



NEWS & NOTES

YOUR WEEKLY UPDATE ON GFWC NEWS

January 25, 2024



2024 Convention Exhibitor Registration

We are pleased to offer you the opportunity to participate in the 2024 GFWC Annual Convention, June 27 - July 1, 2024, at the Hilton Chicago.

Please click on the button below to register as a GFWC Exhibitor. After completing your information, you will be given the option to select a space and location on the Exhibitor Showcase Map. Space is limited and will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. GFWC Members receive a discounted booth rate.

We look forward to you sharing your products and services with our members in Chicago.

If you have any questions, please contact Nishu Raina 202-347-3168 ext.124 or Nraina@GFWC.org.

[Exhibitor Registration](#)

**Save the Date: GFWC 2024 National Day
of Service**



Registration will open in early spring. Be on the lookout for more information through News & Notes.

Shazam! Club Superpowers

by: Beth Smith, GFWC Community Impact Program Chairman

Fantastic! Pow! Amazing!

Your club projects have community impact. As you write your annual award entries, reflect on your accomplishments. Did your club come to the rescue of a needed community resource? Did you swoop in to help solve a local area of need?

Like Clark Kent becoming Superman, a club project can become a Community Impact Program (CIP) award winner. How do you turn a club project into a CIP entry and compete for the \$2,500 national award? Submit that “wow” project on the CIP award entry form to your state chairman by March 1st.

When selecting a project to enter, consider these questions:

- Was the project completed between January 2022 and December 2023?
- Did the project result in long-term effects on the community?
- Did you use public relations and media (internet, newspaper articles, social media, television, etc.) to share pictures of the project activities?
- Did you solve a problem in your community?
- What did it cost to implement, and how was the project funded?
- Was there community collaboration?
- What obstacles, if any, did you overcome to implement the project?

Your club’s superpower project can be rewarded by winning GFWC’s longest standing award, presented in June at the 2024 GFWC Convention in Chicago, Illinois. Each of the five state categories will be eligible for one \$2,500 award.

Find all the information your club needs to help you select a project and document your progress in the Community Impact Program award section of the GFWC Club Manual, located in the “C” Resources folder of the [Member Portal Digital Library](#).



The Power of You: State Federations and the LAC

The final webinar of The Power of You: An Advocacy Webinar Series, a seven-part series on advocating, will be offered on January 29, 2024, at 7 p.m. This webinar will focus on utilizing the GFWC Legislative Action Center to bring about change at the state level. You will hear how one club member reading an article in a local paper led to a state federation's support of two pending bills on domestic violence reform. We hope you are inspired to utilize the LAC for your own state's legislation, not only on issues of domestic violence and awareness but also on other issues related to GFWC Resolutions. GFWC has a long history of advocacy on the federal level and recognizes the need for similar action on the state level.

To register for this webinar, follow this link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_XTHrHPgpRISLEgxYLMK_PA#/registration

GFWC Illinois 2024 Convention Fundraiser

GFWC Illinois is excited to welcome you to Chicago for the GFWC Annual Convention. To help offset the costs of hosting the convention, GFWC Illinois is selling Chic Baubles, beautiful multi-hued, jewel-toned pins that reflect the diversity of GFWC. Limited numbers of small pins (\$50) and large pins (\$100) are available. To reserve your pin and receive an order form, please contact Ruth Sloat at slootruthgfwc@gmail.com.



\$100 Large Pins (2.5in diameter)



\$50 Small Pins (1.5in diameter)



\$30 each

In addition, Chicago 2024 aprons are available for purchase at \$30 each. These aprons are not only practical but also serve as a wonderful memento of your time in Chicago.

GFWC Illinois is thrilled to welcome our GFWC sisters to our beautiful state and the vibrant city of Chicago. Your support through purchasing Chic Baubles and aprons is greatly appreciated and will contribute to the success of the convention.

We look forward to seeing all of you in Chicago!



GFWC Tennessee Director of Junior Clubs Project: The Little Red Wagon Project

By: Sarah Starkey, GFWC Tennessee
Director of Junior Clubs

GFWC Tennessee's Junior Special Program this administration is the Little Red Wagon Project, which highlights projects, fundraising, and finding ways to find joy in the journey. Because if cancer is a dark journey, then there should be moments of light — joy, even. We have FUNdraised during our state meetings for St. Jude by providing red change envelopes with amounts such as \$5, \$10, and \$20 listed with the goal of many giving a little to add up to a lot. As always, these ladies went above & beyond our fundraising goals.

GFWC Valamont Woman's Club surprised us with a red wagon adorned quilt as a special raffle prize. We had two secret donors from GFWC Cookeville Junior Woman's Club donate for a last-minute push and reached over \$2,000 in just one weekend for St. Jude!

At the end of our meeting, our Little Red Wagon Parade showcased all those who donated during that weekend, and the Grand Marshall was our Director-Elect of Junior Clubs, Angie Crawford. Thank you, Angie, for donating a wagon for us to use and always being a willing participant in shenanigans.

We have also focused fundraising efforts on Junior Fun Nights by hosting carnival games where members could play a variety of games for a dime each. A total of \$330 was raised for the March of Dimes, and many laughs were had by all who participated. Our second Junior Fun Night hosted a coat drive, where members modeled coats and voted on their favorite. Over 240 coats were donated, and over \$400 was raised for St. Jude. I appreciate the opportunity to serve as the Tennessee Director of Junior Clubs, but more importantly, I treasure the friendships I have made along this journey.



Legislative Corner

By: Juliet Casper, GFWC Legislation/Public Policy Chairman

To encourage participation in the democratic process, this monthly column aims to inform members about current legislation and programs that are germane to the GFWC Resolutions. It also highlights important actions of Congress and the White House, and provides follow-up information about GFWC Legislative Action Alerts.

Kids Online Safety: On January 31, the Senate Judiciary Committee (www.judiciary.senate.gov 10:00 am EST), is holding a hearing to create pressure on Congress to care about protecting kids online. GFWC has utilized the Legislative Action Center to support STOP CSAM Act (S. 1199), EARN IT Act (S. 1207), and the SHIELD Act (S. 412). During the January 31 hearing, the Judiciary Committee will hear from the CEOs of Meta, Discord, Snapchat, TikTok, and X (formerly Twitter), who will be asked to answer for the lack of safeguards for children on their platforms.

In late December, the Senate passed a GFWC supported bill, the REPORT Act making reporting by electronic communication service providers mandatory rather than permissive. A companion bill is pending in the House of Representatives.

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Federal Appropriations: Congress passed its third FY 2023 budget

extension on January 19, once again avoiding a government shutdown. Congress now has until early March to approve the FY 2024 spending bills. Among other provisions, the measure also extends the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, the National Flood Insurance Program, the National Cybersecurity Protection System at Homeland Security, and continues funding at the Department of Education up to the rate necessary to continue servicing student loans. Certain community health programs, Medicaid, and Medicare programs are also extended until early March.

A separate supplemental spending bill providing funds to Ukraine, Israel, Taiwan, and for border security is still being negotiated.

Funding for nutrition programs must be reauthorized in the Older American Act and the Farm Bill.

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Foster and Adoptive Families: The House of Representatives passed the Recruiting Families Using Data Act (H.R. 3058), which will require states to implement family partnership plans to improve the recruitment and retention of foster and adoptive families, including improved screening, licensing, and supporting the families.

Child Tax Credit Renewal: While not perfect, a bill to renew the Child Tax Credit is moving forward. Low-income families eligible for the credit would see more benefits, although it is not as generous as the provision passed in 2021 lifting millions of children out of poverty. The measure also expands the low-income housing tax credit and makes permanent the expired research and development tax deduction. GFWC supported the Child Tax Credit in 2020 through its Legislative Action Center alert system.



How Hope 4 Justice Helps

Hope for Justice comprises world-class specialists with the skills and experience to help end this crime and provide trauma-informed care to its survivors. Our team includes investigators and former police detectives, community outreach workers, trainers, legal experts, social workers, therapists, nurses, and more.

Hope for Justice's licensed investigators come from prestigious law enforcement backgrounds, including the FBI and NCIS. We also run our RISE Program (Restore, Inspire, Strengthen, Empower) for

women rescued from human trafficking here in the U.S. We ensure survivors get the support and healing they need.

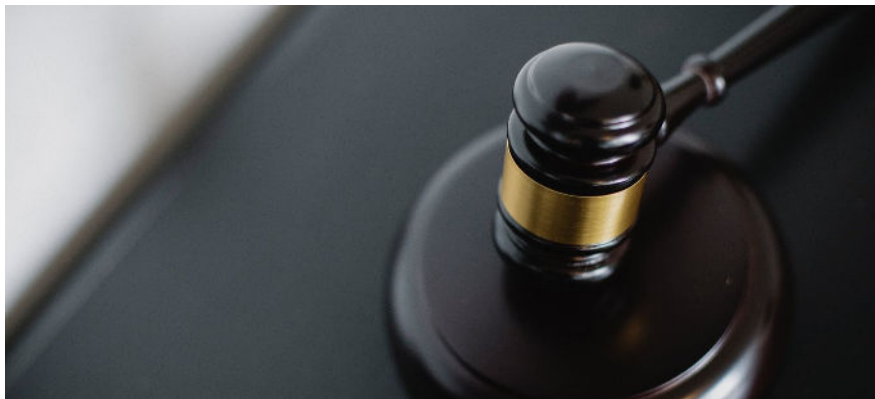
Our impact in just the last 12 months:

- 1,474 children and teenagers reintegrated with their families or assisted into independent living
- 12,183 professionals trained to spot the signs and respond effectively to human trafficking
- 203,352 children and adults reached globally through all our programs

In the US, in the last year alone, we've had 165 referrals of potential trafficking situations, worked over 86 cases, and have been involved in more than 45 rescues. Our team has identified that runaway teens are at an exceptionally high risk of being targeted and know that up to 1 in 6 are lured into sex trafficking (NCMEC, 2021). Our teams have a high success rate of locating vulnerable teens and getting them to safety before the worst happens.

We have U.S. offices in many states and operate across multiple countries worldwide. We are expanding fast to help more people. We offer in-person and online anti-trafficking training. We have trained almost 40,000 people in the U.S. alone in just three years, and we also now offer an online Learning Academy for self-directed training courses in your own time.

To learn more about our work or opportunities to partner with Hope for Justice, email amanda.jacobi@hopeforjustice.org or call 770.675.4580 // or 713.714.1097.



Now is the Time

By: GFWC Bylaws Committee

Now is the time to review the bylaws, as notice of any amendments must be given promptly for spring meetings. Notice of a bylaw amendment should be formally worded in a form such as "To amend Article IV, Section 3, by striking out "first" and inserting "second" after the word "Tuesday."

When the bylaws do not limit who can give notice of a bylaw amendment, any member is entitled to do so, usually under new business. A bylaws committee can give notice under committee reports. The notice should fairly inform the members of the proposed changes. When notice of a bylaw amendment is given in a meeting, it cannot be voted on at that time but can be discussed informally at the

presiding officer's discretion. To protect the rights of absent members, bylaws and the requirement for notice of its amendments cannot be suspended.

An amendment to the bylaws goes into effect immediately upon its adoption unless the motion to adopt specifies differently or a previously adopted motion has set a time. Amendments to the article on officers may raise difficulties in relation to the time changes take effect unless care is taken. A society can, for example, amend its bylaws to abolish an office, and if it is desired that the amendment not affect those already elected, a motion so specifying should be adopted before voting on the amendment, or the motion to amend can have the proviso that it does not affect those elected.

Although the assembly can delay the time when a bylaw amendment takes effect, the amendment becomes part of the bylaws immediately upon adoption. If the amended bylaws are printed, a footnote or similar device should indicate when the amendment takes effect.



Contributing to the Women's History and Resource Center

By: Mary Jo Thomas, GFWC Annual Giving Program Committee Member

Happy 2024 GFWC sisters and friends! The new year brings fresh opportunities to start or renew your annual giving to as many worthwhile endeavors as you choose.

GFWC will celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Women's History and Resource Center in May 2024 to celebrate forty years of leading the way in women's history and research opportunities for all. Please consider your support in recognizing this accomplishment by donating to this fund through the Annual Giving Program.

Funds to the WHRC are used to purchase preservation supplies, collections management technology, and books for the WHRC research library. Additionally, donations support outreach activities directed toward students, teachers, researchers, and others.

Let's continue to support through our Annual Giving donations to ensure enhanced activity for the next 40 years and beyond of the GFWC Women's History and Resource Center.

[Annual Giving Form](#)

Club Anniversaries

60

GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club (Massachusetts)

65

GFWC Westwood Young Women's Club (Massachusetts)

130

GFWC Maine

GFWC Millbury Woman's Club, Inc. (Massachusetts)

Gold Pins

Celebrating 50 years of GFWC Membership

Greta Westeson

GFWC Orinda Woman's Club (California)

Joann Wheeler

GFWC of Central Oregon (Oregon)

Mary Ann Cross

GFWC Woman's Club of Sarasota, Inc. (Florida)

Volunteers in Action: GFWC Tuesday Club of Columbia (MO)



Six GFWC Tuesday Club of Columbia members showed their volunteer spirit at the administrative offices of True North, a domestic violence shelter, on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. They prepared confidential documents for shredding by removing paper clips and metal clasps from 20 boxes filled with files. Undoubtedly tedious, but necessary work!!

Submit photos and a short story about the awesome things YOUR club is doing in the community to PR@gfwc.org.



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