

**Home Life Community Service
Program/Partnership**
Fall Board 2010
Bulletin #1



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As you probably have heard by now, what we once called “Departments” are now called “Community Service Programs,” which really is a great description of what we do...we service our communities with our projects and programs. Instead of Divisions, each project falls into either the Partnership area or the Collaboration area. I am excited to be the Home Life CSP Partnership Chairman for this administration, and I want to work with your club to make the most of these partnership opportunities.

GFWC has teamed up with eight Home Life partner agencies to provide a variety of resources for your club to use in your projects and programs. GFWC Partners are organizations that operate at the national or international level and offer unique and customized services such as project materials, speakers, kits, and/or additional information specifically designed for GFWC clubs to help our clubs be more effective in those areas.

Look through the list below and choose the agencies you would like to work with. Remember that the quality of your projects is more important than the quantity, so select the ones that are of the greatest interest to your members and the ones where you think you can make the biggest impact.

Alzheimer’s Association www.ALZ.org
Contact: Lauren Fritz (312-335-5828) Lauren.Fritz@ALZ.org

Canine Companions for Independence www.CCI.org
Contact: Bob Bunger (707-577-1700) BBunger@CCI.org
Our Florida contact is Cathy Rogers (407-522-3349)

Easter Seals www.EasterSeals.com
Contact: Janet Jamieson (312-726-6200)

Habitat for Humanity International www.Habitat.org
Contact: Kimberly Cooper (800-422-4828) publicinfo@habitat.org

March of Dimes Birth Foundation www.MarchOfDimes.com
Contact: Rebecca Smith (914-997-4541) RSmith@MarchOfDimes.com

National Heart Lung and Blood Institute www.nhlbi.nih.gov/Educational/Hearttruth
nhlbiinfo@nhlbi.nih.gov Phone: 301-592-8573

National Osteoporosis Foundation www.NOF.org
Contact: Kris Blanchette (202-721-6376 or 800-231-4222) Kris.Blanchette@NOF.org

Women’s Institute for a Secure Retirement www.WiserWomen.org
Contact: Lara Hinz Info@WiserWomen.org

Once you have selected the agencies you want to work with, contact them and ask for any information they can send or e-mail to you. Some of the agencies have developed programs, fundraisers, or projects specifically designed for our clubs. The national offices may direct you to your local office to have a more personal contact person. You can also get a lot of information by accessing their websites. Most of the agencies offer free materials that they will mail to you; some of them may charge a small fee, but they offer a discount to GFWC members.

All of your Home Life projects and programs will be reported together in one Home Life report. Your Home Life Collaboration Chairman, Carolyn Campbell, and I will separate out the Collaboration and Partnership projects, and there will be awards in each area. In order for your Home Life project or program to be counted as a Partnership project/program, you need to use a GFWC Partner agency in some way. You can have a speaker from one of the agencies, hand out brochures, or hold a fundraising event to benefit that agency. These are all ways to incorporate our partner agencies into our club projects.

Here are some ideas of projects and programs that your club can do in the Home Life CSP Partnership area:

1. Participate in the Alzheimer's Memory Walk, a fundraiser to help raise money for the awareness and treatment of Alzheimer's Disease.
2. Show the Canine Companions for Independence video "Making Miracles Happen" at a club meeting and then raffle off a cute stuffed puppy dog as a fundraiser for CCI.
3. Bring a smile to the face of Easter Seals clients by hosting an event (ice cream social, tea party, carnival or senior prom) on the first day of spring (March 20, 2011).
4. Volunteer to work on a Habitat for Humanity house in your community. If you can't help build a house, then volunteer to provide refreshments.
5. Hold a baby shower at a teen pregnancy agency and include brochures from the March of Dimes, an agency that provides valuable information on preventing birth defects and infant mortality.
6. Use "The Heart Truth for Women: A Speaker's Kit" to give a presentation at a club or community event (available on the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute website).
7. Sell *Pearls of Strength* bracelets as a fundraiser for the National Osteoporosis Foundation.
8. Invite a financial planner to provide a seminar about retirement investment opportunities and hand out brochures from the Women's Institute for a Secure Retirement.

Be sure to check the GFWC website for more information on the Home Life partner agencies and how you can work with them to keep ourselves and our communities healthy. GFWC is giving a \$50 award annually to one club in the nation to recognize creativity in implementing an effective Home Life Community Service Partnership Program. So, get your creative juices flowing, and I look forward to hearing about how your partner projects.