

**Public Issues  
Partnership**  
Fall Board 2011  
Bulletin 3



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## **GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS AND THE USO PARTNERING TO SUPPORT OUR TROOPS AND THEIR FAMILIES**

GFWC Public Issues Chairman, Carol Waters announced on August 1<sup>st</sup> that USO would be added as a partnership during 2011-2012. You can explore the wealth of information that is located at [www.uso.org](http://www.uso.org) or contact Lisa Ferrari [lferrari@uso.org](mailto:lferrari@uso.org). Lisa is the Relationship Manager, Clubs and Organizations. For \$10, you can participate in the United Through Reading Military program, which enables a service member to video record themselves reading a children's book to their little ones back home. Better yet, you could hold a book drive. There is also USO Operation Phone Home, donating a \$25 phone card, provides one soldier with a call home or \$25 donation allows 70 soldiers to call home using the satellite service. These are only a few of the programs, be sure to refer to the website for more information.

### **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS:**

I have copied a message from Beverly W. Lassiter, GFWC Signature Project Chairman-Domestic Violence Awareness

Dear GFWC Signature Project Chairmen,

Summer barbeques and kids go hand in hand. Why not turn a barbeque you're already having into a house party that raises awareness and funds for healthy child development? We've designated **October 14-16** as the weekend for people across the country to host parties supporting children. However, parties can happen anywhere, anytime. You'll be helping to change the way our country values children while having a good time. We just can't promise to get rid of the ketchup stains.

We have a goal to raise \$30,000 by the end of the weekend, and the great news is, through game watches, brunches, and dinner parties, we're already a quarter of the way there! Please help us reach our goal by hosting a party, attending a party, or holding a virtual party online.

Visit [housepartyweekend.org](http://housepartyweekend.org) for more details. Our [toolkit](#) will help you decide on a party idea, fundraising goal, and more.

Everyone has a role to play in creating a healthy future for children.. Help support Prevent Child Abuse America in a fun and creative way. We want to celebrate children every day of the year.

Sincerely,

Prevent Child Abuse America and  
Beverly Lassiter, Chairman  
GFWC Signature Project

Everyday we witness an increase of Domestic Violence, as adults we understand situations that lead to violence, but to a child they don't understand "why" and through this project we could exhibit support and let the children be children.

Just a reminder to report your projects to Public Issues/Partnership, and it would be greatly appreciated if these projects were listed consecutively.

### **SEW MUCH COMFORT:**

Information taken from the latest Sew Much Comfort news brief; The number of wounded each week averages between 125-150, bringing the total, as of August first, to 44,746. Congratulations to all the volunteers that are supporting SMC, you have made it possible that **103,369** items have been sent since November 2004. What an achievement!!

During the GFWC/FFWC Convention in April, an acceptable garment and fabric choice/size hand out was given to everyone at the workshop. Please refer to this when making garment donations, remember all garments must be new and of a durable quality. A volunteer, sewing these garments, spend many hours adapting the garment, could be 4 ½ hrs for a tee shirt. If the quality of the garment is inferior, it is difficult and some times discouraging to adapt. Remember quality is better than quantity.

Look to your local Wal-Mart for financial donations. Every store gives \$50-\$1000 each month. Contact me and I will direct you to SMC, for assistance in completing the application process.

**ALERT**....seems GFWC California has jumped in with both feet to support Sew Much Comfort, and the comment has been made that they will “knock the socks off GFWC Florida” Let's show them what we can do....

### **SAFETY:**

Be alert during the remaining months of our Hurricane Season, follow the directions of your local Emergency Management and have a plan to evacuate. Have a Disaster plan for contacting your club members and clubs in your District.

### **RECOGNIZING/HONORING FEMALE VETERANS:**

Support the needs of our female soldiers, home and as they are deployed. Continue to send packages, offer assistance to their families and honor them with luncheons and proclamations. A favorite is Operation-Hug-A-Hero, children love to have a huggable comfort when Mom is away.

Last year you reported wonderful, thoughtful and generous projects to Public Issue/Partnership. It was from your reporting, that the projects, hours and generous donations gave GFWC/Florida first place at the GFWC Convention in June. If everyone repeats what they did last year...no doubt, we can do it again! Thank you for making my job easy.

***May God Bless America***

