

WOMEN'S HISTORY AND RESOURCE CENTER

ADVANCEMENT PLAN

2024-2026 GFWC CLUB MANUAL

WHRC: EDUCATE, ENGAGE, AND EMPOWER

2024-2026 Emphasis:

- To educate members and others about GFWC's history and impact and the historical contributions of others.
- To engage community leaders and citizens in projects and programs that document GFWC and local history, restore and preserve historic buildings and artifacts, and that honor and celebrate GFWC, individual, and community achievements.
- To empower GFWC and community members in collaborative efforts to create a better future.

Since the Federation's founding in 1890, GFWC members have understood the historic significance of the organization's mission to improve communities through volunteer service. To preserve and better document GFWC history and member's work on local, state, national, and international levels, the Women's History and Resource Center of the General Federation of Women's Clubs officially opened at GFWC Headquarters in Washington, DC, on May 1, 1984.

Regardless of the focus of a community service project, it may benefit from a historical perspective. The WHRC strives to educate and inspire GFWC members and potential members, the research community, and the public to explore the rich, historical role of women volunteers through GFWC's expansive collections.

The WHRC offers access to readily available reference services, an online research catalog, educational programs and publications, creative exhibits, and dynamic partnerships to all those interested in using its resources. Benefits of membership made possible through the WHRC include preservation of historic records, buildings, and artifacts; and creative ways to use GFWC's history for community outreach.

GFWC's history is full of examples of successful projects that demonstrate the important relationship between grassroots and international efforts, the significance of long-range planning and thoughtful organization, and the value of community service in developing strong and compassionate leaders.

The *GFWC Women's History and Resource Center Advancement Guide* encourages every club to investigate and document its own history by learning about GFWC's past. Use the guide to explore and share GFWC's amazing history while documenting your own!



GFWC
est. 1890
GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

2024-2026

**WOMEN'S HISTORY
AND RESOURCE CENTER
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