



These were the Top 10 Civic Engagement Projects in GFWC for 2020.

Little Food Pantry

The Little Food Pantry project began with the acquisition of one Little Food Pantry by a Meadowlarks of Cheyenne (WY) club member. This was refurbished and set in place inside an AmVets Post. Club and AmVets members worked to fill it with non-perishable food and hygiene items. Clubwomen also manned another Little Food Pantry outside a local church, working in coordination with church members to keep the food inside the church and replenish when needed with a scheduled rotation.

Summer Sack Lunch Ministry

The Sorosis Club (OK) partnered with Methodist Women's Lunch Ministries to help with their Summer Sack Lunch Ministry. Beginning in May and ending in August 2020, sack lunches were furnished for children and older adults. Club members volunteered time to make and deliver lunches. Sixty-five children were fed each day and approximately 1,887 meals were served over the summer.

Saidie's Cupboard

The Salem Woman's Service Club's (OR) program, Saidie's Cupboard, partners with local public health nurses and a teen parent program to create "family bags" of basic household items and "infant bags" for basic newborn needs such as clothing, blankets, diapers, toys, and books. The club supplies the bags whenever requested by the agencies, who then distribute them to needy families. Within the past year, 88 family bags, 15 infant bags, and 1,982 diapers were donated.

Teens in Transition

The Dover Area Woman's Club (NH) supports the Teens in Transition Program by distributing donated items throughout the year. This program is for students who are homeless and spend their nights on the street, in a car, or moving from one friend's house to another. Members collected and donated clothing, food, snacks, and personal care items to the Teen Closet at the local high school.

Purses for Homeless Women Veterans

The Woman's Club of Hartland (WI) collected gently used purses and purchased toiletries to donate to Women's Veterans Initiative, a part of Milwaukee Homeless Veterans. The club filled 100 purses with toiletries.

Ladies of Liberty

The Mary Stewart Woman's Club (NC) members donated various items to deployed female service members through Ladies of Liberty, part of the Soldiers' Angels organization that provides care packages to women serving overseas. Members donated snacks, medicines, personal health and hygiene items, and filled USPS military boxes to ship overseas. The first shipment was so popular, club members decided to repeat the project. Twenty-nine female service members were served by the second shipment.

Military Tree of Honor

A "Military Tree of Honor" was created by the GFWC Sylvania Junior Woman's Club (GA) in partnership with the public library. A white tree was erected with an American flag topper, red and blue ornaments, an Americana tree skirt, and combat boots that were worn in Afghanistan around the base. One hundred photos of living, deceased, active, or retired service members were submitted. Photos were scanned onto cardstock and labelled with the service member's name, rank, and branch.

Wreaths Across America

GFWC Lanier Club (MS), along with the city of Okolona and Carnegie Library, supported Wreaths Across America. Two hundred and eighty-five wreaths were sold in honor of or in memory of a veteran. Prior to the ceremony, flags were placed on each of the veterans' graves. A ceremony was held on National Wreaths Across America Day in December at Okolona Cemetery with patriotic music playing. The names of all veterans were printed in the local newspaper for 11 weeks.

Civic Safety and Racism

The Franklin Woman's Club (NJ) sponsored a program, "Civic Safety and Racism," inviting the town's director of public safety to speak on the timely topic. The director, who is also the first African-American and first woman to lead the local public safety department, spoke on community policing initiatives. To continue to broaden their awareness, some members attended workshops on systemic racism offered by Rutgers University.

The Right to Vote

The right to vote was celebrated by the Woman's Club of Westminster, Inc. (MD) in a variety of ways. A member researched and presented a paper at a club meeting that highlighted the five main arguments used in opposition to suffrage. The motivation of those opposed was explored, as were the rebuttal arguments. Members wore period costumes and yellow roses. Another member wrote a play highlighting women's suffrage events in Tennessee, read by club members.