



JUNIORS' SPECIAL PROJECT

ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN

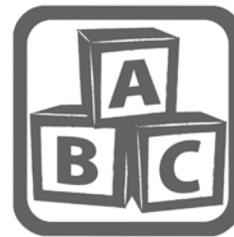
Visit www.GFWC.org/ClubManual for updates and more information.

The GFWC Juniors' Special Project: Advocates for Children is designed to enable all GFWC clubs to educate, advocate, and engage in projects concerning the well-being of children via health, social, and safety programs. Clubwomen can become active advocates for children by working to:

- Ensure children are protected from harmful situations
- Encourage healthy physical and emotional lifestyles
- Increase GFWC members' awareness of important issues
- Impact policy to improve children's lives.

Program ideas are endless. Consider projects that address issues such as bullying; children with cancer; child passenger safety; children with disabilities; healthy lifestyles; increased self-respect; foster care; and emergency medical services for children. Below is a comprehensive list of ideas on how clubs support the Juniors' Special Project.

We have partnered with like-minded organizations that advocate on behalf of children everywhere. Refer to the Partnership section beginning on page 2 for activities designed especially for GFWC clubs.



2012-2014 JUNIORS' SPECIAL PROJECT CHAIRMAN

Penny Peterson
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IDEAS

- Volunteer at early childhood centers by reading to children or assisting teachers.
- Support early childhood facilities with financial aid and other resources.
- Encourage family and adult involvement in children's education.
- Start or support an existing GFWC Juniorette club.
- Support healthy child development through every stage from pre-natal care to adolescents.
- Raise awareness of the strong link between bullying and suicide.
- Provide needed equipment and funding for training of local pre-hospital emergency service personnel.
- Participate in community injury prevention programs and encourage and support ongoing prevention activities.
- Encourage physical activity by volunteering with local athletic associations, schools, and parks.
- Celebrate important commemoration dates, including GFWC Advocates for Children Week in October.
- Participate in sustainable programs that engage vulnerable communities to create positive, lasting change.
- Support youth drug abuse prevention programs, including non-prescription and prescription drugs.
- Learn about Internet safety and how the latest social media tools affect our youth, including cyber-bullying. Work with your local school board and police department to educate fellow community members.
- Educate others about the importance of foster parenting, what it involves, and the need for quality, professional foster parents.
- Work with other organizations to reduce hunger in children. Studies show one in five children in America go to bed hungry.



GFWC ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN WEEK

To raise awareness for GFWC's child advocacy efforts, we have declared the fourth week in October as GFWC Advocates for Children Week. All GFWC clubs are invited to participate by planning events related to the Juniors Special Project. Try a new project or a previously successful one. It's up to you! Consider your club's interests and community needs.

Sunday, October 21 - Saturday, October 27, 2012

Sunday, October 20 - Saturday, October 26, 2013



For event ideas, public relations tools, and more, refer to *News & Notes*, *GFWC Clubwoman Magazine*, and www.GFWC.org.

GFWC PARTNERSHIPS

GFWC Partners are the organizations listed with whom GFWC has established a formal relationship and mutual understanding. Our partners offer unique and customized services: materials, speakers, kits, and/or additional information specifically designed for GFWC clubs. They are aware of GFWC clubs' specific needs, our organizational structure, and have a signed Memorandum of Understanding with GFWC.

**PARTNER DONATIONS**

Direct any questions regarding donations to GFWC partners to the GFWC Juniors' Special Project: Advocates for Children Chairman or GFWC Programs department at Programs@GFWC.org.



We are continually working to develop partnerships with organizations whose missions and scope of work are germane to GFWC. Look for updates from the Juniors' Special Project Chairman, in *News & Notes* and *GFWC Clubwoman Magazine*, and online at www.GFWC.org.

To ensure that donations to GFWC partner organizations at the individual, club, district, or state level, are reflected toward GFWC's collective impact, make sure to write GFWC in the memo line on your donation check.

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN**

801 Roeder Road – Suite 600

Silver Spring, MD 20910

W: www.ChildrensNational.org/EMSC

P: 301-244-6300

E: EMSCInformation@ChildrensNational.org

The Emergency Medical Services for Children National Resource Center was established in 1991 to help improve the pediatric emergency care infrastructure throughout the United States and its territories. Since its inception, \$140 million in grants have enabled the formation of state EMSC advisory committees, development of pediatric specific EMS protocols, and other clinical resources. They have assisted states in the assessment and identification of gaps in pediatric emergency care and development and implementation of strategies to improve the state EMS systems for children.

GFWC will assist in improving pediatric emergency care throughout the U.S. and its territories by contacting local State EMSC Coordinators and determining the gaps in their particular pediatric emergency care systems. Specific plans to fill those gaps will be determined by each state. GFWC members are encouraged to join their respective State EMSC Advisory Boards and Family Advisory Networks to be involved with their respective priorities. GFWC members can be updated regularly about EMSC-related information and activities by joining EMSC listservs, including *FAN Mail* and *EMSC QuickNews* to ensure timely notification of ongoing projects, EMSC programs, and partner news. Sign up for *FAN Mail* under the "For Families" section of the EMSC website at www.ChildrensNational.org/EMSC. The EMSC QuickNews sign-up is located under the "Publications and Resources" tab.

Additionally, GFWC members can assist in these efforts by:

- Encouraging State GFWC leaders to work closely with state EMSC Grantees on projects related to Performance Measure development and compliance within the state;
- Partnering with EMSC Family Advisory Network members in the sharing information and project ideas;
- Encouraging participation in EMSC programs:
 - Joining state EMSC Advisory Committee
 - Assisting with/sponsoring state/local EMSC Day activities each May;
- Sharing success stories of past and present GFWC-EMSC partnership programs;
- Disseminating EMSC School Nurse Training Program and Injury Prevention Program materials resources.



INMED PARTNERSHIPS FOR CHILDREN

Contact: Elizabeth Street, GFWC Partner Liaison

20110 Ashbrook Place, Suite 260

Ashburn, VA 20147

W: www.INMED.org

P: 703-729-4951 ext. 227

E: ESTreet@INMED.org

INMED Partnerships for Children rescues children from the immediate and irreversible harm of disease, hunger, abuse, neglect, or violence, and prepares them to shape a brighter future for themselves and the next generation. Through this partnership, clubwomen have the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of children in Latin America, the Caribbean, southern Africa, northern Virginia and Compton, California. Established in 1986, INMED has rescued millions of children through sustainable programs that engage vulnerable communities to create positive, lasting change.

INMED's Face the Challenge Campaign was created specifically for GFWC members to help rescue children who are suffering now, and build strong leaders for the future. The campaign has five specific challenges:

- Infectious and Chronic Disease
- Mother and Child Health
- Nutrition and Food Security
- Instability and Displacement
- Education

The campaign is simple. Pick a challenge; mobilize your club; and raise money and awareness to bring urgently needed solutions to vulnerable children. Go to www.INMED.org/Face-the-challenge to identify your challenge and download the resources.

GFWC COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

GFWC Community Service Projects, formerly known as Collaborations, are programs and projects members initiate and participate in to serve their communities—they do not include projects that relate to GFWC partners. This section is where clubs report all the programs and projects that are specifically related to the Juniors' Special Project that can involve other members of the community, other organizations, or the individual club or members.

SUCCESSFUL CLUB PROJECTS



The **GFWC Ladies in Purpose Junior Woman's Club (Virginia)** supports a bereavement camp that offers a variety of experiences for children who have lost a family member or caregiver, providing an opportunity for those who have experienced similar tragedies to grieve in a safe and caring environment.

The **Long Valley Area Junior Woman's Club (New Jersey)** raises funds at its Winterfest cocktail party for hippotherapy—a physical, occupational, and speech-language therapy treatment tool that utilizes the horse's three-dimensional motion of walking to stimulate the rider and help enhance balance, posture, mobility, coordination and strength.



The **GFWC Fernandina Beach Junior Woman's Club (Florida)** uses the funds raised from their annual Sollecito Mardi Gras Ball for the First Coast Freedom Playground. The city's first universally accessible playground allows children of all ages, with or without any handicaps, to play side-by-side in a nature-friendly environment.

For 20 years, the **Wheaton Junior Woman's Club (Illinois)** sponsors *Buddy Baseball*, a camp for children with physical and mental disabilities that provides an opportunity for children with moderate to severe disabilities to play baseball in an organized environment. Ranging in age from five to 25, players are assigned volunteer teen "buddies" who assist with hitting, running, and throwing during the games.



The **Exeter Area GFWC (New Hampshire)** launched a campaign to keep two of their local Head Start schools open by forming a petition and seeking the help of elected officials.

AWARDS

GFWC recognizes State Federations for outstanding projects and clubs for creative projects in implementing effective advocates for children projects. Certificates will be presented to one State Federation in each membership category and a \$50 award will be presented to one club in the nation annually.

Award winners will be determined by entries into the Awards Program. Each State Federation may submit one State Award Entry Cover Sheet and one Club Creativity Award Entry Cover Sheet for the Juniors' Special Project: Advocates for Children projects and one for partnership projects. Clubs do not submit entries directly to GFWC.

Many GFWC Partners will recognize state federations and clubs for their efforts. Contact the GFWC Programs department for information.