCKTAILS AND CULPRITS MURDER MYSTERY PARTY: Clayton Junior Woman's Club** planned a fundraiser to recruit and gain momentum and funds for their newly revived club of 5 members. Funds



raised from this effort benefitted Harbor Inc, the local domestic violence and assault resource center and shelter. Harbor Inc. has been hit hard over the last few years with flooding and funding difficulties, so CJWC saw an opportunity to raise awareness for their programs, as well as their club. Partnering with Revival in Clayton, and Search in the City, this group executed a murder mystery party. The theme was the roaring '20s mobsters. Everyone who attended was assigned an alter ego. There was music, mayhem, murder, and mystery. It was well received and enjoyed by all that attended. CJWC gained support from local sponsors and community members. Tickets sales, a 50/50 raffle, and a specialty cocktail added to the ambiance. Over \$5,100 was raised. **5 MEMBERS 36 HOURS \$1,000 DONATED**

**VOLUNTEERING AND CONTRIBUTIONS: GFWC South Brunswick Islands Club** donated \$1,200 and clubwomen gave an additional \$600 in personal monetary donations to Hope Harbor Home. Hope Harbor is a non-profit organization which provides housing and assistance to victims of domestic violence and their underage children. Several clubwomen volunteered their time and donated clothing to be sold in their thrift store. One club member donated packages of purple ColorStreet Nails for members to purchase, with purple being the color of choice for supporting Domestic Violence and Awareness. 100% of the funds generated were donated to Hope Harbor Home. **53 MEMBERS 52 HOURS \$1,305 DONATED \$950 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**BRAVE STEP™: Charlotte Woman's Club** chose "Brave Step" to support with items for their care bags and a monetary donation. *Brave Step* was established by a survivor of sexual abuse who found hope and healing through her own experience in therapy. She made a commitment to help survivors and their loved ones identify and receive quality trauma care and find connection with those who understand. *Brave Step* empowers individuals who have been impacted by sexual violence. To shape a strong, supportive community, they provide personalized services that help adults impacted by sexual violence reclaim the life they deserve, foster public conversations about sexual violence and empower adults to shape a strong community for current and future generations. Care at Brave Step is tailored to each survivor, enabling them to take various steps at their own pace and discretion. They offer peer support groups, group therapy, and individual counseling sessions. **30 MEMBERS 17 HOURS \$250 DONATED \$300 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**"NO MORE" VIRTUAL WALK-A-THON: The GFWC Cape Fear Woman's Club** is a new club formed in 2022 with 12 new members. Three members have previous club experience. The remaining members are new to GFWC. In March, club members participated in the "No More" virtual walk-a-thon. The NO MORE Foundation is dedicated to ending domestic violence and sexual assault by increasing awareness, inspiring action, and fueling culture change. NO MORE is a groundbreaking, global initiative comprised of the largest coalition of nonprofits, corporations, government agencies, media, schools, and individuals addressing domestic violence and sexual assault. They are committed to engaging and working with people from diverse communities. Members registered to walk a 5K. As part of their registration, members received a t-shirt to wear when walking and to raise awareness. **5 MEMBERS 20 HOURS \$120 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**JOYNER PARK GLORIOSA DAISY GARDEN: Wake Forest Woman's Club** created the Joyner Park Gloriosa Daisy Garden in partnership with the Town of Wake Forest to bring awareness of human trafficking to the public. Members planted and maintained gloriosa daisies and other flowers during spring, summer, and fall. The Town of Wake Forest has placed a sign in the garden which states,

“GLORIOSA DAISIES Dedicated to the Victims and Survivors of Human Trafficking WAKE FOREST WOMAN’S CLUB”. The garden is located along a heavily traveled footpath and walkers often stop by to comment on the gardens beauty and the dedicated members tending it. The garden and its purpose are also posted on the club’s Facebook page, website, and newsletter. **12 MEMBERS 116 HOURS \$75 DONATED \$127 IN-KIND DONATIONS**

## **JUNIORS’ SPECIAL PROGRAM: ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN**

**BACKPACK BUDDIES PROGRAM: GFWC-South Brunswick Islands (GFWC-SBI): WINGS** Backpacks Full of Blessings help 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 were 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**



**CINDERELLA’S CLOSET OF WILMINGTON: 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**

**READ FOR THE RECORD/JUMPSTART: Fuquay-Varina Woman’s Club (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 it 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**

**ACTIVITY POUCHES FOR RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES OF THE PIEDMONT TRIAD: GFWC Triad Woman’s Club** 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**

**MARCH OF DIMES: 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**

**WAKE UP AND READ: Fuquay-Varina Woman's Club (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**

**SAMARITAN'S PURSE'S OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD: GFWC Triad Junior Womans' Club:** 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**

**UNICEF COLLECTION: GFWC-South Brunswick Islands (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**

**WAVES 4 K.I.D.S FUNDRAISER: GFWC of Holden Beach:** 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**

**BOYS AND GIRLS HOMES OF NC (BGHNC)- Charlotte Woman's Club (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**

*Thank you!*

...to ALL our GFWC-NC Clubs for the outstanding work you completed across our great state and in your communities in 2022! Thank you for sharing your information via the State Statistical Form Report and Award Entries. We appreciate ALL of you and commend you on your accomplishments!