

# NEW JERSEY STATE FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS OF GFWC

Mary E. Wolfe, President

*A Proud Legacy – A Shining Future*

## **ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN**

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How many times do you find yourself saying, “We could have done that had we known?” Although many clubs do not formally meet over the summer, they have social events, send out newsletters and emails and start planning their calendars for the fall. Here are a few things to share with members.

For crafters – Lion Brand Yarn publishes free patterns to knit or crochet hats, suggesting using crafting to help end bullying. Blue is chosen as the color of awareness and solidarity. The New Jersey facility at 135 Kero Road, Carlstadt, NJ aims to collect enough hats by September 24 to outfit a local school of 1500 to wear the hats during October, Anti-Bullying Month. To learn more and access patterns, visit [www.lionbrand.com/hat-not-hate](http://www.lionbrand.com/hat-not-hate).

For those who sew – Ryan’s Case for Smiles is a volunteer organization founded in 2007, inspired by a young man diagnosed with cancer at age 12, who maintained a positive spirit and would not let his illness define his outlook on life. The organization aims to have 44,000 whimsical pillowcases donated to hospitals each September to give children an emotional boost, one for each child in treatment. To learn more and get directions for fabrics and patterns, visit [www.caseforsmiles](http://www.caseforsmiles).

For those who shop – The joy of a child receiving a birthday or holiday gift is increased when it is wrapped, and they experience the excitement of opening it to see what is inside. Organizations that collect gifts for children can also use wrapping supplies: paper, tissue, ribbons and bows. Consider purchasing supplies to add to your donations. For those attending NJSFWC Fall Conference on October 21, donations of gift-wrapping supplies will be collected and delivered to The Children’s Home Society of New Jersey, an organization serving at-risk infants, children, youth and families. Look for those good buys as you browse the stores over the summer.

For those doing the planning - Remember to review the Advocates for Children Supplement distributed to Club Presidents and published in the NJSFWC Yearbook for ideas on events and programs for your club’s calendar.