**GFWC News & Notes** 

***GFWC — an international women's organization dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service***

**Carol Weldin, AWC Liaison**

**November 2017**

**In support of President Toby's special project we hope you'll do at least one of the following:**

**CFWC DAY OF SERVICE - November 5th, 2017 - WALK FOR HOPE**

**The CFWC board, at their September meeting, voted to declare Sunday, November 5th, as a CFWC DAY OF SERVICE.   Members are encouraged to:**

1. **Walk for Hope - join the California Federation of Women's Club team at the City of Hope to raise money for cancer and diabetes research. Sign up at [http://nationalevents.cityofhope.org/goto/CAFederationofwomensclubs](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EhW1g-Zb_CCBQzeY0cgc3a3g9ptfR19jchL2jX-DV-E_KhaXdlK3Ig81npuy4l99TAR1oTysgBLJ1PWJD27qUFzyEBTceHYuRbjUe8rY1XEWb5zS6D8o4Me-LZLAR1hINlbR5_vLQWLNg2taabXkT4v_IwhmLJrgLri_345v_Vth0oMlTi1qJcAw0SU-wORFtT0o6HtFNKiWM5rUAKrBUcRcFjJxzPZ627yj3QlwZBY=&c=lV9HHqHwZqOjPaQHtaC7gQu-KULkE5e7rQx23WPusqeVrcQjAOrLMw==&ch=LjUaF6yoDleaHpqtJFFQV2xvCMIMQtD6QVJhWB6TAWO0hYxEB4i4fw==" \t "_blank)**
2. **Do a virtual Walk for Hope**
3. **Plan a community service project on the weekend, either Saturday or Sunday (or choose another day that works for your club).**
4. **Email Home Life Chair Priscilla Neufeld, [prneufeld@att.net](mailto:prneufeld@att.net" \t "_blank), with what you've done/planned.**

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| |  | | --- | | **Join GFWC Nebraska and Go Purple for Prematurity Awareness Month**  **When selecting a Special Project, Nebraska Director of Junior Clubs Tara Plasek drew on her own family’s experiences. Having witnessed both her sister and niece struggle with medical issues resulting from premature birth, she knew that supporting March of Dimes was the cause closest to her heart.**  **March of Dimes’ mission is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth, and infant mortality. In order to reduce premature births, they finance research and educate women on risk-reduction strategies. Throughout November, Tara and Nebraska’s clubwomen will be using Prematurity Awareness Month as a platform to raise funds for the March of Dimes and bring needed attention to the health issues that can result from premature birth including cerebral palsy, intellectual disabilities, chronic lung disease, blindness, and hearing loss.**  **As a creative fundraiser, Tara has distributed empty medicine bottles to clubs across Nebraska with her slogan, March of Dimes: Change for a Change, attached. Each clubwoman has been asked to fill at least one bottle with spare change, and bring it to their November club meeting. Several members have already returned their filled bottles, and many have requested additional bottles to fill!**  **If you would like to join GFWC Nebraska’s Junior clubwomen and recognize Prematurity Awareness Month, take advantage of the many [social media resources](https://u3654531.ct.sendgrid.net/wf/click?upn=9eXHP1PR7PQVD2K3bEZ-2F3vSNlmpKIu1L89DpFLd1TR-2FXWcBTmeLRwi6a7lfhcV3kEGkeMj04Fvqc6G97Ske7OMmK8xRVcxdIKNXrM0FQXqhUILWMFwBqRPLaKuPSoL-2FyKgLv4ui7id-2BU4-2BeCyFsE7lpf-2FjTECK8A7AL3NMbANuO-2FkFZ2LTWSq287Ui2zHm1yXsz6UliNqCmBMQ7MicrJ3JoekcplU0-2BGid1oL2eBJosmhnGlYgWkmdrYptYVqgfCC2ahwDfXNcocVmQyWHYXdcy-2FGObyl7A14BGhc-2FeA3MOcAHR22cZcOxl8rtjwadq5_a4ZyCjtkwnIfEsP7ECigyqsT48cwGvjsXYPXVCnj5dy6uLfJ1K3Lq1FBRrZ-2B-2B7RwLDH6W-2B4TiJcwZSr8UfeKsBaspGznTRKcQaZrbQ-2B0bTGvZhfXHMhTf31I-2Fjc-2FNOwAoxe-2BMqObEC6fE0vQzdl-2ByHMWdV7mMrfd7-2BJAp8FbTbl5tS5Y-2Fbr8hatKEQ9U-2BYjwO0VeFfRwxMBOUXPdF1PP9ej6IBQfT0IVbHtLsx09E4904ow-2BW8Cnk1HMQbOznoOtgjR-2BS3dIAuDw-2B-2FZWWBCy8yz5ponsP2f0MN80dlhgkk2Yxc-2B0N-2FDipL0MnK0HB8hXfRurhavPo4l7fwn0N9gocQ-2BA6tz8wC8fhFz54Jxuy3BkLP3YbpFCbmoCeEZxGxhmMPpqdSsQv1Tj7CVs26IRPA-3D-3D" \t "_blank) March of Dimes has created. You can change your profile pictures to a World Prematurity Day graphic on Facebook or Twitter to help raise awareness, or sign up to automatically post a message of support and awareness to your social media community on November 17.**  **You can also get involved by going purple! Wear purple to represent the March of Dimes and prematurity awareness; light your clubhouse or home with purple; or get creative like Tara to inspire others to raise awareness by going purple. We thank Nebraska’s Junior clubwomen for supporting the March of Dimes and bringing this issue to the attention of the national GFWC audience.** | |
| |  | | --- | | **Thank You for another Successful Advocates for Children Week!**  **During GFWC Advocates for Children Week, clubs across the country sponsored incredible projects to help children. Each project catered to different needs children have, and all were a great success! For example, the North Pinellas Woman’s Club (Florida) brought books for children moving into a Habitat for Humanity home and provided stuffed animals to be “reading buddies”. The Okeechobee Junior Woman’s Club (Florida) collected nonperishable items for the Backpack Program at their local school. The Outer Banks Woman’s Club (North Carolina) prepared to purchase holiday gifts for families in need.**  **GFWC Headquarters learned of these amazing projects by reading posts to the official GFWC App as part of the Advocates for Children Week App Contest. We thank everyone who participated in the contest and congratulate the Pioneer Junior Woman’s Club (Massachusetts) for winning the raffle. Please continue to use the GFWC App to announce your club’s success stories, to post event photographs, and to invite your fellow clubwomen to attend fundraisers. The GFWC App is a great tool for publicizing your club!**  **Legislative Action Corner**  **Opioids**  **President Trump officially declared the opioid crisis a Public Health Emergency. The 90-day declaration directs federal agencies to better use their funding to fight the opioid problem, but no new funds were provided at this time. The executive action allows for expanded access to telemedicine, including services involving remote prescribing of medicine commonly used for substance abuse or mental health treatment; allows the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to quickly make temporary appointments of specialists to respond to the crisis; allows the Department of Labor to issue dislocated worker grants for those impacted by abuse; and allows for the shifting of resources within HIV/AIDS programs to help people eligible for substance abuse treatment. Last year, Congress passed the Comprehensive Addiction Recovery Act to improve prevention, treatment, recovery, overdose reversal, and our law enforcement efforts. GFWC supported this legislation.** | |