



## **GFWC Community Service Programs 2020-2022**

### **Realignment of 2018-2020 Programs**

#### **ARTS AND CULTURE**

- "Our Town is Great" map w/ points of interest, distribute through prime locations.
- Host an art supply drive for school district or community center.
- Hold "Chalk the Walk" contest on sidewalks of municipal buildings, schools, and other locations.
- Hire student musicians to perform at club events.
- Hold a fundraiser to provide large equipment for local schools' art, music, or drama programs.
- Partner with groups of girls on free Halloween face painting.
- Attend public art, music, and drama events.
- Use member artists for creation of club and event items.
- Decorate community with oversized greeting cards.
- Sponsor ads in local school or theatre playbills.
- Hold artistic event as a fundraiser for local art and cultural programs.
- Sponsor an author to visit the local library.
- Hold an art contest with elementary students drawing important community members.
- Establish scholarships for art, literature, drama, or music.
- Establish awards for artistic achievements of club and community members.
- Help elementary students make Valentine cards for community Firemen, Police, Veterans, etc.
- Sponsor Youth Art Month activities in March.
- Feature art created by children with disabilities during Special Olympics.
- Add a category for special-needs students to State Federation Youth Art Contests.
- Establish/support artist-in-residence programs.
- Establish/facilitate an Art Therapy program at nursing home or assisted-living facility.
- Volunteer at local schools or other established art programs.
- Feature art or art forms from another culture at club meetings.
- Decorate or have others decorate piggy banks to raise funds for local art programs.
- Provide or teach a lesson on culture (can include food).
- Celebrate Hot Tea Month in January and learn about the history of tea from Chinese legends.
- Host an International Dinner Party, choosing a county or region as a theme.

#### **CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH**

- Celebrate patriotism.
- Visit, volunteer, and help preserve historic sites, monuments, and homes.
- Promote classroom lessons on American heritage symbols.
- Provide copies of The Constitution to new citizens or school classrooms.
- Participate in the legislative process by encouraging qualified women to seek office.
- Help someone study for the U.S. Citizenship Test.
- Observe the National Day of Remembrance and Moment of Remembrance on Memorial Day.
- Hold a National Issues Forum.

Work to promote student volunteer service requirement in schools.  
Work with shelters for women veterans who are homeless.  
Conduct programs and projects to recognize and honor all veterans.  
Volunteer at your local USO office.  
Other USO projects as outlined.  
Provide resources to support military families.  
Assist and advocate for wounded, ill, or injured soldiers, veterans, and their families.  
Assist Sew Much Comfort to supply free adaptive clothing.  
Promote hiring of returning veterans.  
Various other programs with servicemen, veterans, and military families as outlined.  
Work with agencies to provide community training on disaster preparedness.  
Have members develop a Disaster Preparedness toolkit for their homes.  
Other disaster preparedness programs as outlined.  
Work with fire departments to provide fire safety awareness.  
Sponsor community programs on home fire drills, safe storage of combustibles, etc.  
Get involved with National Night Out events.  
Promote vehicle safety.  
Other safety and crime prevention projects as outlined.  
Collect "Books for the Brave" for Veterans and Veterans' Homes.  
Organize financial workshops for women, retirees, single parents, and/or college students.  
Challenge another organization to a canned food drive or walk contest.  
Provide needed donations and volunteer at local food banks and homeless shelters.  
Provide rides to families in need to the food pantry.  
Support/fund agencies that provide services to the homeless and mentally challenged.  
Organize clothing drives for agencies that distribute to the needy.  
Host sewing and knitting classes for shelter donations.  
Work with Junior Girl Scouts to prepare a simple shelter meal, enabling them to earn a badge.  
Promote puppy raising for Canine Companions.  
Various other Canine Companion projects as listed.  
Make "Days for Girls" kits to provide feminine supplies so girls can go to school and work.  
Have club member sign-up for the Legislative Action Center to learn about International Issues.  
Support "Free the Girls" with a "Bras and Brews" event.  
Raise money for Heifer International with "Quarters for Quackers" or "Pass the Pig" campaigns.  
Have a bake sale or "livestock auction" with cupcakes decorated as animals to benefit Heifer.  
Other Heifer projects/events as outlined.

### **ENVIRONMENT**

Clean up trash and litter.  
Recycle.  
Go paperless.  
Find creative and purposeful ways to reuse glass containers.  
Donate or sell old clothing.  
Reuse plastic bags as liners in smaller trash cans.  
Stop using plastic grocery bags, opting for a reusable bag instead.

Cut down on plastic water bottles and disposable cups.  
Carry a reusable water bottle or travel mug.  
Explore zero waste practices.  
Ride a bicycle rather than drive.  
Start a compost pile.  
Make your own natural cleaning products.  
Visit a park on a regular basis.  
Enjoy nature.  
Plant and care for trees or donate funds for reforestation.  
Plant a garden at home, clubhouse, or community.  
Plant native wildflowers.  
Conserve water and energy.  
Choose projects about the environment—conservation, reducing, reusing, recycling.  
Plan a clean-up day in your community.  
Educate children on how they can protect the environment.  
Invite local experts and others to speak at club meetings about conservation and beautification.  
Add native plant species for the beautification and restoration of land and waterways.  
Clean up roadways, waterways, and trails.  
Implement beautification projects at parks, hospitals, shelters, and other community places.  
Clean up trash after youth games and community events.  
Encourage preservation of historic properties.  
Visit a state or national park.  
Tour a botanical garden.  
Create community gardens to promote self-sufficiency.  
Advocate for and investigate local food and where it comes from.  
Preserve natural habitats to protect wildlife.  
Provide needed items to sanctuaries for animal rehabilitation and care.  
Support curbside recycling programs or organize one.  
Work with others to facilitate proper disposal of unused medicines and needles.  
Participate in/volunteer at a hazardous waste collection event.  
Visit a landfill to learn about practices that protect the land, air, and water.  
Investigate renewable energy projects and sources in your area.  
Participate in an awareness day such as Arbor Day, America Recycles Day, Earth Day, etc.  
Start a school or classroom garden in spring to learn about weather, nutrition, and life cycles.

### **EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES**

Develop a library tour for children and end with a library card and book for them to keep.  
Facilitate or join an English conversation group for international students/visitors.  
Establish a “Little Free Library” in your area.  
Work with the ALA or others on a “1000 Books before Kindergarten” program.  
Assemble a “Books for Babies Basket” for new babies in the community.  
Be a library advocate.  
Invite a language teacher to host a bilingual story hour w/ books of other language/culture.  
Host story times, parties, or adult book discussions at the local library.

Donate school supplies to schools in need throughout the community and state.  
 Collect manipulatives for preschools and Head Start Programs in Aug/Sept.  
 Donate recess and playground equipment.  
 Work to stop bullying with blue ribbons, blue pinky swear, and "Stop Bullying" bracelets.  
 Fund school buses for class field trips.  
 Ask about and fund the needs of librarians.  
 Provide "Buddy Benches" on playgrounds for lonely students.  
 Volunteer as an academic mentor in afterschool programs.  
 Provide materials for an afterschool homework center.  
 Organize a career shadowing day, pairing students w/ community leaders and professionals.  
 Support teachers with assistance at the beginning of the school year and "Just in Case Kits."  
 Establish ESL conversation groups.  
 Sponsor a "Take a Break and Read" program.  
 Become an adult literacy volunteer.  
 Develop a Family Reading Workshop with tips for parents for reading to their children.  
 Create themed early literacy kits.  
 Help GED adult students with babysitting services.  
 Sponsor a Global Reading Challenge for older children with a quiz bowl.  
 Create a reading nook at a local laundromat for adults and children.  
 Donate books of diversity to schools, children's hospitals, and other sites.  
 Host a book shower for a shelter with adult and children's books.  
 Identify the need for English as a Second Language program in your community.  
 Read to others such as children in homeless shelters, the elderly, or visually impaired.  
 Donate a bookshelf and books to new Habitat for Humanity homes.  
 Hold a "My Favorite Book Contest" w/ 6<sup>th</sup> graders awarded a prize for winning book reports.  
 Celebrate Dia de los Ninos, Dia de los Libros (Children's Day/Book Day) on April 30.

### **HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

Start a program that helps individuals compile their medical info in case of an emergency.  
 Research unaddressed community problems and identify those who are underserved.  
 Promote health and safety information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.  
 Plan programs on women's heart health.  
 Know your blood pressure.  
 Get moving, eat healthy, and maintain a healthy weight.  
 Start club meetings with a warm-up and have fun with chair exercises.  
 Sponsor a National Wear Red Day celebration.  
 Decorate street parking meters with red ribbons for Women's Heart Awareness.  
 Host a Valentine social serving heart-healthy refreshments.  
 Use the Heart Truth Speaker's Kit to conduct an educational session for women.  
 Sponsor the Red Dress Sunday/Sabbath service at a local church.  
 Display the Red Dress logo throughout the community.  
 Start an Eat Smart for a Healthy Heart program with cooking demos and tastings.  
 Learn and share facts on gynecologic cancer.  
 Order free Inside Knowledge materials and distribute them to your club and community.

Promote Inside Knowledge, especially on awareness days.  
Celebrate June as National Cancer Survivor Month with lavender ribbons.  
Decorate with pink (breast), teal (cervical), and black (skin) ribbons for cancer awareness days.  
Promote Dining with Diabetes by distributing food charts and info, and holding cooking demos.  
Plan various programs for breast cancer awareness, such as a Bra-ha-ha fundraiser.  
Offer free mammograms to the needy.  
Organize/participate in health fairs and forums.  
Learn about proper use of medications and issues with prescription drug addiction.  
Help prevent prescription drug abuse by distributing info on safe disposal of medications.  
Create and distribute a resource list of women's clinics and shelters.  
Educate club and community on the "Make the First Five Count" initiative.  
Promote Autism Awareness in the month of April.  
Learn how children grow and learn at different rates.  
Support and walk with an Easterseals client in "Walk with Me."  
Sign up to receive monthly e-newsletters from Easterseals.  
Arrange for an Easterseals rep to speak at a club meeting about their programs.  
Donate birthday bags to Easterseals affiliates to share with clients.  
Incorporate fitness activities into club and community, such as a fun run.  
Start an exercise group in your club with a weight loss challenge.  
Promote healthy self-esteem and self-worth.  
Host cooking and nutrition classes for underprivileged children and teach food safety.  
Partner with a local health organization to sponsor First Aid and CPR classes and programs.  
Support Shot@Life with a "Pop a Shot" fundraiser, shooting baskets for prizes at a local game.  
Other Shot@Life projects/events as outlined.  
Hold a Halloween-themed cornhole tournament for UNICEF for a "hole" lotta fun.  
Other UNICEF projects/events as outlined.  
Make Smile Splints for Operation Smile.  
Other Operation Smile projects/events as outlined.