

GFWC SISTERS OF SERVICE WOMAN'S CLUB, INC



# SISTER TALK



Winter 2020 Edition | DECEMBER 20 | Volume 2

## 2020 Charter Executive Board

Vanessa J. Moore -  
Founder & Charter  
President

Donna J. Collier - Vice  
President & Membership  
Chair

Kim L. Brown - Treasurer

Crystal J. Bryant -  
Corresponding Secretary &  
Communications Chair

Cameka N. Gardner -  
Recording Secretary

Precious Boatwright -  
Parliamentarian & Care  
Committee Chair

Anisha Banks - Care  
Committee Co-Chair

Alfreda James -  
Community Service  
Programs Chair

Nikki McGlockton -  
Fundraising Chair

Lanetra Bennett - Public  
Relations Chair

Flavia Alexander -  
Hospitality Chair

Elizabeth Mazzio - Health  
and Wellness Chair

Edwina Hall - Social  
Committee Chair

Tory Hall (Social Committee  
Co-Chair

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Greetings:

How do I adequately say how proud of my Sisters of Service? The words AWESOME, AMAZING, PHENOMENAL, BEST OF THE BEST come to mind off the top of my head, but still not sure if they cover all bases. If there was ever any doubt...rest assured...I could not be prouder!

We went from getting organized in May of this year to getting incorporated in June, to becoming a 501(c)(3) shortly after that. How does that happen? I'll tell you how....cause we are Sisters of Service, and that's how we keep rolling (smile)! The World did not see us coming, but we have arrived, and we are not playin around (smile).

Please know that the Executive Board is hard at work behind the scenes working for you between the meetings. We have our meetings in the same month as a business meeting, and we always make sure we keep you abreast with everything going on. That's why it is imperative that you check your email periodically for club updates. I do my best to send out reminders to our Group ME and our Facebook Discussion Board, but you have to do your part to stay informed. If you want to let your voice be heard, please attend meetings, participate in the activities and read your email.

This is the last edition of Sister Talk for the year. This one contains more articles and photos because we truly have been busy giving back to our community. Next year will be even busier. Happy Holidays to you all, and may your New Year be blessed abundantly. Know that I am a phone, text, Facebook, or email away, and I am at your service. Remember, we are all in this together, working for the same goal as Sisters of Service.

# Our HERstory Continues

*"It is not our differences that divide us. It is our inability to recognize, accept, and celebrate those differences." - Audre Lorde*

It's official! On September 26, 2020, the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Florida unanimously voted the GFWC Sisters of Service Woman's Club (SOSWC), Inc. as a new club during the 2020 Fall Board of Directors business meeting. This recognition signifies the club as an official club of the GFWC Florida Federation. Several of the Executive Board and club members traveled from Tallahassee to attend this momentous and history making occasion. The club's Founding Charter President Vanessa J. Moore was presented with an engraved gavel and the official Club Membership Certificate from the GFWC Florida. Members also present were Donna Collier (Charter Vice President), Crystal Bryant (Charter Corresponding Secretary), Nikki McGlockton (Charter Fundraising Chair), Anisha Banks (Charter Care Committee Co-Chair), and Bianca Murphy (Member). The GFWC International sent the official Charter weeks later. We are in like Flynn (smile).

The GFWC Sisters of Service Woman's Club, Inc. is the first predominantly black Woman's Club in the State of Florida under the GFWC Florida Federation. When the 19th Amendment was signed, although it gave Women the right to vote, that privilege was not extended to Black or Women of Color. As the Founding President, I was humbled and honored to represent our Phenomenal group of Women who represents Unity in Diversity in Florida's history.

Take a bow Sisters...how does it feel to be the first? If you ask me, it feels pretty AWESOME! (smile).

Our journey continues.....



## We Got It Going On...and It's Ongoing

*"Greatness is not measured by what a man or woman accomplishes, but by the opposition, he or she has overcome to reach their goals." - Dorothy Height*

The Sisters of Service has partnered with other non-profit organizations that require ongoing participation. In other words, the train is always traveling on the tracks; it only stops to pick up more passengers. I just made that up (smile). The following is the list of ongoing community service activities that we currently participate in. If you have not signed up, please check with our CSP Chair as to what you need to do to get involved:

**SECOND HARVEST** - The GFWC Sisters of Service Woman's Club members are actively involved in volunteering at Second Harvest of the Big Bend Food Bank monthly. We have assisted in packaging boxes for COVID relief for families in the region. Second Harvest of the Big Bend is a member of the Feeding America network, the nation's largest domestic hunger-relief organization, comprising of 200 food banks. As the Big Bend region's primary source for charitable food, Second Harvest acts as a storage and distribution depot for over 149 smaller front-line agency partners.

**RAGS2BAGS** - The GFWC Sisters of Service Woman's Club has joined the Rags2Bags team to make fabric face masks. Members can pick up face mask kits every Thursday from 11 am to 2 pm at Faith Presbyterian Church, in the parking lot next to the Church office (2200 North Meridian Street). Rags2Bags is a project initiated by Sustainable Tallahassee, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting environmental, economic, and social sustainability in the Tallahassee regional area through education and collaboration.

**ONEBLOOD BLOOD DRIVE** - Every 56 days, the GFWC Sisters of Service Woman's Club will host a blood drive in conjunction with OneBlood. So far, we hosted our first one on Saturday, September 19, 2020, from 11 am to 4:30 pm. The second time it was held on Tuesday, December 15, 2020, from 12 noon to 5:30 pm. Our selected location is Walmart parking located at 3221 North Monroe Street. The CSP Chair will let us know when the next blood drive will be in 2021. Be on the lookout in your email inbox.

**GOOD NEWS OUTREACH** - Members of the GFWC Sisters of Service Woman's Club serve as drivers to deliver food to the 300 seniors supported by Good New Outreach. Good News Outreach is a faith-based organization that strives to reduce recidivism, hunger, homelessness, and isolation through uplifting and collaborative efforts in the Big Bend region.

**The ReFREEerator Project** - Please see the article in this newsletter

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## FAMU COVID-19 Testing Site

Members of the GFWC Sisters of Services Woman's Club served as volunteers at the FAMU Bragg Stadium COVID-19 Testing Center during the months of August and September. Testing is free and no physician referral is required. The site is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday unless closed due to inclement weather. Although walk-ups are accepted, pre-registration is recommended by going to the state vendor's website <https://curative.com>. For inquiries about their results, patients can contact the Curative support staff at [curativesupport@curative.com](mailto:curativesupport@curative.com) and 888-702-9042.

## Keep Tallahassee Beautiful – Shoreline Cleanup

The GFWC Sisters of Service Woman’s Club has joined Keep Tallahassee Beautiful for the clean up the shorelines and surrounding neighborhood project. This event was held on Saturday, September 19, 2020, from 9-11am. The club was assigned to Jack Lee Vause Park, located at 6024 Old Bainbridge Road, Tallahassee, FL. The Keep Tallahassee Beautiful Adopt-A-Shore Project was initiated by Sustainable Tallahassee, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting environmental, economic, and social sustainability in the Tallahassee regional area through education and collaboration.

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## October is Domestic Violence and Breast Cancer Awareness Month

*“You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated. In fact, it may be necessary to encounter the defeats, so you can know who you are, what you can rise from, how you can still come out of it.” – Maya Angelou*

### Domestic Violence Awareness

The Sisters of Service hosted a donation drive in support of domestic violence victims. The Domestic Violence Awareness Donations Drive began October 7 and ended on October 21, 2020. The club collected cosmetics and other needed items, which were donated to the Refuge House in Tallahassee. The mission of the Refuge House is to provide direct services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, and their children and families, as well as to eliminate such violence through community education and public advocacy.



### Breast Cancer Awareness

The Sisters of Service hosted a Breast Cancer Donation Drive from October 7 to October 23, 2020. The club collected blankets, hats, and headscarves for patients undergoing cancer treatments at the Tallahassee Memorial Cancer Center. The Center is the longest continuously accredited comprehensive program in the State of Florida and also accredited by the National Accreditation for Breast Centers. The Center offers several comprehensive services and treatments to cancer patients, which include Diagnostic Services, surgical services, treatments, recovery services, patient support services, and navigation services.



## Tallahassee Veterans Village Pantry Donation Drive



"Tis the season" of giving. Club members collected, bought and donated nonperishable items to help stock the food pantry at Veterans Village in Tallahassee. We were able to provide two car loads of food items. Tallahassee Veterans Village is a transitional housing program for male and female homeless veterans in Leon County and surrounding counties. The 2011 Florida Point-In-Time (PIT) Counts reported 5,644 homeless veterans. The 2017 count reported 2,789 homeless veterans. That drop is due in part to homeless programs like Veterans Village that have been started in the past decade. Thank you Sisters...YOU ROCK!

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## GFWC Day of Service - Tallahassee Council of the Blind

*"Embrace what makes you unique, even if it makes others uncomfortable. I didn't have to become perfect because I've learned throughout my journey that perfection is the enemy of greatness." – Janelle Monae*

December 3, 2020 is recognized as International Day of Persons with Disabilities and the GFWC Day of Service. The GFWC Sisters of Service Woman's Club, Inc. made a monetary donation to the Tallahassee Council for the Blind for the purchase of an Adaptive Bowling Rail. After they thanked us, they challenged us to a game of bowling. The members are looking forward to it! It was wonderful to meet and talk with the President Nancy Folsom and TCB Member Silla Miller.

### ReFREEerator Project

The Sisters of Service Woman's Club has partnered with sister clubs in District 3 in support of Tonya Williams the founder of a community refrigerator project that has been named ReFREEerator. The ReFREEerator is located at 1139 Kissimmee Street off of Lake Bradford Road in the Providence and Bond Communities. Its purpose is to provide food to the needy and hungry. Many days Ms Williams is providing all of the food. She drives for UBER on the weekends and with her tips she provides the food for the ReFREEerator. Her grandmother makes 20 sandwiches every day. Our club provides needed items (perishable and non-perishable) every 1st Monday via donations from members and funds from the club treasury.



## GFWC SOSWC Club Masks Still Available

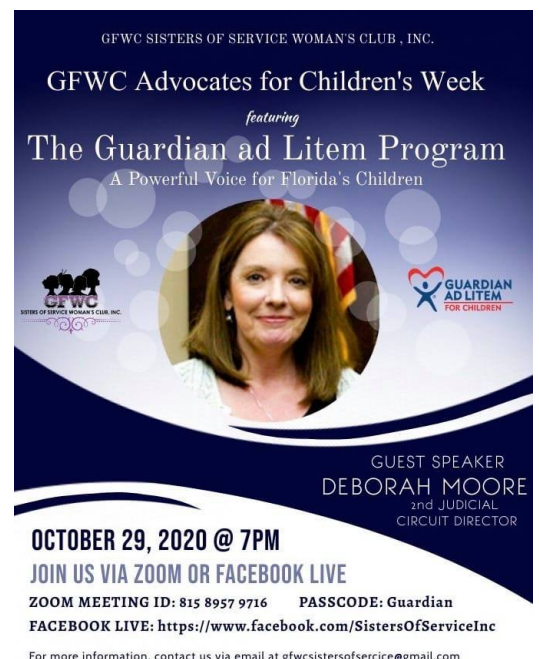
There are still masks available for purchase. There are three (3) different masks designs you can purchase from the club for \$12.00 each. The darker colored ones have a way to insert a filter, but they are durably made to help keep you safe. No mask is 100 percent, but the CDC recommends that everyone wear a mask indoors and outdoors to keep safe, so let us do our part. You can purchase them for YOUR personal wear only, since it bears our logo. We will not order any more masks until all of the masks are purchased on a first come, first serve basis. Please consider purchasing a mask and display our brand. You can buy one or all three.



## Advocates for Children Week

*“Let us remember: one book, one pen, one child, and one teacher can change the world.” –Malala Yousafzai*

During GFWC Advocates for Children’s Week, the GFWC Sisters of Service Woman’s Club spotlighted the Guardian ad Litem Program via Zoom and Facebook Live on Thursday, October 29, 2020. The guest speaker was Deborah Moore, 2nd Judicial Circuit Director. The Second Judicial Circuit Guardian ad Litem Program is part of a statewide coalition of community advocates and professional staff providing a powerful voice on behalf of Florida’s abused and neglected children.



GFWC SISTERS OF SERVICE WOMAN'S CLUB, INC.

GFWC Advocates for Children's Week

featuring

The Guardian ad Litem Program

A Powerful Voice for Florida's Children

GFWC  
SISTERS OF SERVICE WOMAN'S CLUB, INC.

GUARDIAN AD LITEM  
FOR CHILDREN

GUEST SPEAKER  
DEBORAH MOORE  
2nd JUDICIAL  
CIRCUIT DIRECTOR

OCTOBER 29, 2020 @ 7PM

JOIN US VIA ZOOM OR FACEBOOK LIVE

ZOOM MEETING ID: 815 8957 9716    PASSCODE: Guardian

FACEBOOK LIVE: <https://www.facebook.com/SistersOfServiceInc>

For more information, contact us via email at [gfwcsistersofservice@gmail.com](mailto:gfwcsistersofservice@gmail.com)

## What's Happening In Our District

On October 15th, several members represented our club at the District's Fall Tour of Officers that was held at the Sharing Tree. We had an opportunity to meet and greet the leadership from our Sister clubs that were present. The District has two meetings a year; the fall meeting is a business meeting and the spring meeting is a workshop. The Club Presidents had an opportunity for "bragging time" to share with others all of the good things their club is doing and planning. Our club received a resounding round of applause as we shared the numerous projects that we had done in the few months of our existence and the plans to do more. Our Sister clubs were also anxious to team up with us for community projects and fundraisers. At the end of the meeting, our group took a picture with the District Director.



### Like and Follow Us on Social Media

click on the icon to go directly to the page



## Club Social Events

10/3- Wine Night Name That Tune  
at 6:00 pm



# Hey Sisters...got an idea for an article?

SEND IDEAS AND ARTICLES TO:  
GFWCSISTERSOFSERVICE@GMAIL.COM



## 2020 Calendar of Events

### October:

- 08 - Executive Board Meeting
- 15 - District 3 Fall Tour of Officers
- 18 - Regular Meeting
- 20 - Executive Board Meeting
- 21 - Ty's Sweets and Pies Fundraiser Begins
- 22 - Poinsettia Fundraiser Begins
- 22 - Refuge House Donations
- 22 - Domestic Violence Awareness Facebook Live - Survivor Speaks
- 23 - Cancer Center Donations
- 29 - Advocates for Children Facebook Live Event
- 29 - Poinsettia Fundraiser Ends
- 31 - Trunk or Treat
- 31 - Ty's Sweets and Pies Fundraiser Ends

### November:

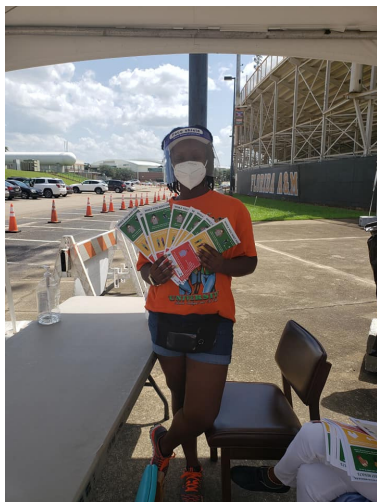
- 02 - Stock ReFREEerator
- 05 - Executive Board Meeting
- 15 - Regular Meeting
- 20 - Holiday Cash Fundraiser Begins
- 30 - Veteran's Village Donation

### December:

- 03 - GFWC Day of Service
- 07 - Stock ReFREEerator
- 11 - Holiday Cash Fundraiser
- 15 - OneBlood Blood Drive Ends
- 16 - Senior Christmas Cards
- 17 - Executive Board Meeting
- 18 - Holiday Cash Giveaway Drawing
- 20 - Regular Meeting (Elections)

# Volunteers in Action Photo Gallery

## FAMU COVID Testing Site



## Trunk or Treat







## Community Service Programs

### Our Committees Need You.

If you are interested in serving as a Chair, Co-Chair or working with any committee, send an email to: [presidentsoswc@gmail.com](mailto:presidentsoswc@gmail.com)

- Care Committee
- Membership Committee
- Hospitality Committee
- Social Committee
- Health and Wellness Committee
- Communications Committee
- Public Relations Committee
- Nominations Committee
- Community Service Programs Committee
- Budget Committee
- Bylaws Committee
- Fundraising Committee

#### Club Contacts @ Gmail:

Vanessa J. Moore, President - [presidentsoswc@gmail.com](mailto:presidentsoswc@gmail.com)

Donna J. Collier, Vice President - [vicepresidentsoswc@gmail.com](mailto:vicepresidentsoswc@gmail.com)

Kim L. Brown, Treasurer - [treasurersoswc@gmail.com](mailto:treasurersoswc@gmail.com)

Crystal J. Bryant, Corresponding Secretary - [gfwcsistersofservice@gmail.com](mailto:gfwcsistersofservice@gmail.com)

Cameka N. Gardner, Recording Secretary - [recordingsecretarysoswc@gmail.com](mailto:recordingsecretarysoswc@gmail.com)

#### Club mailing address:

2980 Raymond Diehl Road  
Tallahassee, Florida 32309

**ARTS AND CULTURE** – The study of art and culture enriches the human experience. Art education improves problem solving and critical thinking skills, builds focus and perseverance, and nurtures creativity, confidence, and collaboration. Cultural awareness promotes effective communication and profoundly increases the ability to appreciate and enjoy a variety of new people and experiences.

**CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH** – 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.

**EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES** – GFWC members promote education in both children and adults. We aim to help others, while we also continue to learn. Projects in the Education Community Service Program are designed to foster schools, as well as other educational institutions and opportunities, and to promote literacy, libraries, and the love of a good book. Through these efforts, we encourage the growth of individuals and communities at home and around the world.

**ENVIRONMENT** – The GFWC Environment Community Service Program encourages us to become stewards of the earth by working to preserve the world's resources, protect wildlife and domesticated animals, live sustainably, and beautify our communities and enjoy nature.

**HEALTH AND WELLNESS** – The human body, mind, and spirit comprise our health and wellness. To improve our well being, we must address three key components: nutrition, disease prevention, and physical and emotional care. This Community Service Program aims to explore the various opportunities for awareness and advancement of each of these vital areas.

If you have questions regarding any community service activity or have recommendations for the club, please contact our Community Service Program (CSP) Chair.