



# COMMUNITY IMPACT PROGRAM AWARD

AWARDS, CONTESTS, and GRANTS

## THE GFWC COMMUNITY IMPACT PROGRAM AWARD OFFERS GFWC CLUBS FINANCIAL INCENTIVE TO IMPLEMENT PROJECTS DESIGNED TO IMPACT A SPECIFIC PROBLEM IN THEIR COMMUNITY.

Introduced in 1949 as the “Build a Better Community Contest,” and later known as the “Community Improvement Program Award,” this program has provided GFWC clubs with a platform for developing and implementing projects that meet the varying and changing needs of their communities. As GFWC’s longest standing project, it has also presented opportunities for growing club membership, enhancing leadership skills, building relationships with individuals and groups, and creating public awareness of club activities and GFWC.

Just as communities change, so do clubs. The newly updated Community Impact Program is designed to accommodate the many ways that clubs currently function and to provide added flexibility in the implementation of up to three projects that have a meaningful impact on a particular problem, from “done in a day” efforts to those that could require more rigorous planning and implementation. Additionally, the award entry process has been streamlined and the monetary awards have been modified to encourage every club to engage with the program. The goal of this award, however, remains the same—to encourage and recognize the positive impact that a club can have on a specific need in the community.



**2020-2022  
COMMUNITY IMPACT PROGRAM  
AWARD**  
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### IDEAS

Here is an example of how a club can design multiple projects to target a single goal:

#### **Brainstorming and Research:**

After convening a club brainstorming session to consider various community issues, club members focus on a remark made by a teacher, who noted that many of her young students come to school hungry, especially on Mondays. Research reveals that roughly 40% of the children in the community are nutritionally underserved. Your club decides to plan projects that offer education and provide resources to make an impact on this local problem.

#### **Resulting Projects:**

The club creates a “doable” three-prong plan. Projects include:

- Providing a fun booth at a school event that distributes information on nutritious, budget-conscious, and easy-to-make meals, along with taste testing and take-home recipes.
- Launching an awareness campaign, “Every Vegetable Counts,” highlighting the local issue and urging home gardeners and others to donate excess produce to the local Food Pantry.
- Partnering with the PTA to sponsor and manage a weekend brown-bag program for underserved students.

When considering ways to impact the community, take time to discover and carefully consider community needs and then select and connect a need with your GFWC volunteer projects. Consider implementing partnerships within your community to address the issue and assist with project development, which can raise the profile of your club and GFWC at the grassroots level.

**COMMUNITY IMPACT PROGRAM AWARD**

GFWC's scope of work, as outlined in the two Special Programs and five Community Service Programs, can stimulate project ideas. Look to GFWC's Advancement Programs for guidance on leadership, fundraising, communication, and other project essentials.

**AWARD RULES****Award Period:**

- January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2021.

**Contest Description:**

- Each entry can feature one to three local projects undertaken by a club, all accomplished during the Award Period.
- Each entry should include one page of information on each project (maximum 500 words) to highlight:
  - ∅ Project selection process
  - ∅ Project goal(s)
  - ∅ Plan of action, including timeline
  - ∅ Engagement of members, including total hours
  - ∅ Financial/funding details, including total contributed
  - ∅ Collaborating partners or individuals
  - ∅ Media coverage
  - ∅ Measurable impact(s)
  - ∅ Any other key information
- Each entry can contain one page of photographs for each project (maximum of 4 photographs per page).
- Each entry can contain one page of publicity highlights for each project (maximum of 4 highlights per page).
- Total entry cannot exceed 10 pages: A Community Impact Program Award Cover Form plus three additional pages for each project (info page, photo page, publicity page).

**Entry Process:**

- Club entries are to be sent to the State Chairman by March 1, 2022.
- State Chairmen should forward the winning entry and the club name of the second place winner to the GFWC Community Impact Program Award Chairman by March 20, 2022.
- Contest entries will be judged by State Categories, with one winner per category.
- National and International Community Impact Program Awards will be presented at the GFWC Annual Convention in New Orleans, LA, in June 2022.

**Other Guidelines:**

- Clubs that have previously won this award must submit entirely new projects for consideration. Expanded projects will not be considered.
- International Affiliates may submit an Award Entry to be judged in conjunction with other International Affiliates.
- All deadlines and other rules must be followed.
- Joint entries of clubs are not allowed.
- All monetary awards must be used to further the community impact initiative.
- Award entries of national winners will be kept in the GFWC Women's History and Resource Center.

# COMMUNITY IMPACT PROGRAM AWARD

## CALENDAR

### JANUARY OR FEBRUARY 2022

State Community Impact Program Award Chairman must obtain three judges. Judges may not be members of GFWC.

### MARCH 1, 2022

Club entries must be sent via mail, postmarked no later than this date, to State Community Impact Program Award Chairman.

### MARCH 5-15, 2022

Club entries are judged at the state level.

### MARCH 20, 2022

The Award entry of first place state winners and the name of second place winners are due to GFWC. GFWC will issue checks to winning state clubs after award winners are announced at their respective State Conventions. Allow a minimum of five business days for processing.

Mail to: GFWC, Attn.: Community Impact Program Award  
1734 N Street NW  
Washington, DC 20036-2990

### SPRING 2022

State Community Impact Program Awards are presented at State Conventions.

### APRIL 2022

National judging at GFWC Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

### JUNE 2022

GFWC Community Impact Program Awards are presented at the GFWC Annual Convention in New Orleans, LA.

## JUDGING CRITERIA

### Project Selections – 25 Points

- Procedures, plan of action, and input in choosing projects

### Project Development – 25 Points

- Plan details, execution, and effort
- Community collaboration with other groups and/or individuals

### Project Evaluation – 50 Points

- Increase in community awareness
- Degree of success of projects and their measurable impacts
- Viability of long-term efforts

# COMMUNITY IMPACT PROGRAM AWARD

## AWARDS

GFWC awards a total of \$20,335 to winners of the GFWC Community Impact Program Award. Nationally, only first place winners are given monetary awards within the six membership categories.

### **GFWC State Awards:**

First Place \$50.00

Second Place \$35.00

Total per state \$85.00

Total for 51 State Federations \$4,335

### **GFWC National Awards:**

Category 1: \$2,500

Category 2: \$2,500

Category 3: \$2,500

Category 4: \$2,500

Category 5: \$2,500

Category 6: \$2,500

International Affiliate: \$1,000

Total National Awards: \$16,000



2. Describe the community collaboration, plan of action, and the obstacles encountered while working on this project.

3. Outline permanent results achieved, both tangible and intangible. Was the project successful? What are the long-term effects of the project on the community?

**STATISTICS**

Club CIP Chairman	Phone	- -
Email		
Club President	Phone	- -
Email		
Mailing Address		
City	State	Zip Code
<b>Club President's Signature</b>		

**OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MARCH 1, 2022**

Make two copies of completed form and accompanying materials. Send one to the GFWC Community Impact Program Award State Chairman and keep one for the club's files.