



NEWS & NOTES

YOUR WEEKLY UPDATE ON GFWC NEWS

[Unsubscribe](#)

June 20, 2024

2024 GFWC Annual Convention: Get Ready for Chicago!



Convention FAQs

Program Book: The official Convention program book will be given when you collect your credentials.

Program Changes: Program changes will be posted on the electronic reader signs adjacent to each room and announced by the Convention chair at the end of each event.

Registration Desk: The registration desk is located on the lobby level of the Hotel near the 8th Street Entrance and FEDEX office. Hours are published in the

program book.

Registration Packet: Upon checking in, you will receive a Registration Packet, neck wallet, program book, tote bag, and various handouts. Conference bling (Thank you, Sponsors!) can be collected from the Illinois Welcome table. Before leaving the registration desk, please confirm you have the correct event tickets. **Please bring a printout of your registration or invoice to convention for easy and smooth check in.**

Want a closer look? Take a virtual tour of the hotel so you're ready to go on arrival!

VIRTUAL TOUR

NASCAR Road Closures

Due to the NASCAR Street Race in Chicago on July 6-7, please be aware of some road closures that might affect your travel.

STREET CLOSURES			
ON	BETWEEN	ANTICIPATED CLOSURE	ANTICIPATED OPENING
Ida B. Wells Dr.	Michigan Ave./ Columbus Dr.	June 10, 2024	July 18, 2024
Jackson Dr.	Michigan Ave./ Columbus Dr.	June 27, 2024	July 11, 2024
Balbo Dr.	Columbus Dr. / S DuSable Lake Shore Dr.	June 28, 2024	July 18, 2024
Balbo Dr.	Michigan Ave./ Columbus Dr.	June 28, 2024	July 12, 2024
Jackson Dr.	Columbus Dr. / S DuSable Lake Shore Dr.	July 1, 2024	July 11, 2024
Columbus Dr.	Monroe St./ Jackson Blvd.	July 1, 2024	July 8, 2024
Columbus Dr.	Roosevelt Rd. / Jackson Blvd.	July 1, 2024	July 15, 2024
Congress Plaza Dr.	Entire Drive	July 2, 2024	July 10, 2024

NEW! Live Auction Items

A live auction is coming to GFWC's Annual Convention in Chicago this year! Experience the thrill of the chase as you bid on 3 incredible prize packages, LIVE!

Live Auction Item #3

5 Nights in Breckenridge

Donated By: GFWC Executive Committee—Deb, Suellen, Jolie, Mary Beth, Becky, Katie, and Diane



Not just for skiers! Breckenridge, a beautiful summer, fall, and winter destination, offers much more than just skiing. You'll have easy access to hiking, biking, golf, and more, and the ski lift is just a short walk away. You'll be able to enjoy a five-night stay in a lovely 2-bedroom, 2-bathroom condo that's just one block away from Main Street. There are plenty of restaurants and shopping options. The condo can comfortably accommodate up to six people. You'll have access to a garage parking space, an elevator, and a beautiful swimming pool and hot tub facility. **PLUS A \$600 VISA GIFT CARD.**

It's important to keep in mind that Breckenridge is a high-altitude location at 9,600 feet, so please be prepared for any effects that altitude may have on you. Smoking and pets are not allowed. Please note that your stay is subject to availability.

Total Value: \$2,100

2024 GFWC Convention Sponsor



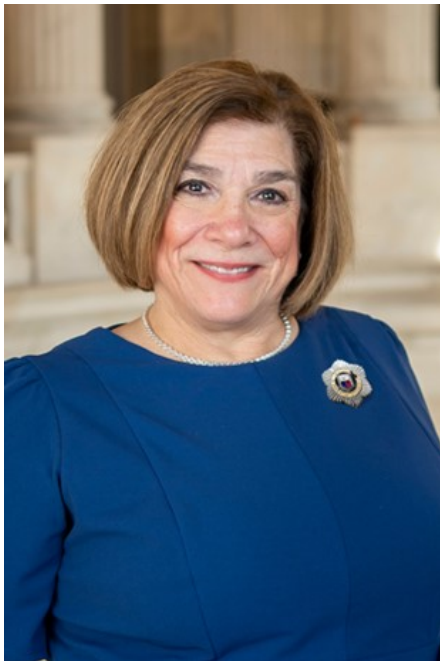
EMPOWERING WOMEN TOGETHER

At Heifer International, we believe in the power of women —the power to overcome, to flourish, to thrive. But when overwhelmed by hunger and poverty, this power often seems unattainable. That's where Heifer — and generous partners like the GFWC — come in. For more than a decade, GFWC has enthusiastically supported Heifer projects, providing women with the resources, education and opportunity they need to lift themselves out of poverty — and discover their power.



GFWC@heifer.org | [Heifer.org/GFWC](https://heifer.org/GFWC)

A Message from GFWC International President Debra Strahanoski



Dear Members,

I can't believe this is the last News & Notes for the 2022-2024 administration. The past two years have been a journey of extraordinary accomplishments and dedication to our mission. Your commitment to volunteerism and community service has strengthened our organization and made a lasting impact around the world. From successful projects and initiatives to the invaluable friendships and connections we have formed, these moments will forever be etched in my memory. I am filled with excitement and hope as we look to the future.

It has been an honor to lead such a dynamic and compassionate group of committed members. Let us continue our mission with renewed energy, vision, and commitment.

Deb

Debra A. Strahanoski

GFWC International President 2022-2024



GFWC
est. 1890
GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS
**2024 NATIONAL
DAY OF SERVICE**
FOOD INSECURITY & HUNGER
SEPTEMBER 28, 2024

**TIME TO
REGISTER!**

REGISTER ON THE NEW GFWC MEMBER PORTAL
MEMBERPORTAL.GFWC.ORG

USE THE **EVENTS** PAGE

58 NEW CLUBS PLEDGE PARTICIPATION IN 2024 GFWC NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE (NDS) ON SEPTEMBER 28

Is your club registered for the 2024 GFWC NDS?

Last year approximately 900 clubs participated. For this year's event, the goal is 1,800 to double our collective impact in our fight against food insecurity and hunger nationwide. To date, we have 193 clubs registered, which leaves us with 1,607 clubs to go.

If your club has not registered, please do so today!

Together we can help those in our communities suffering from food insecurity

and hunger.

To register, visit <https://memberportal.gfwc.org/>, and follow the prompts. Then, click on the Events page to sign up. Simply select 2024 GFWC National Day of Service and you're on your way.

If more than one club is partnering on a CSP, you can register up to three clubs on the site. However, you will need to email Membership Director Melanie Gisler, mgisler@gfwc.org, the additional club names for your group.

REGISTER NOW

** New clubs registered for week of June 20, 2024.*

ALABAMA

GFWC Book Lover's Study Club
GFWC du Midi Woman's Club
GFWC Woman's Study Club of Wedowee

CALIFORNIA

GFWC Peninsula Hills Women's Club
GFWC Riverside Woman's Club
GFWC Somis Thursday Club
GFWC West Valley Federated Women's Club
GFWC Woman's Club of Bellflower
GFWC Woman's Club of Redondo Beach

COLORADO

GFWC Woman's Citizenship Club

FLORIDA

GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club
GFWC Girls on Fire
GFWC LaBelle Community Woman's Club
GFWC Lake Placid Junior Woman's Club
GFWC Santa Rosa Woman's Club
GFWC St. Petersburg Woman's Club
GFWC Temple Terrace Woman's Club
GFWC Woman's Club of Lake Wales
GFWC Woman's Club of the Villages

GEORGIA

GFWC Atlanta Woman's Club
GFWC Lilburn Woman's Club
GFWC Monroe Junior Woman's Club
GFWC Stone Mountain Woman's Club

MICHIGAN

GFWC Pontotoc Woman's Club
GFWC Poplarville Woman's Club
GFWC Swartz Creek Women's Club

MINNESOTA

GFWC Silver Lake

MISSOURI

GFWC Tuesday Club of Columbia
GFWC Utopia Club

NEW JERSEY

GFWC Woman's Club of Parsippany Troy Hills

NORTH CAROLINA

GFWC North Carolina Sorosis
GFWC Roanoke Island Woman's Club
GFWC South Brunswick Islands

OKLAHOMA

GFWC La Kee Kon Club, Nowata

OREGON

GFWC North Clackamas Woman's Club
GFWC of Central Oregon

PENNSYLVANIA

GFWC Federated Women's Club of Hershey
GFWC West Side Woman's Club
GFWC Woman's Club of Media

TEXAS

GFWC Amity Study Club of Atlanta

ILLINOIS

Palos Heights Woman's Club
Palos Park Woman's Club

INDIANA

GFWC Fayette County ESO

KENTUCKY

GFWC Barbourville Junior Woman's Study
Club

LOUISIANA

GFWC Les Dames d'Etude

MAINE

GFWC Lubec Woman's Club

NEW MEXICO

GFWC Progress Club of Las Cruces

VERMONT

GFWC Ludlow-Okemo Valley Woman's Club

VIRGINIA

GFWC Woman's Club of Manassas
GFWC Woman's Club of Vinton

WASHINGTON

GFWC Avalon Woman's Club

WEST VIRGINIA

GFWC Bethany Woman's Club
GFWC South Parkersburg Woman's Club
GFWC Woman's Club of Charleston
GFWC Woman's Club of Logan

WISCONSIN

GFWC Stevens Point Junior Woman's Club



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.

Maternal and Child Health Stillbirth Prevention: On June 11, Congress enacted H.R. 4581 to clarify that evidence-based activities and research focused on reducing the incidence of stillbirth are permissible uses of the Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant funding available to states. Stillbirth affects about 1 in 175 births, and each year about 21,000 babies are stillborn in the United States. While there have been incredible advances and improvements in medical technology over the last 30 years, including prenatal care, the rate of early stillbirth has remained the same. This legislation clarifies that states can use Title V funding for evidence-based programs, activities, and outcomes research to help prevent and reduce the incidence of stillbirths. The measure now goes to President Biden for his signature.

Online Child Safety: GFWC continues to urge Congress to enact the Kids Online Safety Act (KOSA, S. 1409, H.R. 7891). The Senate Majority Leader is working to bring the bipartisan bill to the floor before the July 4th congressional recess. Currently the bill has 68 co-sponsors, yet two Senators have placed holds on the bill. Negotiations continue. KOSA creates a legally relevant “duty to care” standard for online apps and platforms to responsibly design their products in a manner that is safe for children. Thank you to the GFWC clubwomen who supported this legislation by [taking action](#) through the GFWC Legislative Action Center.

Food Insecurity: The Farm Bill is an omnibus piece of legislation that governs every part of America’s food and farm systems and is reauthorized every five years. The House Agriculture Committee marked up its bill on May 23, but the path forward seems uncertain. The House Committee’s bill drastically cuts the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the Summer EBT program which feeds children out of school for the summer, and The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). GFWC will continue to urge Congress to strengthen these programs which are essential for combating hunger and food insecurity. Your National Day of Service plans should include advocacy for the Farm Bill.

FY 2025 Appropriations Move Forward: The House of Representatives approved its first FY 2025 appropriations bill covering Military Construction and Veterans Affairs in early June. House leadership hopes to complete all twelve bills before mid-July.

GFWC has launched two alerts urging Congress to [fund vaccines for children](#) and to fund programs at the Department of Justice and the Department of Health and Human Services to provide [services and resources to victims](#) of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking, as well as prevention and education. These programs are cost-effective and lifesaving. If

you have not yet joined the Legislative Action Center and participated in these alerts, it is not too late. GFWC Legislative Action Alerts support these critically important programs.

Elizabeth Dole Home Care Act: In late May, GFWC issued a [legislative alert](#) to urge the Senate to adopt H.R. 542, already passed by the House of Representatives, to improve access to home-based care for veterans. If you have not acted, please do so! Enactment of the Elizabeth Dole Home Care Act would provide immediate relief to those caregivers and veterans most in need. With enough support, it may be possible for this bill to be included in an omnibus veteran's package currently being negotiated between the House and Senate leadership.

On June 5, the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee and the Senate Aging Committee held a joint hearing to focus on the challenges facing families, the resources which should be provided by the VA Caregiver Support Program, and the need for improving support for veteran caregivers. Restrictive regulations that narrowed eligibility went into effect in October 2020. This legislation is needed to reverse those regulations and expand the program. During the hearing the Elizabeth Dole Foundation highlighted a provision in the bill that would increase the amount the VA can spend on a veteran's home-based care from 65% to 100% of the cost of nursing home care. Patients who have long-term ALS, MS, and severe traumatic brain injuries most likely will have to move into a nursing home without the removal of that cap on spending which might allow them to stay in their home with the appropriate support and resources.

Alzheimer's Patients and Caregivers: [GFWC urges Congress](#) to enact two bills of critical importance to the families of patients with Alzheimer's or another dementia. The bipartisan National Alzheimer's Project Act (NAPA) reauthorization bill (H.R. 619, S. 133) extends the program through 2035 and supports coordination of federal planning, programs, and other efforts to address Alzheimer's disease and related dementia. The bill incorporates a focus on healthy aging, risk reduction, and addresses health disparities among underrepresented populations.

The bipartisan Alzheimer's Accountability and Investment Act (H.R. 620, S. 134) would continue to prioritize Alzheimer's and other dementia research funding at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The existing Alzheimer's Accountability Act is set to expire in 2025. With robust and steady investment, scientists will be able to work faster to advance basic disease knowledge, explore ways to reduce risk, uncover new biomarkers for early diagnosis and drug targeting, and develop potential treatments.

Human Trafficking Legislation: The Trafficking Survivors Relief Act (S. 4214, H.R. 7137) has been introduced by bipartisan leaders and is strongly supported by GFWC Affiliate, Hope for Justice. The bill would provide relief to survivors of

human trafficking who committed a non-violent offense as a direct result of having been a victim of trafficking. Survivors of human trafficking are commonly charged with crimes, including conspiracy, prostitution, and drug trafficking, that they have been coerced into or forced to commit by their captors. These charges hurt a survivor's ability to start a new life and find employment and housing, leaving them vulnerable to further exploitation. Under the Trafficking Survivors Relief Act, survivors of human trafficking could have non-violent criminal convictions or arrest records that resulted from having been a trafficking victim vacated and expunged. Hopefully, this will help stop a vicious cycle that leaves survivors vulnerable to further exploitation. Look for a GFWC Legislative Action Alert in support of this bill.

LAC by the Numbers: From July 2023 to June 2024, the number of members registered for the Legislative Action Center has increased by 934 members. We now have 6,843 members and roughly one fourth of registered members took action on each of the alerts issued this spring. Thank you for Advocating for those in Need.


GFWC Bylaws Committee

The 2022-2024 GFWC Bylaws Committee has worked hard to provide members with information about the bylaws process and is grateful for the opportunity to serve. In this final submission to *News and Notes*, we want to leave you with resources to assist you in the future. Of course, the GFWC Digital Library has an archive of *News and Notes*, the document "Writing Bylaws," writing bylaws assistance in the Membership Toolkit, and the GFWC Bylaws and Standing Rules for your reference.

Outside sources include the Bookstore and NAP University at www.parliamentarians.org. (#2700 *Pathways to Proficiency - What Does It Say in the Bylaws? (Revised)* is recommended.) *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, 12th edition*, can be found there, at local bookstores, and through national booksellers and is the Parliamentary Authority of GFWC.

www.parli.com/bylaws contains some free articles that may give you some ideas. Many of the free templates offered in a Google search are not applicable to most clubs. Of course, the GFWC Bylaws Committee and Parliamentarian may be a source of help, along with credentialed parliamentarians who are club members.

New March of Dimes Campaign



The graphic features a pregnant woman, Allyson Felix, in a white jacket, standing against a blue background. To her left is the March of Dimes logo and the text: **LOW DOSE BIG BENEFITS™** and **IT STARTS WITH MOM**. Below the woman, the text reads: **Ask. Know. Act.** with the hashtags **#lowdosebigbenefits** and **#itstartswithmom**. A QR code is located on the left side of the graphic, with the March of Dimes logo and name in the center. Below the QR code, the text states: **Encourage pregnant family and friends to ask their healthcare professional if they are at risk for developing preeclampsia and should be taking low dose aspirin.** At the bottom, it says: **When taken as prescribed, it can help reduce their risk of preterm birth and other serious health problems during pregnancy.**

March of Dimes has launched Low Dose, Big Benefits™, a multi-year campaign aimed at decreasing the adverse effects of preeclampsia and preterm birth through the use of low dose aspirin. The new campaign will feature U.S. Olympian and entrepreneur Allyson Felix as a brand ambassador, and is part of the March of Dimes' It Starts With Mom platform.

Low Dose, Big Benefits aims to promote equal access to critical information for families and healthcare providers. Preeclampsia is a potentially fatal condition that causes a pregnant woman's blood pressure to rise and can lead to preterm birth, heart disease, and other complications. A new survey conducted by The Harris Poll on behalf of March of Dimes revealed nearly 1 in 5 families had never heard of preeclampsia, and only 2 in 10 families surveyed are extremely or very familiar with medical interventions, such as low dose aspirin to reduce the risks of preeclampsia. This campaign is a critical step towards improving maternal and infant health outcomes.

Low Dose, Big Benefits is the culmination of March of Dimes' legacy since 1938 of funding research to help millions of babies survive and thrive. From polio to preterm birth, the organization's researchers have a long history of making critical discoveries to solve some of the biggest issues facing moms and babies. March of Dimes encourages everyone to get involved to help improve health outcomes for all families:

- To learn more about future events and to access education resources, visit itstartswithmom.org
- To learn more about Low Dose, Big Benefits, visit marchofdimes.org/lowdosebigbenefits
- Partners can help amplify Low Dose, Big Benefits by accessing the partner toolkit at marchofdimes.org/lowdosetoolkit
- Families can text lowdose to 40789 to give a gift in support of March of Dimes to help ensure all moms-to-be get access to information and resources they need.

Gold Pins

Celebrating 50 years of GFWC Membership

Miriam Hight
GFWC Lake City Monday Club (IA)



Volunteers in Action: GFWC Outer Banks Woman's Club (NC)

Members of the GFWC Outer Banks Woman's Club helped the Community Care Clinic of Dare and Food Bank of the Albemarle with their mobile food pantry. Participating clubwomen reported, "It was hard work, but the team was happy to help distribute the healthy food to community members."

Submit photos and a short story (4-8 sentences, who, when, what, where) about the awesome things YOUR club is doing in the community to PR@gfwc.org.

Last News & Notes of This Administration

Please note that this is the last *News & Notes* issue of the 2022-2024 Administration. Due to the GFWC Annual Convention, *News & Notes* will not be distributed on June 27 or July 4, 2024. *News & Notes* will resume on Thursday, July 11, 2024.



GFWC Headquarters
1734 N ST NW | Washington, DC 20036
www.GFWC.org