



Top 20 Signature Project:
Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention
2012 Annual Reporting for GFWC

1. Members of a club kicked off Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October by working with their local shelter on a booth with informational pamphlets and display boards at their homecoming festival. The club also distributed purple ribbons and purple handmade bracelets with teen violence information attached. Festival participants purchased purple paper light bulbs as a reminder to “Shine a Light on Domestic Violence.”
2. A state federation created pledge cards for members to take a stand against domestic violence with the goal of having 1,000 of these cards signed over the next two years.
3. Members of a club helped remodel a room at their local shelter. Besides providing money for a new floor, they painted and donated desks, bedspreads, pillows, wall decorations, office supplies, rugs, toys, and books to help create a new room that was named “The Secret Garden.”
4. Members of a club donated \$150 worth of pocket calendars and desk calendars for a local shelter. Members realized how valuable these calendars were as the women began to organize their lives.
5. Members of a club chose a Sock Hop theme for their Annual Winter Blahs event. Participants wore 50’s clothing and admission was a pair of new socks. Awareness of abuse was defined in the literature given out and pinwheels from GFWC Partner Prevent Child Abuse America decorated the room.
6. Members of a club participated in the 2012 Day of Service with community Girl Scout Troops. They focused on Pinwheels for Prevention which revolved around community education and the planting of several pinwheel gardens around the city.
7. Members of a club helped set up a shop at the Women’s Transitional Living Center for children to buy presents for their mothers for Mother’s Day. The club donated money to buy items for the shop, set up, wrapped presents, and provided assistance to the children. Items included pajamas, candies, candles, purses, picture frames, personal care items, and jewelry.
8. Members of a club held a Bingo Party for their community with funds going to a local domestic violence shelter. The funds were used to pay for licensed care givers to watch the children of the residents while they enjoyed a night of beauty, hair, nails, and make-up done by professionals who donated their time. Pictures were taken and the framed prints were given to the mothers for the holidays.
9. Members of a club planned a Valentine’s Day dinner and prepared and served it to the women and children living at a local shelter. Club members decorated the dining room and presented all in attendance with gift bags, while they interacted with the families. Each woman in attendance received a long stemmed red rose.

10. Members of a club volunteered their time throughout the year to help the children of a local shelter with homework and math tutoring. Additionally, the club members donated gently used or new children's books to their library.
11. Members of a club sponsored a Candle Light Service in remembrance of the children who died as a result of child abuse or neglect. Town officials, law enforcement, special agencies, and others in the community participated and were given handmade purple ribbons. There was also a ceremonial extinguishing of the candles and a time for reflection and sharing.
12. Members of a club created Comfort Dolls, made of muslin, which were given to women at a local shelter. Attached to the dolls was a card which stated: "I am a Comfort Doll. I was made especially for you by a woman's heart and hand that cares. When you need strength or just a smile, hold me and feel the love I send. Like me, you are unique, worthy, beautiful, and deserve all good things in life. You have the strength within yourself to be extraordinary. Comfort Dolls created with our hands, given with our hearts."
13. Members of a club requested that community leaders proclaim October 18, 2012 as Domestic Violence Awareness Day. After a reading of the proclamation at a town-wide meeting, club members gave attendees purple ribbons while they listened to speakers from their local shelter. The day was aired on a local TV station, posted on the club's Facebook page, and posted on the town's website.
14. Members of a club purchased chairs, stools, side tables, and a double porch swing which were decorated by local artists and sold as auction items for a "Chairs for Charity" event in their community. The club worked through local art galleries and an art council to secure the artists. The furniture was displayed and sold via a silent auction and the money raised was donated to two domestic violence shelters.
15. Members of a club worked with a local restaurant to provide an Angel Tree during the holidays. The community was asked to donate pajamas, underwear, gloves, and other items that would then be donated to their local domestic violence shelter. The club received help from the Kiwanis Club and the local newspapers for publicity.
16. In an effort to raise funds for the *GFWC Success for Survivors Scholarship*, members of a club sponsored a Game Night in which members and guests were asked to donate \$5 and an appetizer or a dessert for the evening. Each person brought their favorite game or cards to play that night. Members and friends who could not attend were asked to contribute a monetary gift.
17. With the generosity of individual members, clubs, a district, and the local professional sporting team, one state federation created a Billboard Project. After creating a design geared to domestic violence awareness, 28 billboards were displayed in the state at a cost of just under \$3,000. The billboards were up for the whole month of October.
18. In order to raise funds for their local shelter, members of a club hosted a Kentucky Derby event. A local store provided two large screen TV's and a local cable company provided the cable services for the night. Entertainment was provided by a high school brass trio. Using a silent auction, participants selected their horse to win the race, bidding on both the horse and a raffle prize attached to the horse. Along with the auction there was a derby hat contest with local celebrities and officials as judges.
19. Members of a club collected teddy bears to give to children at a child advocacy center where children are interviewed and examined after an incident of abuse. The teddy bears were collected as an admission to a club holiday luncheon.
20. Members of a club served as hosts and table captains at the YWCA community event themed the "Power of Purple." Besides donning purple attire and ribbons, the club members distributed domestic violence information, pledge cards against violence, "Cut It Out" cards, teen dating violence information, and asked the community to bring in their used cell phones for recycling.