

# Community Improvement Program Award

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### CONTEST PRINCIPLES

GFWC's Community Improvement Program Award (formerly the Community Improvement Contest) aims to

enhance the lives of GFWC's neighbors around the world by meeting community specific needs, and elevating our clubs' status within those communities. The Community Improvement Program Award is the

heart and soul of GFWC. The Community Improvement Program Award is our longest standing project. It

provides a club with the opportunity to development the leadership skills of its members, increase membership, and promote community awareness of the club's activities. It aims to meet the needs of individual communities. The Community Improvement Program Award provides a vision for the future of

the relationships between clubs and their communities.

### RECOMMENDED CONTEST IDEAS

The Community Improvement Program Award does not lend itself to recommendations for project ideas

because the project should be specific to the club's community. However, there are a few things to consider

in participating in the Community Improvement Program Award.

- Every club is capable of creating a Community Improvement project.
- Almost any project can be turned into a Community Improvement project.
- These projects should address a specific need within the community.
- Club should establish partnerships within the community to address the community's need.
- Partnering with the community provides our members with leadership skills and allows GFWC to establish itself within the community.
- Clubs can partner with local organizations and GFWC's national partners.
  - Professional or other membership organizations
  - Governmental organizations
  - Other nonprofit organizations

You are encouraged to consider your Community Improvement Project as an ongoing community effort that

lasts as long as the community need remains.

*For more information on how you can create a fundraising program to assist in seeking donations and assistance to support your Community Improvement project, review the GFWC Fundraising Advancement Guide in the GFWC Club Manual.*

*For more information on how you can help your club evaluate how it can best use its resources to meet a community need and for information on project planning, please review the GFWC Leadership Advancement Guide in the GFWC Club Manual, which includes information on conducting a SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) and sample project plans and strategic plan templates that may assist you in measuring your achievements*

*For more information on how you can use your Community Improvement project planning to retain and recruit members, review the GFWC Membership Advancement Guide in the GFWC Club Manual.*