

NEW JERSEY STATE FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUB OF GFWC
GFWC Signature Project Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention

1. **The Branchburg Women's Club** a club of 47 members partnered with the non-profit Safe+Sound of Somerset County providing comprehensive services to survivors of domestic abuse and their families... After a program presented in February, members of the club collected 114 items of girls' and women underwear and socks (an in-kind donation of \$309.00. Then in October the club collected snacks and toiletries to the shelter (112 items in-kind donation of \$285. The Club bought \$235 in give cards in lieu of their Holiday Gift Drive with the community because of COVID19 restrictions plus a \$50 donation... Total of 9 projects, 146 volunteer hours, \$2,000 in donations and \$1600 in-kind donations.

2. **The GFWC Gloucester County Women's Club**, a club of 29 members. The club members were informed of the GFWC Domestic Survivor's Scholarship and made 10 copies of the application and provided it to the Center for Family Services Center. At the same time the shelter let the club know they were in need of underwear, 77 pairs of women's and girl's underwear and 6 boy's underwear was donated by 11 members, 11 hours of service and in kind donation of \$308. The club also discovered that each time a new person comes into the shelter that they need a new pillow, so the club donated 19 pillows (7 members 7 hours in kind donation of \$190.: Finding out that the shelter was in need of PJ's, 12 members donated 36 sets of new pajamas (14 hours in kind donation of \$432.)) This club did 5 projects, 34 hours, \$50 in donations and in kind donation of \$930.00

3. **The Women's Club of West Deptford** has two members who serve as a team for Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention. They are trained volunteer advocates for Family Services and Survivors Empowering the Rights of Victims (SERV). Prior to COVID19, this two person team spent 20 hours meeting with victims and on SERV meetings. The team found alternative ways to meet the needs of SERV by spearheading a project entitled "You Are Beautiful" and requested their club members to write comforting notes to the survivors, providing over 50 handcrafted as well as purchased cards to the survivors. Another member is the administrative arm of the club and provides awareness within and outside the club and by fundraising for both monetary and in kind donations. She was able to collect \$150 in gift cards and \$150 for the center's backpack project. In kind donations resulted in several sets of new twin sheet sets and towels donated. Other efforts include encouraging members to include the Federation's Facebook Frame "Stop the Violence" on their personal websites and working with SERV to encourage participation in the 2021 GFWC Success for Survivor's Scholarship \$100 donation was given towards this project. The team spent 144 hours on meetings and projects. The club also adopted two families and provided holiday gifts at a cost of \$1,200. This club did 9 projects, spent 146 hours and spent \$2,000 in donations and \$1600 in kind donations.

4. **The Haddon Fortnightly Evening Membership Department (EMD)** a club of 71 members has worked with the Mothers Matter: The Lauren Ross Albert Foundation. One of their projects is to provide suitable clothes for women returning to the workforce. The members of the club donated clothing and accessories. The club also provided five gently used suitcases to a local shelter, Peaceful Tomorrow's located in Camden County who provides youth and parents of domestic violence with a safe environment. This club also worked with "For Dignity, a non-profit who helps women in strip clubs and living on the streets to find hope and freedom from sexual exploitation. The club donated \$100 to their efforts. This club completed 4 projects, 46 hours \$200.00 in donations and in kind of \$1,456.00

5. **The GFWC Marlton Women's Club** a club of 40 members continued their support and special relationship with Catholic Charities of Burlington County, NJ Providence House, a domestic violence program and "safe" house. As many shelters experienced an urgent need for food, because of the pandemic shutdown, this club provided \$750 to offer immediate relief to the Providence House. The needs of this organization was communicated to club members and as a result several food drives amongst the members and the community resulted in a several vans full of 35 full sized towels and wash cloths which is a constant need as it is part of a new client kit for incoming clients. The community drive included items for the pantry, cleaning supplies, food storage, laundry and paper products for the safe house and the extended client community. A request for Backpacks and school items resulted in a large donation from members of crayons, notebooks, pencils, highlighters, markers, post-it notes and more.

A member of this club who happens to work with the Providence House as a trained domestic violence counselor notified the club of their need for Halloween party items for their PALS program. The DV committee partnered with the Advocates for Children committee to provide donated pumpkins, treats and party items to help with the Providence House's party. In addition the club also provided gifts for the Holidays including purses, make up, cosmetic bags, perfume, personal care items and nail supplies. Designer purses were included in the community drive. Information about the GFWC Survivor Scholarship was also provided to the Shelter's contact. . This club did 6 projects, 115 hours, \$1525 in donations and \$1,000 in kind.

6. **The Metuchen Edison Women's Club**, a small club of 18 members managed to hold a program in February on Elder Abuse. Detective Danielle Han from the NJ Attorney General's Office spoke about the many types of abuse including physical, sexual, emotional and/or psychological, neglect, abandonment and financial or material exploitation. This program provided awareness of what members who have older relatives and family members in a home or institution should be aware of and to report any immediate danger to the police. Other non-emergency situations should be reported to the County's family and children's services.

7. **The GFWC Hopatcong Woman's Club** (36 members) contacted "I Support the Girls", which works with homeless girls and women as well as domestic violence shelters and encourages girls to enter a shelter, and protect them from being sexually exploited. This organization needed help collecting new or gently used bras, providing hygiene kits with personal feminine products. The club brought awareness of this organization to all the clubs of NJSFWC through the State Chairman, who publicized information all about the I Support the Girls organization. This club has a collection basket at the Wellness Center in Hopatcong to collect bras and new toiletry items. The bras and toiletry items were provided to the I Support the Girls organization, 150 hours \$1,740 in kind donations.

8. **The GFWC Vernon Township Women's Club** of 34 members supports DASI which is a shelter located in their area. Every month the club members do a food collection. They ask DASI what their needs are for the month and members always go above and beyond in fulfilling their needs. Sometimes it needs gift cards, sweat pants and tops for moms and their children. Because of the pandemic, DASI was shut down from the public, but once they were able to receive donations, Vernon club women provided bags of much needed food at their door. At Christmas, the members provided gifts for the children as well as for their mothers. (100 hours and \$700 in donations). A total of 3 projects, 253 hours, \$3600.00 and \$23 in kind donations were provided by this small club.

9. **The GFWC Women's Club of Bloomfield** a club of 43 members adopted a Safe House in their area and held a Housewarming Shower for the residents to furnish their apartments. Items donated included bathroom sets, sheets, comforters, blankets, kitchen utensils, kitchen towels, pot holders, dinnerware set, flatware, blenders, toaster, handmixer, a toaster oven, a Microwave, coffee maker with mugs and coffee, crock pots, knives, detergents, paper towels, toilet tissues, electric slicers, can openers, Rubbermaid take-along, glasses, bath towels, and gift cards. Notes wishing them well in their new life and stepping away from abuse was included. (75 hours, \$25.00 and in kind \$2100. Another project involved Valentine's Day where our Chairman purchased candy hearts for the residents of our "safe house." These candies were to be given to the children to give to their Moms. A card signing party was held where members gathered to sign the cards with supportive and inspirational messages of encouragement. (2 projects, 25 hours, \$150.00 and \$75 in kind donations) Despite the COVID, this club contacted the Director of the Safe House to find out what might be needed. Her response was that due to COVID, many residents were being moved to hotels to maintain the safe distancing rules. The need was for micro-wavable food products, plastic utensils, paper products peanut butter and jelly, crackers and diapers newborn size 6. (40 hours \$1,250 and \$1,375 in kind donations). TOTAL PROJECTS 15, 470 HOURS, \$1250 in donations and \$5,460 in kind donations.

10. **The GFWC Woman's Club of Upper Montclair** with a membership of 102 held awareness of Domestic and Sexual violence via the internet and shared articles from the NJSFWC ALMANAC. They held a collection of new socks for the shelter in their area. 50 pairs of new socks were delivered with an in kind donation of \$180. Pinwheels were planted by members at their clubhouse with a sig to bring awareness to Child Abuse Prevention. Fifteen hygiene kits containing 8 different items were donated to Clara Maas Shelters (\$120 in kind donation). Due to a good relationship with a manufacturer of blankets, a member received a donation of 500 new blankets of which 200 were given to shelters in Irvington, Newark and Clara Maas. (6 hours in kind donation of \$1,800). TOTAL PROJECTS; 3 13 HOURS IN KIND \$2,100).