

2016 GFWC Florida Fundraising and Development Report



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1. The **GFWC Sebastian River Junior Woman's Club** holds an annual Haunted House (HH). The Haunted House building phase begins the last weekend in August and tear down is in November. Junior members, spouses, and other volunteers including **GFWC Sebastian River Woman's Club** and **GFWC Sebastian River Juniores** help to build this awesome project. Members build-it, man it as the actors, when open, and participate in the tear down. This year Hurricane Matthew destroyed part of the house days before opening day. Members and the community helped take apart the destroyed house and rebuild, but this delayed the opening of the HH a week. They were staging the HH right up until minutes before the doors opened. Nightly, this haunted house tour took over 35 minutes from start to finish and included 3D and moving walls. With a total of 5003 volunteer hours they raised \$13,464.

2. The **GFWC Satellite Beach Woman's Club** and the city have sponsored the Founders Day Market Place Craft Show for the past 41st years. The theme this year was "Under the Big Top". The club members brought home made bake sale items, coffee and donuts for the vendors, provided craft booths, Christmas tree decorations, club informational information, signs, and publicity. The city provided the space, organized the parade and set up a tent and chairs. The club president rode in a yellow convertible with two club members carrying the club's banner. Thirteen National Honor Society members helped with the deliveries of lunches to the vendors. Local restaurants and another community charitable organization purchased booth space in order to sell food in the parking lot. DJ and live music was provided. This event raised \$8,800 and involved 2,300 volunteer hours.

3. The **GFWC Brandon Service League, Inc.** Hosted the 24th Annual "Holiday Home Tour" held in December. Planning begins early in the year, three home venues are secured and a visit with each homeowner is held to explain the responsibilities of being a tour home. Each home is beautifully decorated for the holidays. Members secured \$4,500 in sponsorships and began selling tickets in the Fall. A preview gala was held the evening before the tour which had a dinner, silent auction and a lighted tour of the featured homes. At each home there is one booth--"Gourmet" booth--edible goodies for sale, a "Ghost of Christmas Past" booth--resale of gently used holiday treasures, and a "Holiday Ornaments" booth--new hand made fabric ornaments made by members. This event required 580 volunteer hours and raised \$11,613 in funds.

4. The **GFWC Clearwater Juniores** participated in a candy selling fundraiser for their club. They appealed and negotiated with the principal at their local high school let them sell candy during lunch for the first 6 weeks of school and two weeks in February. No group had been able to do this before. With 18 members and 91 hours, they raised \$2,309 dollars. In appreciation for the privilege of being able to raise funds this way, they donated over a \$1,000 to various programs at their high school; the rest was used for their club projects.

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5. The **GFWC Woman's Club of Inverness** held a Fashion Show of Bridal Gowns, "Portrait of a Bride, an Evolving Silhouette." The event focused on the history of the bridal gowns of the American woman from 1890 to the present. Thirty gowns were featured on mannequins and during the course of the program, substantial emphasis was given to the social, economic and political events that surrounded each bride at that period of history. Of particular interest was the gown worn in 1927 by one of their long-time members who had just died. They donated the gown to the presenter so that it could continue to be enjoyed. The club received superior press coverage, free display advertising in the local paper, were written up in three different publications, and had a sold-out event. There were 540 member volunteer hours for the event and it raised a total of \$4,032 for club projects.
6. The **GFWC Oviedo Woman's Club** held their 43rd "GREAT DAY" In the Country family-fun community event. It is not just a philanthropic fundraiser to assist the community with grants and scholarships, and has also become a signature family event for the City of Oviedo. Held the second Saturday in November, this small "market day" from over 40 years ago has grown to a large community event that brings over 60,000 in attendance to enjoy good entertainment and food, plenty of arts and crafts to enjoy and purchase, and activities for the whole family. Bringing in \$71,000 and with 11,225 volunteer hours, this event continues to receive great City of Oviedo support and be a community staple, even moving to a larger venue in 2017.
7. The **GFWC Plantation Acres Woman's Club** held a "Luau" themed auction in April, 2016 at the venue, Signature Grand in Davie, Florida. This event was a fundraiser for the "Chris Evert Children's Hospital." Members planned over six months to ensure the success of the event. The members spent countless hours shopping, writing grant letters, calling for donations, creating gift baskets and solidifying the guest list. This event completed a 2-year commitment to the hospital to help finish the virtual fish tank project in the Children's cancer ward, creating a calm treatment room for children receiving various cancer treatments. This special room not only helps the children but it helps the parents and caregivers who suffer in silence. This will allow the patents and caregivers to see their loving children being treated in a safe and secure environment. Over 250 people attended the event, taking 1,500 volunteer hours and raising \$10,700, which was then matched with a gift from Broward Health, bringing the total donation to over \$20,000 to the hospital.
8. The **GFWC Treasure Coast Woman's Club** held a "Book Fair for Literacy Services" Each year they collect used books for their used book fair, which is held at the Hibiscus Festival. The Education Committee heads this up and most proceeds go to Literacy Services of Indian River County for their adult education program were all of the teachers are local volunteers. They like this this project as many of their members are former teachers and know that our children cannot learn to read if their parents cannot. Every \$50.00 donated pays for all of the books, paper, pencils and supplies that each student needs, and this allows them to accept another adult student to teach to read, with 119 volunteer hours they raised \$749. (*Not reported in Education.*)

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