

2016 GFWC Florida International Outreach CSP Report



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- 1. ESOL Halloween Party:** The **GFWC Clearwater Juniores** and the **GFWC North Pinellas Woman's Club** partnered at a local YMCA to host a Halloween party for the children of students learning English as a Second Language (ESOL). The **Juniores** dressed in costumes and had the kids trick or treat around the room, receiving coloring books, crayons, small toys, reading books, and candy. They also played games with the children. For many, this is their first experience with Halloween. This was the 10th year of hosting this event. **Juniores Project (With WC)**
- 2. The CAICC School** in Cochabamba, Bolivia serves children and teens who have been abandoned because their parents are incarcerated and those at risk from dysfunctional families. Many of these children lived in prison with their parents. For a second year, a member of the **GFWC Tampa Woman's Club** and a member of the **Tampa Junior Woman's Club** went to volunteer their time in the school. Their intention was to help out and provide some needed school supplies. When they arrived, they found the school bus was inoperable due to badly needed tires. They put the word out via email and Facebook for help buying a couple of tires and received so much support that they were able to purchase six new tires for the bus, medicines for the children as well as school supplies. (\$772 donated; \$100 in-kind) **Junior Project (With WC)**
- 3. "Shot @ Life" Party:** The **GFWC Capital City Woman's Club** joined forces with Hotel Duval and Walgreens to host a fundraiser for Shot@Life. They invited members of the **GFWC Woman's Club** of Tallahassee to join in. Each attendee paid a \$20 entry fee and partook of the fancy drink "shots" and delicious hors d'oeuvres served by the hotel. Items in the silent auction were provided by Thrivent Financial. It was a successful venture with local establishments to raise money for a worthy cause while also meeting new friends from Federation.
- 4. Shoes for Haiti:** Following Hurricane Matthew in September, **GFWC Coral Springs Woman's Club** organized a huge collection of shoes for the victims. Club members collected 137 pairs of shoes and sneakers. In addition, they collected many pieces of clothing, brand-new baseball caps, 675 toiletry items and 65 first-aid kits. This was a joint project with Broward College students and netted a \$1415 in-kind donation.
- 5. Heifer International:** As a result of members purchasing "living" gifts at the March general meeting of the **GFWC Viera Woman's Club**, they collected a total of \$360 to send to that organization. One of Heifer International's longtime supporters offered a matching gift challenge and so their gift became \$720. Members so liked the idea of "living" gifts that a collection was done again in December resulting in an additional \$100 to donate.
- 6. Trick or Treat for UNICEF:** Each fall, clubwomen are used to seeing the little UNICEF boxes on the tables at meetings. At the October General meeting of the **GFWC High Springs New Century Woman's Club**, one member decided to get clever and try something new. Since her 70th birthday was that month, she dressed up

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in a Halloween costume and went from table to table “trick or treating for UNICEF.” In honor of her birthday, she asked everyone who could to donate 70 cents for the cause. Because of her ingenuity, most members even donated more than requested.

7. Coptic Orthodox Charities for Refugee Resettlement: GFWC North Pinellas Woman’s Club learned of this organization and donated \$100 to them for their wonderful work in their community. Their representative advised that they were badly in need of new bedding for the apartments they set up for the refugees. Between sheet sets and other items purchased from the club budget and sheet sets donated by members, they provided a total of six sets of new sheets, two new blankets and three pillows. A club member also donated a man’s bicycle which was much needed so a refugee, with no driver’s license, would have some form of transportation to and from work. (\$182 donated; \$125 in kind)

8. Malawi, Africa and Viera School Teacher Molly Malone: Although already planning to send a donation for the Malawi Housing Project that Viera Elementary School teacher, Molly Malone, had been advocating while performing volunteer work there, the **GFWC Viera Woman’s Club** learned that over two million people in Malawi are in need of immediate food aid due to a food shortage. After an informative meeting with Molly during a short trip stateside, Molly told them about the phone app DonorSee. When you give on DonorSee, you see where your money goes via aid workers who take pictures and videos of your money making an impact. Club members found out that one 50 kg bag of maize costs \$15 and will feed a family for a month so their efforts will go there for the moment. A donation of \$400 was made, and the club fed over 26 families for a month.

9. Little Dresses for Africa: GFWC Melbourne Woman’s Club became a dinner host for the Big Dinner, a coordinated effort to hold fundraiser dinners in many locations across the world on the same night in November for the Little Dresses for Africa charity. The goal was to raise funds to provide clean water, a primary school and a multi-purpose building to 12 villages in Malawi, Africa. Plans quickly came together for the Italian food with African décor event and many local businesses supported the endeavor. A local church provided their community center and use of its kitchen. An entertainer provided free Frank Sinatra, Neil Diamond and Elvis music and a nursery donated 4 potted palm trees for decoration and later auction. Incredible handmade African dolls were created for centerpieces. The High school AP art class made paper mache African animals, which once placed in the room, made the Africa theme come alive. The middle school classes made African art, which was hung on every window. Twelve little dresses, the pillowcase dresses which have given the charity its name, were strung across the large window for everyone to see. A world map lit from behind indicating every Big Dinner location that night was hung, so guests could see how their support was part of something global. Students helped set up, serve and clean up afterward. GFWC Melbourne Woman’s Club had a power point presentation about the club, the charity and the impact the diners’ generosity would have on 12 African villages. The club raised \$1,717.00 and had \$1042 in kind donations. Twenty dresses were shipped to the organization.

10. “Tooth Teddy”: “Tooth Teddy” is the fashionable little bear who attends each **GFWC Rotonda West Woman’s Club** meeting wearing a new outfit, always appropriate to the season or holiday. She felt that if the tooth fairy can give money for old teeth, she can collect money for new smiles - so she has a decorated basket to collect donations for Operation Smile to fund a “New Smile” somewhere in the world. In February, the club paid for the first cleft procedure and by year’s end, funds were raised for a total of four procedures. Because December was a matching month, they got a 5th operation. An article about Tooth Teddy was sent in to Membership Monday, the GFWC Florida weekly online publication emailed throughout Florida.

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