



# CIVIC ENGAGEMENT and OUTREACH COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM



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The GFWC Civic Engagement and Outreach Community Service Program reminds GFWC members that each of us is a part of a larger society and is responsible for undertaking actions that will create a better quality of life and foster a sense of community—locally, regionally, nationally, and globally. The four “broad strokes” of this effort include: Citizenship; Crime Prevention, Safety, and Disaster Preparedness; the Needy, Hungry, and Homeless; and Our Military Personnel and Veterans.



## Affiliate Organizations

(Confirmed as of date of printing)

Depending on club intent, projects/programs from these GFWC Affiliate Organizations could be reported here as well:



## Resource Organizations



## Get Inspired with “Grassroots” Projects

- Engage community on key issues, identify positive solutions, and stimulate public policy initiatives.
- Advocate for civics education in schools, ensuring students acquire an understanding of government.
- Work together to “Get Out the Vote!” Encourage others to register and vote, provide information about early voting or polling location and times, and offer transportation if needed.
- Collaborate with bookstores or libraries to create a prominent display of nonfiction books that commemorate Women’s History Month in March, tell the “herstory” of women’s suffrage, and celebrate the centennial of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment on August 26, 2020.
- Make homes and communities safer by providing information on crime prevention strategies, such as neighborhood/park watches and suspicious activity reports.
- Support and thank local Police and Fire Departments for keeping the community safe.
- Sponsor CPR or first aid classes for moms’ groups, childcare providers, teens, and others.
- Share fact sheets with members and friends, including “The Top Ten Financial Scams Targeting Seniors,” and “Eight Tips for How Seniors Can Protect Themselves from Money Scams.”
- Work with first responders and your local high schools to provide presentations on at-risk driving practices, such as texting and failure to use seat belts.
- Collect socks at club, district, or state meetings and donate this “number one most requested item” to homeless shelters.
- Organize a club day of service at a local food pantry by donating essential goods and sorting and organizing their shelves.
- Work with your local schools to establish “closets” within the schools where clothing, shoes, backpacks, underwear, socks, outerwear, and personal hygiene items are organized and stored for distribution to children in need.
- Organize a winter clothing drive in the fall, collecting, sorting, and cleaning gently used coats, jackets, sweaters, hats, scarves, and gloves.
- Encourage members to research local or national programs that support our military.
- Work with your VA to identify veterans who need household supplies and furniture, employment assistance, educational scholarships, or other help.
- Create awareness about the high rate of suicide among veterans and suicide prevention programs.
- And many more provided in Club Manual.

(This list is a brief offering of project ideas. Please visit Club Manual for other grassroots projects and/or programs as well as those with Affiliate Organizations or Resources.)