



GFWC

est. 1890

**GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS**



SCOTTSDALE

A R I Z O N A

June 26–29, 2026



FROM THE PRESIDENT

CLIMBING TOGETHER, SHAPING TOMORROW: EXPERIENCE THE 2026 GFWC ANNUAL CONVENTION

Join us where desert skies meet limitless possibility. The 2026 GFWC Annual Convention will take place June 26-29, 2026, in vibrant Scottsdale, Arizona, at the stunning Westin Kierland Resort and Spa. Against a backdrop of sun-drenched vistas and breathtaking sunsets, GFWC members will be Climbing Together, Shaping Tomorrow.

This year's convention offers a powerful, forward-looking agenda that honors our long tradition of volunteerism while charting bold new paths. We will celebrate the achievements of states and clubs from across the Federation and engage in essential business sessions that reaffirm our priorities and set the course for GFWC's future.

Throughout the Convention, you'll hear from compelling speakers and respected experts who bring critical issues into sharp focus. Their perspectives will both inform and inspire, calling us to action in our communities and beyond.

Dynamic workshops will offer fresh, practical tools to strengthen your leadership and expand your impact. Designed with members in mind, these sessions will help you elevate volunteer projects, spark innovative ideas, and build new skills. We are especially pleased to feature Beyond the Gavel: Parliamentary Essentials, a focused workshop designed to support both leaders and members alike.

In between learning and leadership, you'll have time to connect under Arizona's wide-open skies. Rekindle friendships, meet fellow members from around the globe, and celebrate the diverse voices that give our Federation its strength. Together, we'll share stories, successes, and visions for what comes next, deepening the ties that bind us as one GFWC.

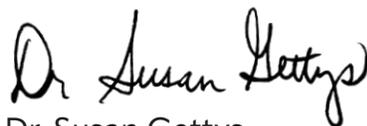
As we gather in Scottsdale, we will honor 136 years of empowering women and transforming lives. This milestone reminds us of the legacy we uphold and the future we are creating, ensuring that GFWC's influence continues to be felt around the world.

You'll depart Arizona with renewed purpose, stronger connections, and a shared determination to advance our mission. Our time together will reinforce the power of unity and launch the next chapter of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, confident, prepared, and ready for the climb ahead.

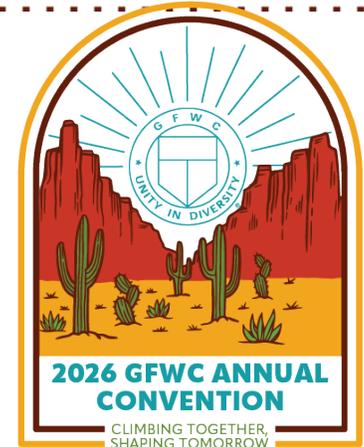
We look forward to welcoming you to Arizona, where GFWC members will be Climbing Together, Shaping Tomorrow amid the beauty of the desert. Come ready for an inspiring, unforgettable experience.



Suellen B. Brazil
GFWC International President



Dr. Susan Gettys
GFWC Secretary



2024-2026 GFWC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT
SUELLEN B. BRAZIL

PRESIDENT-ELECT
WENDY CARRIKER

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
JOLIE R. FRANKFURTH

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
MARY BETH WILLIAMS

SECRETARY
DR. SUSAN GETTYS

TREASURER
JULIET CASPER

DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR CLUBS
SHANNON BAILEY

PARLIAMENTARIAN
CAROL HABGOOD, PRP

CHIEF OF OPERATIONS
CHERI MEYER



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**GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS**

WELCOME TO SCOTTSDALE

GFWC Arizona welcomes you to the Sonoran Desert and Scottsdale, Arizona, for the 2026 GFWC Annual Convention! Come and enjoy the relaxing ambiance of The Westin Kierland Resort and Spa from June 26-29, 2026. Enjoy a luxury day at the Agave spa, experience a round or two of golf at the Westin Kierland Golf Club's 27-hole course, or have "Fun in the Sun" at the resort's Adventure Water Park, complete with the iconic Kierland FlowRider flow-board simulator for surfing in the desert, a 110-foot-long waterslide, and a lazy river! For those yearning for retail therapy, enjoy the shops and restaurants at Kierland Commons and Scottsdale Quarter, which offer a rich mix of specialty and nationally acclaimed dining, retail, and entertainment; conveniently located within walking distance of the hotel, or via the hotel shuttle.

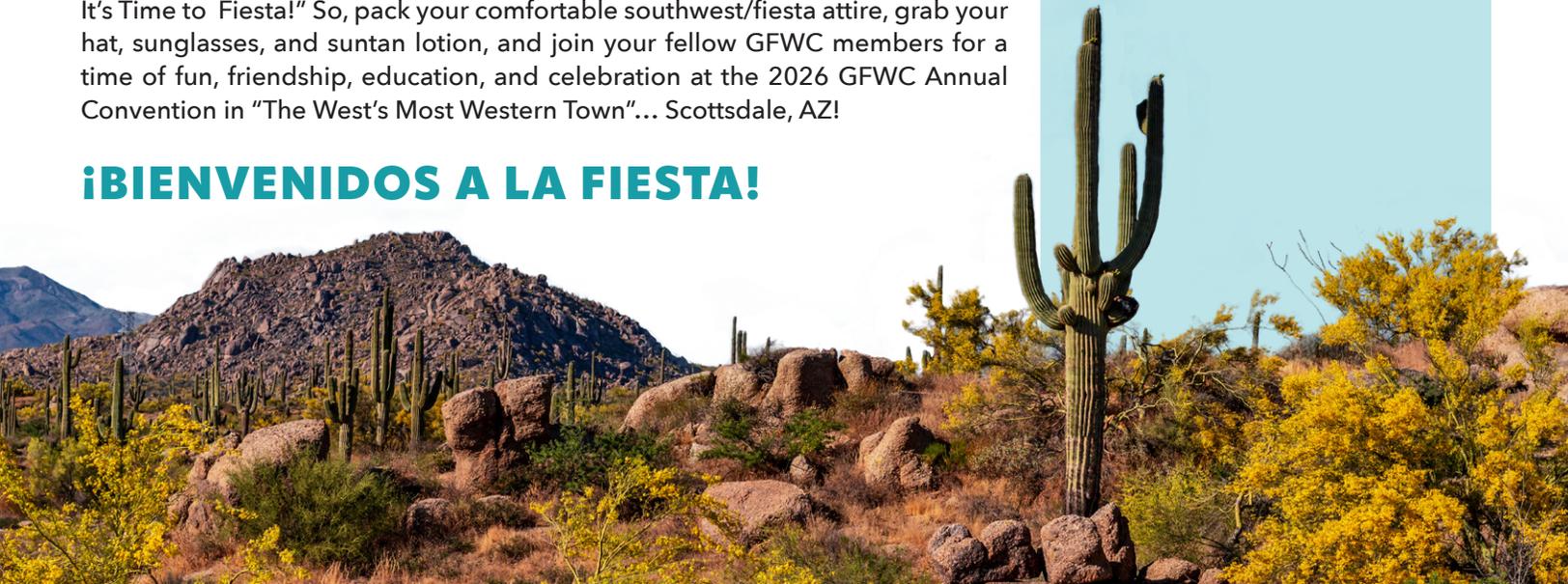
Located in northern Arizona, the Grand Canyon is one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World, striking in its colorful, deep, steep-sided gorge, carved by the Colorado River. Grand Canyon National Park, Saguaro National Park (Tucson), and the red rocks of Sedona are just a day trip away from your convention hotel! Located along historic Route 66 in northeastern Arizona is the Petrified Forest National Park. Step back in time, over 3 million years, and walk among majestic, petrified redwood giants. Did you know that Arizona is home to one of the most well-preserved meteorite impact sites in the world? Created around 50,000 years ago, the Barringer Meteorite Crater is a gigantic hole in the middle of the high plains of the Colorado Plateau, about 25 miles west of Winslow, AZ. For the museum lover, check out the Hall of Flame Museum of Firefighting, the Musical Instrument Museum (MIM), the Heard Museum, or the Western Spirit: Scottsdale Museum of the West in Old Town Scottsdale. Or spend a cool day at the OdySea Aquarium! Whether you come to Arizona to have "Fun in the Sun" or to "Fiesta with Friends," there is something for everyone!

GFWC Arizona had the honor of hosting the 1997 and 2014 GFWC Annual Conventions and is excited to invite you to return for the 2026 GFWC Annual Convention. Bring your family, come early, and stay late to explore and enjoy the state's dramatic landscapes, outdoor activities, desert climate, vibrant culture of the old west, and mix of cultural influences. Remember... It's "No time to Siesta. It's Time to Fiesta!" So, pack your comfortable southwest/fiesta attire, grab your hat, sunglasses, and suntan lotion, and join your fellow GFWC members for a time of fun, friendship, education, and celebration at the 2026 GFWC Annual Convention in "The West's Most Western Town"... Scottsdale, AZ!

¡BIENVENIDOS A LA FIESTA!

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TOUR OPTION



SIZZLING SOUTHWEST

Are you a knife-shy beginner cook? Would you like to expand your home-cooking skills? Do you want to take your culinary arts dreams to the next level? You have found the right culinary school! Come learn techniques rather than just reading a recipe. Classic Cooking Academy is passionate about sharing the art of cooking.

Tour Includes

- ★ *Guided cooking lesson from Classic Cooking Academy instructors*
- ★ *Three-course meal served by staff*
- ★ *Shopping Experience at Scottsdale Quarter*

\$150 per person

6 hour experience
Activity Level: Light walking, standing

MENU

SIZZLING SOUTHWEST

The perfect combination of sweet and heat.
Cool down with the ever-perfect dessert

HOMEMADE TORTILLA
CHIPS WITH SALSA AND
GUACAMOLE

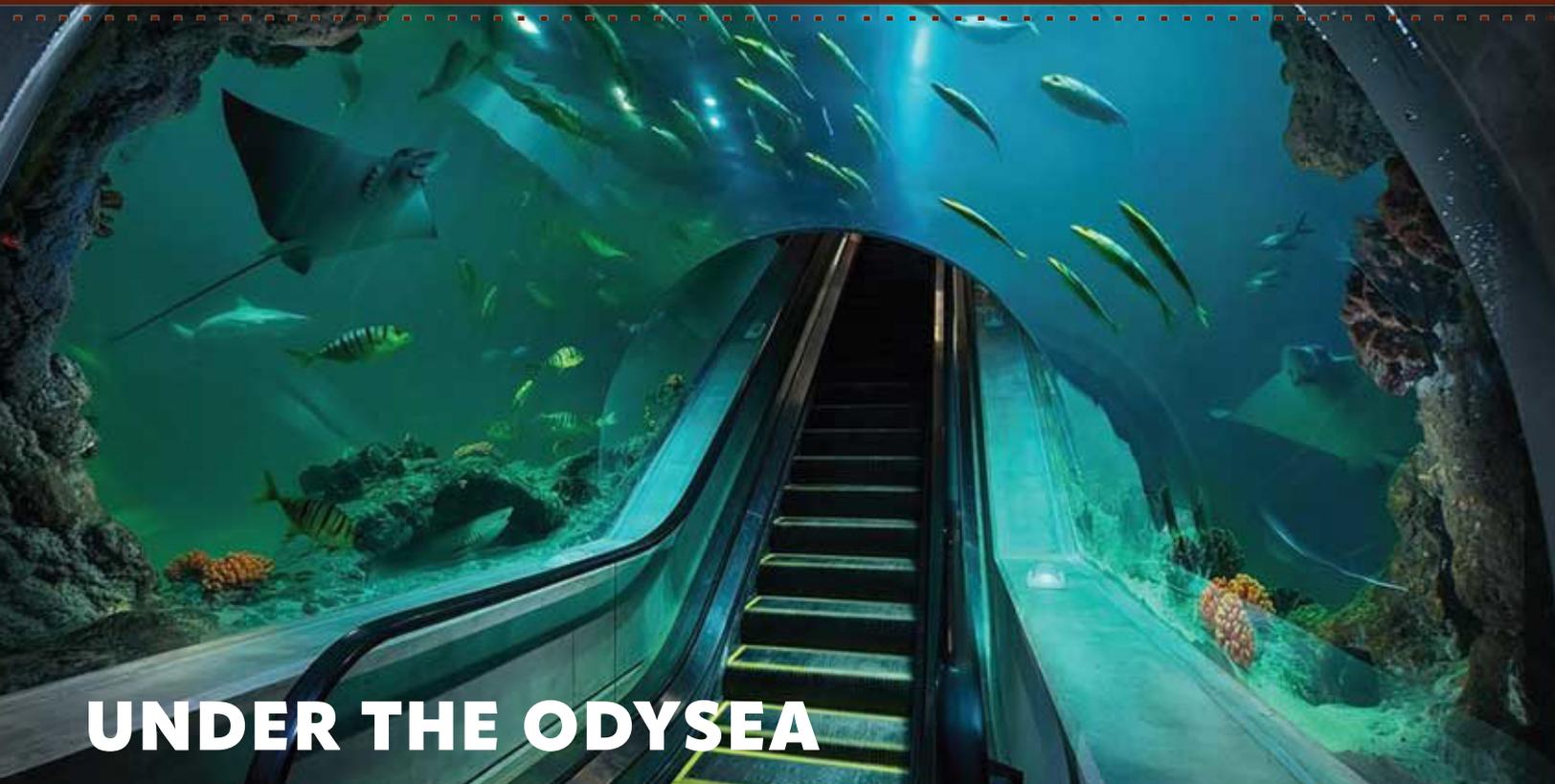
SPICE RUBBED PORK
TENDERLOIN (CHICKEN MAY
BE SUBSTITUTED)

CORN MANGO SALAD

SPANISH RICE

CHOCOLATE MOUSSE





UNDER THE ODYSSEA

The largest aquarium in the southwest, OdySea Aquarium, takes you on an entertaining and educational oceanic adventure like no other. The state-of-the-art zoological attraction features an amazing array of animals including sharks, otters, sea lions, penguins, sloths and more. Immersive experiences like SeaTREK® underwater ocean walking, a giant submerged escalator that descends into the deep ocean, and the world's only rotating aquarium exhibit, OdySea Voyager!

Tour Includes

- ★ *Entry to OdySea Aquarium - An Oceanic Adventure (60 mins)*
- ★ *Visit to the Scottsdale Historical Museum - Little Red School House (30 mins)*
- ★ *Shopping and Lunch on your own at Scottsdale Quarter (90 mins)*

\$85 per person

4 hour experience

Activity Level: Moderate walking, standing

ATTRACTIONS

Visit over 300 species of animals over 70 exhibits.

PENGUINS

SLOTHS

OTTERS

STINGRAYS

SEA LIONS

SHARKS

OCTOPUSES

SEA TURTLES

JELLYFISH

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

2026 GFWC Annual Convention Preliminary Agenda Pre-Convention Events | June 24–26 Convention Events | June 27–June 30

Date	Agenda and Schedule	Room/Location
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24		
9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.	Executive Committee Meeting	Presidential Suite
3:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.	Registration / Arizona Welcome Table	Culturekeepers Registration
THURSDAY, JUNE 25		
8:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. Morning Session	Tour 1 - Sizzling Southwest \$150 Hands-on Cooking Academy followed by shopping experience in Scottsdale Quarter <i>(56 people per session)</i>	
11:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. Afternoon Session <i>(available once morning session is filled)</i>	Buses begin boarding at 7:45 A.M. and leave promptly at 8:00. 2026 Convention T Shirt is encouraged.	
9:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M.	Tour 2 - Under the ODYSEA \$ 85 AN OCEANIC ADVENTURE at OdySea Aquarium followed by shopping experience in Scottsdale Quarter Buses begin boarding at 9:00 A.M. and leave promptly at 9:15. 2026 Convention T Shirt is encouraged.	
9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.	Registration / Arizona Welcome Table	Culturekeepers Registration
9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.	GFWC Boosters Hospitality Lounge	Sitgreaves
3:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.	Registration / Arizona Welcome Table	Culturekeepers Registration
7:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.	Junior Board Of Directors Meeting	Junior Director's Suite
8:30 P.M. – 9:30 P.M.	LEADS Meet and Greet (By Invitation Only)	Presidential Suite
FRIDAY, JUNE 26		
8:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.	Registration / Arizona Welcome Table	Culturekeepers Registration
8:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.	GFWC Marketplace	Culturekeepers West Foyer
8:00 A.M. – 8:30 A.M.	Full Board of Directors Photo BC	TBD
8:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.	Leadership, Education, And Development Seminar (LEADS)	Kierland 4A

8:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. Morning Session	Tour 1 - Sizzling Southwest \$150 Hands-on Cooking Academy followed by shopping experience in Scottsdale Quarter (56 people per session)	
11:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. Afternoon Session (available once morning session is filled)	Buses begin boarding at 7:45 A.M. and leave promptly at 8:00. 2026 Convention T Shirt is encouraged.	
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9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.	GFWC Boosters Hospitality Lounge	Sitgreaves
8:30 A.M. – 9:30 A.M.	2024–2026 GFWC Chairmen and Committee Members Meeting	Trailblazers A,B
8:30 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.	2024–2026 GFWC Region Presidents Meeting	Parke
8:30 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.	2024–2026 GFWC State and DC Federation Presidents Meeting	Kierland 4C
8:30 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.	2024–2026 GFWC State and DC Federation Directors Of Junior Clubs Meeting	Cushing A
9:30 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.	2024–2026 GFWC Committee Meetings	
	Annual Giving	Tribal B
	Bylaws	Powell A
	Communications and Public Relations	Powell B
	Community Service Programs, Juniors' Special Program, Awards and Contests	Tribal B
	Corporate Partners and Development	Cushing B
	Elections	Tribal A
	Fundraising	Kierland 1,2,3
	International Liaisons	Cushing B
	Legislation/Public Policy	Powell A
	Membership	Powell B
	Resolutions	Powell A
	Signature Program	Tribal A
	Women's History and Resource Center	Cushing B
11:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.	2024–2026 GFWC Board Of Directors Luncheon \$68 BC	Trailblazers C,D,E
3:30 P.M. – 4:30 P.M.	Service Project – A Touch of Care, A Gift of Strength \$45 The GFWC Annual Convention Service Project is more than an activity—it's a lifeline for survivors of domestic and sexual violence. See page 20 for more information.	Kierland 4BC and CultureKeepers Hall South

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

3:30 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.	GFWC Marketplace	Culturekeepers West Foyer
4:30 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.	Registration / Arizona Welcome Table	Culturekeepers Registration
4:30 P.M. – 5:15 P.M.	First-Time Attendee Welcome And Orientation	Powell
5:45 P.M. – 6:45 P.M.	GFWC State Photos: Session 1, details on page 18	Trailblazers Terrace
6:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.	Social Hour	Vista Morada Patio
6:45 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.	Processional Formation for GFWC Arizona-State Night	Trailblazer South
7:00 P.M. – 9:30 P.M.	¡Bienvenidos a la Fiesta! – Arizona State Night Banquet \$85 AF Join us for a festive evening of Mariachi music, southwest cuisine, and dancing to celebrate the start of the 2026 GFWC Annual Convention. "No Time to Siesta. It's Time to Fiesta!"	Trailblazers Ballroom
9:45 P.M. – 10:45 P.M.	Annual Giving Donors Reception (By Invitation Only)	

SATURDAY, JUNE 27

7:00 A.M. – 8:00 A.M.	Registration / Arizona Welcome Table	Culturekeepers Registration
7:30 A.M. – 8:30 A.M.	LEADS Graduates Breakfast \$45 BC	Kierland 4BC
8:00 A.M. – 8:30 A.M.	Processional Formation for Flag Ceremony	Culturekeepers Hall South
8:45 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.	2026 Annual Convention Opening Ceremony and Business Session Processional: Announced by Jennifer Robertson, Special Assistant to the President Call to Order: Suellen Brazil, International President	Kierland 1, 2,3
12:15 P.M.	Processional Formation for Luncheon	Trailblazers South



LOOKING FOR A SPIKE IN SALES?

Have a product you think club members would be interested in? From authors, to insurance, to apparel, all vendors are welcome.

View booths available for exhibitors at the 2026 GFWC Annual Convention.

12:30 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.	Strength in Every Story – Illuminating Our Impact Luncheon \$63 BC Processional: Announced by Michelle Munoz, Assistant to Director of Junior Clubs Call to Order: Shannon Bailey, Director of Junior Clubs Awards: Trina Behbahani, Director-elect of Junior Clubs Millie Crom Award for Excellence in Junior State Leadership Juniorette Participation Award Juniors’ Special Program: Advocates for Children Awards: Mary Beth Williams, Second Vice President Woman’s History and Resource Center: Marian St.Clair, Chairman Leadership: Mary Beth Williams, Second Vice President Fundraising: Judy Martin, Chairman National Clubs Certificates of Appreciation: Mary Beth Williams, Second Vice President International Affiliate Clubs Certificates of Appreciation: Nancy Ames, International Liaisons Chairman International Delegates Recognition: Suellen Brazil, International President New International Affiliate Clubs: Suellen Brazil, International President Special Presentation: Suellen Brazil, International President	Trailblazers Ballroom
2:15 P.M. – 4:30 P.M.	Business Session 2026 GFWC Annual Convention Call to Order: Suellen Brazil, International President Presentation of GFWC International Past Presidents Candidates Speeches Proposed Amendments to the GFWC Bylaws: Deen Meloro, Chairman Proposed Amendments to the GFWC Resolutions: Ida Dorvee, Chairman Awards: Mary Beth Williams, Second Vice President Communications and Public Relations: Becky Bolden, Chairman Website Newsletter Announcements: Kim Sekulow, Convention and Meetings Chairman	Kierland 1,2,3
2:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.	GFWC Marketplace	Culturekeepers Registration
3:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.	Registration / Arizona Welcome Table	Culturekeepers Registration
5:15 P.M. – 6:15 P.M.	GFWC Past State Directors of Juniors Club Meeting	Cushing AB
6:00 P.M. – 7:15 P.M.	GFWC State Photos – Session 2, details on page 18	Culturekeepers South
6:30 P.M. – 7:15 P.M.	Social Hour	Foyers and Vista Morada Patio
7:30 P.M. – 9:30 P.M.	Connected Circles, Collective Impact-Region Banquets \$83 F Great Lakes Middle Atlantic Mississippi Valley New England	TBD

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

	South Central	TBD
	Southeastern	TBD
	Southern	TBD
	Western States	TBD
9:45 P.M. – 10:45 P.M.	GFWC Fun Night - Live Line Dancing \$45 Bring out your boots and enjoy live line dancing lessons with the GFWC Juniors! More information on page 16.	Culturekeepers South

SUNDAY, JUNE 28

7:30 A.M. – 8:45 A.M.	GFWC Past State Presidents Club Breakfast \$45	Kierland 4BC
8:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.	GFWC Elections	Cushing AB
9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.	GFWC Marketplace	Culturekeepers Registration

GFWC Programs Workshops: Session 1

9:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.	Community Service Programs <i>CSP Unity Project Lab – Turning Vision into Service</i>	TBD
9:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.	Communications and Public Relations <i>Media Mayhem NOT</i>	TBD
9:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.	Fundraising <i>Raise it! Impact, Results, and Fun!</i>	TBD
9:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.	Leadership <i>Every Leader's Journey: Discovering and Adapting Your Leadership Style</i>	TBD
9:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.	Legislation/Public Policy <i>Diverse Voices, United Impact</i>	TBD
9:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.	Membership <i>From Service to Impact: Building Unity and Membership Through Purpose</i>	TBD
9:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.	Advocates for Children <i>Strong Starts, Strong Communities: How Child Care Partnerships Change Children's Lives</i>	TBD
9:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.	Signature Program <i>Stand Up. Speak Up. Show Up.</i>	TBD

GFWC Programs Workshops: Session 2

		TBD
10:15 A.M. – 11:15 A.M.	Community Service Programs <i>CSP Unity Project Lab – Turning Vision into Service</i>	TBD
10:15 A.M. – 11:15 A.M.	Communications and Public Relations <i>Media Mayhem NOT</i>	TBD
10:15 A.M. – 11:15 A.M.	Fundraising <i>Raise it! Impact, Results, and Fun!</i>	TBD
10:15 A.M. – 11:15 A.M.	Leadership <i>Every Leader's Journey: Discovering and Adapting Your Leadership Style</i>	TBD
10:15 A.M. – 11:15 A.M.	Legislation/Public Policy <i>Diverse Voices, United Impact</i>	TBD
10:15 A.M. – 11:15 A.M.	Membership <i>From Service to Impact: Building Unity and Membership Through Purpose</i>	TBD
11:015 A.M. – 11:15 A.M.	Advocates for Children <i>Strong Starts, Strong Communities: How Child Care Partnerships Change Children's Lives</i>	TBD

10:15 A.M. – 11:15 A.M.	Signature Program <i>Stand Up. Speak Up. Show Up.</i>	TBD
11:45 P.M. – 2:15 P.M.	Excellence in Action Luncheon \$63 BC Welcome and Introductions: Suellen Brazil, International President Awards: Mary Beth Williams, Second Vice President Photography: Patricia Heepe, Chairman Legislation/Public Policy: Mary Pat Marcello, Chairman Arts and Culture CSP: Billie Williams, Chairman Civic Engagement and Outreach CSP: Vicky Ann Trimmer, Chairman Environment CSP: Sharon Oliphant, Chairman Health and Wellness CSP: Lynn Foreman, Chairman Introduction of Affiliate Organizations: Wendy Carriker, GFWC President-elect GFWC Affiliate Organizations Platinum Affiliate Organization Award Presentations: Alzheimer’s Association Heifer International Hope for Justice Operation Smile Shot@Life St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital	Trailblazers
2:30 P.M. – 4:15 P.M.	Business Session 2026 GFWC Annual Convention Call to Order: Suellen Brazil, International President Thought for the Day: Credentials Update: Lisa Hedrick, Chairman In Memoriam: Juanita M. Bryant, GFWC International Past President 1982–1984 Faye Z. Dissinger, GFWC International Past President 1996–1998 Proposed Amendments to the GFWC Bylaws: Deen Meloro, Chairman Proposed Amendments to the GFWC Resolutions: Ida Dorvee, Chairman Fundraising Update: Judy Martin, Chairman Announcements: Kim Sekulow, Convention and Meetings Chairman	Kierland 1,2,3
4:00 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.	Registration / Arizona Welcome Table	Culturekeepers Registration
4:00 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.	GFWC Marketplace	Culturekeepers West Foyer
4:30 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.	GFWC Junior Business Session	Kierland 1,2,3
4:30 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.	CUSTOMIZATION BARS \$ 60 Unlock a world of creativity at our Customization Bars, where you become the designer! From embossing to engraving, create personalized keepsakes on the spot and walk away with something totally unique—and totally you. Details on Page 13	Culturekeepers Hall South
4:45 P.M. – 5:45 P.M.	International Delegates Reception (By Invitation Only)	Presidential Suite
6:15 P.M. – 7:15 P.M.	GFWC State Photos : Session 3, Details Page 18	Culturekeepers South
6:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.	Social Hour	Foyers
7:20 P.M.	Processional Formation for Gala	Trailblazer South

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

7:30 P.M. – 10:45 P.M. **Liberty, Leadership, and the Legacy of Service Gala | \$85 | F** Trailblazers Ballroom
 Processional: Announced By Cynthia Geis, Protocol Chairman
 Welcome and Introductions: Suellen Brazil, International President
 Recognition of Jennie Award Honorees: Deborah Allen Chairman
 Great Lakes Region
 Middle Atlantic Region
 Mississippi Valley Region
 New England Region
 South Central Region
 Southeastern Region
 Southern Region
 Western States Region
 State of the Junior Organization: Shannon Bailey, Director of Junior Clubs
 State of the Federation: Suellen Brazil, International President
Attire: Red/White/Blue/Gold

MONDAY, JUNE 29

7:30 A.M. – 8:45 A.M. **From Pages to Potential - Epsilon Sigma Omicron Breakfast | \$45 | BC** Trailblazers C D,E
 Introduction of Speaker: Dana Jones, Chairman, Education and Libraries
 Speaker:
 Awards: Mary Beth Williams, Second Vice President
 ESO Awards: Education and Libraries: Dana Jones, Chairman
 Writing Contest: Hope Royer

8:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M. Registration / Arizona Welcome Table Culturekeepers Registration

8:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M. **GFWC Marketplace** Culturekeepers West Foyer

9:15 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. **Business Session 2026 GFWC Annual Convention** Kierland 2,3
 Call to Order: Suellen Brazil, International President
 Thought for the Day:
 Final Credentials Report: Lisa Hedrick, Chairman
 Elections Report: Barbara Whitaker, Chairman
 2024-2026 Officer Reports
 Wendy Carriker, President-elect
 Jolie Frankfurth, First Vice President
 Mary Beth Williams, Second Vice President
 Dr. Susan Gettys, Secretary
 Juliet Casper, Treasurer
 Proposed Amendments to the GFWC Bylaws: Deen Meloro, Chairman
 Proposed Amendments to the GFWC Resolutions: Ida Dorvee, Chairman
 Awards: Mary Beth Williams, Second Vice President
 Membership: Karyn Charvat, Chairman
 Membership Increase:
 Special Membership Award for New GFWC Clubs
 Charlotte Emerson Brown Award: Jolie Frankfurth, First Vice President
 Invitation to the 2027 GFWC Annual Convention, Karen Throckmarten,
 North Carolina State President and Rebecca Duffy, Director of Junior Clubs
 Announcement of Bling Fling Winners: Judy Martin, Fundraising
 Chairman
 Live Auction:
 Announcements: Kim Sekulow, Convention and Meetings Chairman

12:30 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.	Volunteers at the Summit of Change \$ 63 BC Luncheon Honoring Community Impact Program Winners Awards: Mary Beth Williams, Second Vice President Community Impact Program Awards: Katie Moydell, Chairman Signature Program: Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention, Carrie Zimmerman, Chairman Signature Program Recognition GFWC Success for Survivors Scholarship Gifts to Headquarters	Trailblazers Ballroom
2:30 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.	Beyond the Gavel—Parliamentary Essentials Workshop	Mapmakers
2:30 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.	International Past Presidents High Tea (By Invitation Only)	Presidential Suite
3:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.	Registration / Arizona Welcome Table	Culturekeepers Registration
3:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.	GFWC Past Region Presidents Club Tea	TBD
3:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.	Installation Rehearsal	Kierland 2,3
5:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.	2026-2028 Officers Reception	Kierland 4 and Culturekeepers Hall South
6:30 P.M. – 7:45 P.M.	Installation Banquet \$85 F	Trailblazers Ballroom
7:45 P.M.	Processional Formation for Installation Ceremony	Culturekeepers Hall South
8:00 P.M. – 9:30 P.M.	Installation Ceremony Adjournment of 2026 Convention: Suellen Brazil, International President	Kierland 1,2,3
9:30 P.M. – 12:00 A.M.	Installation Celebration	Trailblazers Ballroom

TUESDAY, JUNE 30

7:30 A.M. – 8:15 A.M.	2026–2028 Board of Directors Registration	Culturekeepers Registration
7:30 A.M. – 8:15 A.M.	GFWC 2026-2028 Executive Committee Meeting	
8:30 A.M. – 9:30 A.M.	2026–2028 GFWC Chairmen and Committee Members Meeting	Kierland 4A,B
8:30 A.M. – 9:30 A.M.	2026–2028 GFWC Region Presidents Meeting	Cushing A
8:30 A.M. – 9:30 A.M.	2026–2028 GFWC State and DC Federation Presidents Meeting	Trailblazers B
8:30 A.M. – 9:30 A.M.	2026–2028 GFWC State and DC Federation Directors Of Junior Clubs Meeting	Trailblazers A
9:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.	2026–2028 GFWC Committee Meetings	
	Annual Giving	Kierland 4C
	Bylaws	Powell A
	Communications and Public Relations	Powell B
	Community Service Programs, Juniors' Special Program, Awards and Contests	Kierland 4C
	Corporate Partners and Development	Cushing B

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

	Elections	Tribal A
	Fundraising	Kierland 4C
	International Liaisons	Cushing B
	Legislation/Public Policy	Powell A
	Membership	Powell B
	Resolutions	Powell A
	Signature Program	Tribal A
	Women's History and Resource Center	Cushing B
10:15 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.	2026–2028 GFWC Board Of Directors Luncheon \$63 Announcements: Jennifer Jobe, 2026-2028 GFWC Convention and Meetings Chairman	Trailblazers C,D,E

Dress Code

F – Formal: Floor length evening gown, chic cocktail dress, or separates.

AF – After Five: Cocktail dress or dressy sundress, long dressy skirt and top, or dressy pants outfit.

BC – Business Casual: dresses, jackets, skirts, khakis or dress pants, open-collared shirts, sweaters, or blouses.

SC – Smart Casual: GFWC emblem wear. No jeans, shorts, or spaghetti straps.

CUSTOMIZATION BARS

Unlock a world of creativity at our Customization Bars, where you become the designer! From embossing to engraving, create personalized keepsakes on the spot and walk away with something totally unique—and totally you.

LEATHER STAMPING

\$60



Leather stamping adds a distinctive level of personalization to any signature piece. In this activity, participants will design and customize their own leather keychain or luggage tag while also learning about the fascinating, centuries-old art of heat and hammer pressing.

Includes | 1 luggage tag or keychain*

WOOD BURNING

\$60



Create a set of wooden coasters using the timeless art of wood burning. Guests will learn basic techniques with a pen-like tool as they etch custom designs onto premium wooden pieces. They're perfect for your home or gifting.

Includes | 2 coasters

BAG CHARM BAR

\$60



Unleash your inner artist as you craft your own elevated bag charm. Pick your charms, handcraft beaded accents, and learn how to assemble everything from scratch using bold colors, elegant gold chain, and playful charms that showcase your personality.

Includes | 1 bag charm

Customization Bars require a minimum of 50 registrants. If the activity does not reach its minimum your ticket will be refunded.

WORKSHOPS

CSP UNITY PROJECT LAB – TURNING VISION INTO SERVICE

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS

This interactive workshop introduces members to the Community Service Program Unity Projects and engages them via brainstorming, guided discussion, and hands-on simulation. Participants identify real community needs, explore meaningful local projects, and develop practical, sustainable strategies that inspire community-driven service and lasting local impact.

MEDIA MAYHEM NOT!

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

This interactive workshop introduces the GFWC Media Makers Project for the 2026–2028 administration. Participants rotate through small-group learning stations focused on photography, video, storytelling, branding, and media planning—learning how to build a shared GFWC Media Library and prepare for impactful Communication and Public Relations Signature Projects.

RAISE IT! IMPACT, RESULTS, AND FUN!

FUNDRAISING

Ignite your clubs' impact at this dynamic fundraising workshop! Explore our Unity Project, "Voices of Service" to discover how fundraising and membership grow together. Explore the power of publicity, and spark fresh, outside-the-box project ideas. Brainstorm in small groups to generate ideas for successful fundraising that inspire collaboration and tangible results.

EVERY LEADER'S JOURNEY: DISCOVERING AND ADAPTING YOUR LEADERSHIP STYLE

LEADERSHIP

New and skilled leaders: Experience a dynamic leadership journey as we explore diverse leadership styles. Through interactive activities, reflection, and real-life scenarios, you will uncover your strengths, understand other's approaches, and learn how to adapt your style to inspire teams, navigate challenges, and lead with confidence and purpose in modern, evolving organizational environments.

SPECIAL WORKSHOP - MONDAY, JUNE 29

BEYOND THE GAVEL: PARLIAMENTARY ESSENTIALS WORKSHOP

Do you wish your club meetings would run more smoothly? Does discussion go on "forever" without a decision? Discover how parliamentary procedure brings clarity, fairness, and efficiency to any meeting. This practical, plain-language workshop shows you how to confidently manage discussion, navigate tricky situations, and keep meetings moving toward results.

DIVERSE VOICES, UNITED IMPACT

LEGISLATION AND PUBLIC POLICY

Join us to learn how to be a champion for a cause and influence public policy as a volunteer. Learn modern techniques for communicating with decision-makers and use the Legislative Action Center (LAC) to be part of GFWC's united impact, culminating in bringing your voice home to your local network to engage policy-makers.

FROM SERVICE TO IMPACT: BUILDING UNITY AND MEMBERSHIP THROUGH PURPOSE

MEMBERSHIP

This Unity Membership Challenge workshop helps clubs move beyond tracking service to clearly expressing community impact. Come join us as we help you focus on your club's purpose and community impact, help members strengthen unity, increase community knowledge of your club's impact, and inspire women in your communities to join GFWC.

STRONG STARTS, STRONG COMMUNITIES: HOW CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIPS CHANGE CHILDREN'S LIVES

JUNIORS' SPECIAL PROGRAM: ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN

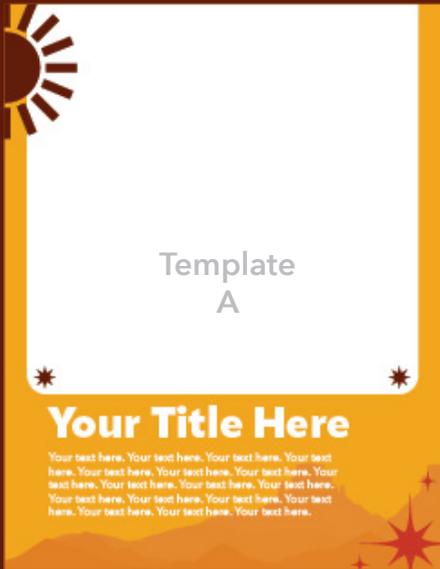
Strong Starts, Strong Communities is a one-hour interactive workshop that empowers advocates to partner effectively with child care facilities. Participants will learn why early childhood education matters, explore challenges facing child care providers, and identify practical ways to support children, families, and early learning programs in their communities.

STAND UP. SPEAK UP. SHOW UP.

SIGNATURE PROGRAM

Participants will explore practical advocacy strategies supporting survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Attendees will gain tools to support and promote survivor-centered advocacy while working with their state Coalition and building stronger communities. They will also learn about the 2026-2028 Signature Program Unity Project and how they can participate at Convention and within their own state.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT



Recognize outstanding club members and leaders for an amazing administration by purchasing an ad in the 2026 GFWC Annual Convention Program!



**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS
APRIL 1, 2026**

**DOWNLOAD
AD FORM**

SATURDAY, JUNE 27



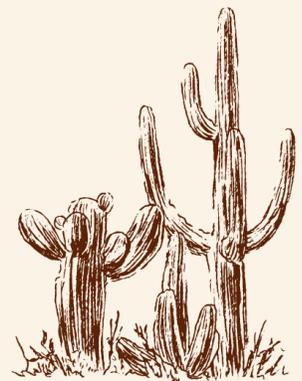
9:45-11:00 PM

KICK UP YOUR HEELS LINE DANCING



2026 Fun Night
Bring out your boots and enjoy line dancing lessons with your gals til' the cows come home!

Hosted by the GFWC Juniors

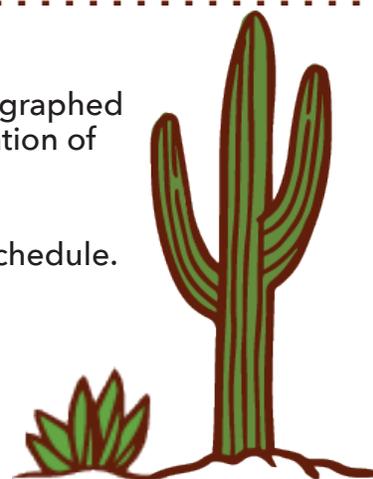


STATE PHOTO SCHEDULE

We are pleased to offer the opportunity for each state delegation to be photographed with the International President and Director of Junior Clubs as a commemoration of the 2026 GFWC Annual Convention in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Given the number of delegations present, it is imperative that we remain on schedule.

Please Note: The entire state delegation should be in line 5 minutes prior to the time listed.



Friday, June 26, 2026

5:45 P.M.

Arizona
Booster Club Delegation
International Past Presidents

6:00 P.M.

California
Pennsylvania
Georgia

6:15 P.M.

Massachusetts
New Jersey
New York

6:30 P.M.

Texas
Ohio
Alaska
New Mexico

Saturday, June 27, 2026

6:00 P.M.

Arkansas
Connecticut
Delaware
District of Columbia
Hawaii
Idaho
Indiana
Kansas
Kentucky

6:30 P.M.

Maine
Maryland
Michigan
Minnesota
Nebraska
Nevada
North Dakota
Mississippi

7:00 P.M.

Oklahoma
Oregon
Rhode Island
South Dakota
Tennessee
Utah
Vermont
Wyoming

Sunday, June 28, 2026

6:15 P.M.

2024-2026 Executive Committee
Alabama
North Carolina
Florida
Colorado
South Carolina
Missouri
Washington

6:45 P.M.

Virginia
Iowa
Illinois
Montana
New Hampshire
Georgia
West Virginia
Wisconsin
Louisiana

EXPERIENCE SCOTTSDALE



Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art (SMoCA)

- What: Contemporary art, architecture, and design
- When: Thursdays, 11:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.
- Admission: Pay-what-you-wish all day Thursdays
- Bonus: Free for visitors under 18 and members

Visit smoca.org for tickets.

MacDonald's Ranch

- What: Family-owned ranch since 1956 offering sunset and moonlit horseback rides
- When: Early morning or evenings during the summer months
- Admission: Starting at \$97
- Bonus: Free petting zoo and ranching games on property

Visit macdonaldsranch.com for reservations.



Scottsdale Historical Museum (Little Red Schoolhouse)

- What: Local history museum in a 1909 schoolhouse
- When: Open most weekdays, including Thursdays
- Admission: Free year-round

Visit scottsdalehistory.org for more information.

Scottsdale also hosts a Thursday night ArtWalk in the Arts District—live music, galleries, and food spots stay open late. You can find more info at www.scottsdaleartsdistrict.com

BLING FLING JEWELRY FUNDRAISER

EVERY TICKET WINS!

Join us for a sparkling fundraiser where everyone takes home jewelry — and one lucky winner receives a 1-carat diamond!



\$50
per pouch

HOW IT WORKS

- Purchase a black velvet pouch numbered 1–500.
- Pouches may be pre-purchased during Convention registration or bought on-site during the event if still available.
- Each pouch contains a surprise piece of jewelry ... but only one holds the grand prize!

WHAT'S IN THE POUCHES?

- ONE** lucky participant will receive a loose 1-carat diamond.
- All other participants will receive either:
 - A loose 1-carat cubic zirconia stone, or
 - A beautiful piece of Kendra Scott jewelry.

DON'T MISS THE BLING!

Limited pouches available. Once they're gone, they're gone.

Every ticket is a winner. The only mystery is how much sparkle you'll take home!



BLING FLING FUNDRAISER RULES AND DISCLAIMERS

Each pouch contains one item – a loose 1-carat diamond, a loose 1-carat cubic zirconia stone, or a piece of Kendra Scott jewelry.

Only one diamond will be awarded during this event.

All sales are final. No refunds will be provided once a pouch is purchased.

Participants must open their pouch on-site for verification of the diamond prize.

GFWC is not responsible for lost or misplaced pouches after distribution.

The diamond and all jewelry items are provided "as-is."

Prizes must be picked up in person at Convention.

Buy More, Save More

\$125
for 3 pouches

**actual Kendra Scott jewelry may vary*

SERVICE PROJECT

A Touch of Care, A Gift of Strength

This year's GFWC Annual Convention Service Project is more than an activity—it's a lifeline for survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

By joining us, you'll create spa jars filled with soothing bath salts, each customized with restorative blends like Calm and Sleepy, Hydrate and Uplift, and Rest and Restore. These jars aren't just gifts—they're messages of hope, donated to local shelters and paired with handwritten notes of encouragement.

Your contribution matters. Every jar you help create, every donation you make, sends a powerful message: You are seen. You are valued. You are not alone.

Together, we can transform care into action. Will you help us reach more survivors? Join us in making a difference.

Friday, June 26 at 3:30 P.M.

\$45

**ORDER YOUR 2026
GFWC ANNUAL
CONVENTION
TSHIRT DURING
REGISTRATION**

\$16 EACH

AVAILABLE IN S-4XL



THE WESTIN KIERLAND RESORT AND SPA

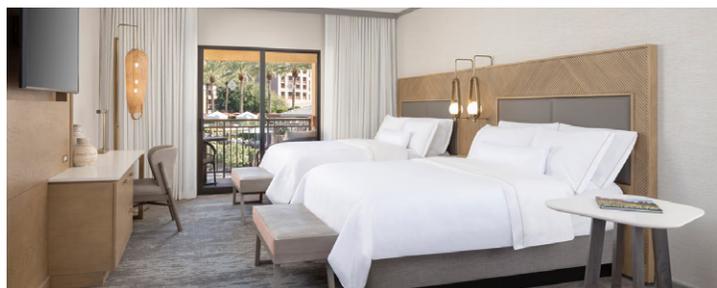
\$209 per night

Amenities Include:

- 7 On-site Restaurants
- Outdoor Pools and Cabanas
- Agave Spa
- Room Service
- On-Site Golf Course
- Bicycle Rental
- FedEx Business Center



Discover a desert oasis at The Westin Kierland Resort and Spa, a four-star retreat in North Scottsdale, AZ. Steps from premier dining and shopping at Kierland Commons, the resort blends modern luxury with the natural beauty of the Sonoran Desert. Golf enthusiasts will love our award-winning Westin Kierland Golf Club, designed by Scott Miller. Relax at Agave, The Arizona Spa, offering massages, facials, and more. End your day with a signature treatment or retreat to your room and sink into a Heavenly® Bed. Each pet-friendly accommodation includes high-speed internet, a work desk, coffee maker, flat-screen TV, and signature bath products to help you refresh and recharge.



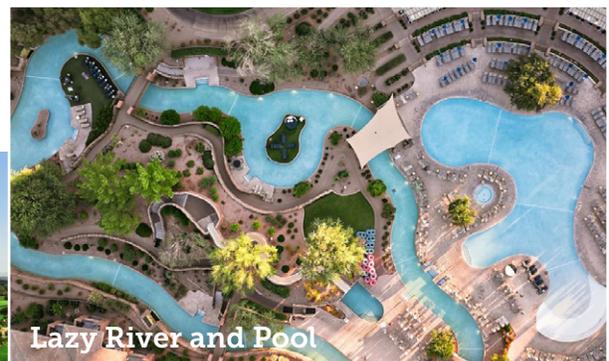
FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS AT THE WESTIN KIERLAND RESORT AND SPA

GFWC's Group Rate is \$209 for King or double/double. The room block closes on June 1, 2026, at midnight. Room reservations can be canceled up to 72 hours before scheduled arrival. Please help GFWC deliver the best hotel experience by not holding multiple rooms under one name.

The \$209 room rate offered through the convention room block includes a discounted resort fee of \$10.

BOOK ONLINE: <https://book.passkey.com/event/51125855/owner/8712/home>

For room booking questions please contact the hotel at +1-800-354-5892



Westin Kierland Golf Club

Transportation Options from the Airport

The Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport is 19.3 miles from the hotel.

- Taxi or Ride Share: Approximately \$60 per one-way trip
- Booked Transfer Service: \$75 per way, Request at +1 800-410-5479

6902 East Greenway Parkway,
Scottsdale, Arizona, USA, 85254

2026 GFWC ANNUAL CONVENTION

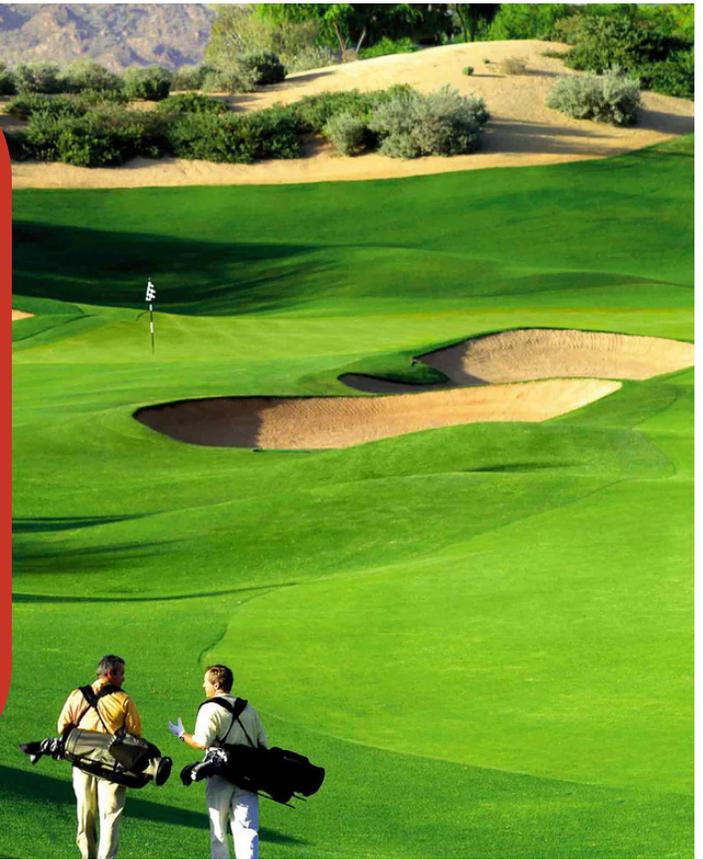
GFWC BOOSTERS

GFWC Boosters,

Each year, the Boosters bring joy, energy, and unmistakable community to the Convention. You help create the heartbeat of the week—filling our lounge with laughter, connection, stories, and support for GFWC volunteer activities across the globe. Whether you're joining us to reconnect with friends, build new relationships, relax in the Boosters Lounge, or participate in the special activities we have in store, this Convention is that opportunity to recharge, celebrate service, and be part of something bigger than ourselves.

Let's make 2026 a year to remember—for the friendships, the fun, and the spirit of service that brings us all together.

See you in Scottsdale!



GFWC IRON WORKS JEWELRY SET

This elegant set of handcrafted jewelry is a replica of the ironwork that adorns GFWC's historic headquarters at 1734 N St NW, Washington, DC.

Your support helps preserve this treasured building. All proceeds benefit the GFWC Headquarters Facade Restoration and Beautification Fund.

\$50 per set

Purchase during registration for pickup at Convention. While supplies last.



REGISTRATION

Online Convention Registration opens *February 4*.

Visit the [GFWC Event Registration](#) page and follow the instructions to register for Convention and all the events. GFWC's user-friendly online registration system is quick, secure, and easy. Registration closes *May 15*. For assistance, contact Events Manager Nishu Raina at 202-628-2478 or via email at NRaina@gfwc.org

ATTENDEE TYPE	EARLY BIRD RATE 2/4/26 – 3/16/26	REGULAR RATE 3/17/26–5/15/26
<i>GFWC Woman's or Junior Woman's Club Attendee</i> - Open to GFWC Woman's or Junior Woman's Club members. May register for any event of your choice. Receives voting privileges if applicable, welcome package, and admittance into Business Sessions and Workshops.	\$175	\$200
<i>GFWC Juniorette Club Attendee</i> - Open to GFWC Juniorette Club members. May register for any event of your choice. Receives voting privileges if applicable, a welcome package, and admittance into Business Sessions and Workshops.	\$50	\$50
<i>GFWC Member Daily Attendee</i> - Open to GFWC members who wish to attend only one day of the Convention. May not register for events on other days; No voting privileges, but receives welcome package.	\$95	\$95
<i>GFWC Juniorette Club Daily Attendee</i> – Open to GFWC Juniorette Club members who wish to attend only one day of the Convention. May not register for events on other days; NO voting privileges, but receives welcome package.	\$25	\$25
<i>GFWC Host State Night Attendee</i> - Open to GFWC members who are only attending the GFWC Arizona State Night Banquet on Friday, June 26. No admittance to Business Sessions or Workshops. No voting privileges but receives welcome package.	\$25	\$25
<i>GFWC Booster Club Attendee</i> - Open to GFWC Booster Club members. May register for any convention event. No voting privileges, but receives welcome package.	\$25	\$25
<i>Non-Member Guest Attendee</i> - Open to non-member guests attending with a GFWC member. May register for any event. No admittance to Business Sessions or Workshops. No voting privileges or welcome package.	\$25	\$25
* MEAL PACKAGES ON NEXT PAGE		

REGISTER TODAY



MEAL PACKAGES

THE GRAND CANYON STATE MEAL PACKAGE



\$385

1. ¡Bienvenidos a la Fiesta! - Arizona State Night Banquet
2. Strength in Every Story - Illuminating Our Impact Luncheon
3. Connected Circles, Collective Impact Region Banquets
4. Excellence in Action Luncheon
5. Liberty, Leadership, and the Legacy of Service Gala Banquet
6. Volunteers at the Summit of Change Luncheon



A great, cost-effective way to experience all the Convention excitement!

VALLEY OF THE SUN MEAL PACKAGE

- 
1. ¡Bienvenidos a la Fiesta! - Arizona State Night Banquet
 2. Strength in Every Story - Illuminating Our Impact Luncheon
 3. Connected Circles, Collective Impact Region Banquets
 4. Excellence in Action Luncheon
 5. Liberty, Leadership, and the Legacy of Service Gala Banquet
 6. Volunteers at the Summit of Change Luncheon
 7. Installation Banquet



\$455

 Packages do not include registration fees



Skip the Line!

PURCHASE ALCOHOLIC DRINK TICKETS DURING REGISTRATION

Pre-purchase alcoholic beverage tickets during Registration and skip waiting in line during Social Hour.

Drinks are \$15 each and will be sold in packs of 5.

Cancellations

Cancellations are handled based on GFWC's current cancellation policy after deadlines and are subject to a 6% processing fee. Please notify GFWC as soon as possible if you need to cancel your registration at Events@GFWC.org.

Tours are non-refundable after May 1

Late Registration

Registration for tours will close after the maximum number is reached.

If registering after May 15, all meals are subject to an additional charge of \$10 per meal.

CONVENTION ASSISTANCE



Convention Fundraising
Judy Martin
GFWC Fundraising
Chairman
E: jmartago@gmail.com

First-Time Attendee Questions
Kim Sekulow
GFWC Convention and
Meetings Chairman
E: kbsekulow@gmail.com

Credentials
Lisa Hedrick
GFWC Credentials Chairman
E: jrval@frontier.com

Convention Program/Advertising
Candice Gill
Design and Publications Manager
P: 202-457-7224
E: CGill@GFWC.org

Questions regarding registration (cost, guests, meals, etc.), exhibiting, sponsorship, etc., can be directed to Events Manager Nishu Raina at 202-628-2478 or via email at NRaina@GFWC.org at GFWC Headquarters.

REGISTRATION

Registration will be located at the Culturekeepers Registration Booth. This should be your first stop at Convention. Sign in and get all your Convention materials.

Wednesday, June 24	3:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.
Thursday, June 25	9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. / 3:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.
Friday, June 26	8:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. / 4:30 P.M. - 5:30 P.M.
Saturday, June 27	7:00 A.M. - 8:00 A.M. / 3:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, June 28	4:00 P.M. - 5:30 P.M.
Monday, June 29	8:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. / 3:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

ARIZONA WELCOME STATION

The Arizona Welcome Station will be located at the Culturekeepers Registration Booth.

Wednesday, June 24	3:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.
Thursday, June 25	9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. / 3:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.
Friday, June 26	8:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. / 4:30 P.M. - 5:30 P.M.
Saturday, June 27	7:00 A.M. - 8:00 A.M. / 3:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, June 28	4:00 P.M. - 5:30 P.M.
Monday, June 29	8:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

GFWC MARKETPLACE

The GFWC Marketplace will be located in Culturekeepers Hall

Thursday, June 25	2:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.
Friday, June 26	8:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. / 3:30 P.M. - 5:30 P.M.
Saturday, June 27	2:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, June 28	9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. / 2:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Monday, June 29	8:00 A.M. - 11:00 P.M.

EXHIBITOR SHOWCASE

All vendors will be located in Culturekeepers and Hall of State

Thursday, June 25	11:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.	Exhibitor Move-in
Friday, June 26	8:30 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.	Open Hours
Saturday, June 27	10:30 A.M. - 5:30 P.M.	Open Hours
Sunday, June 28	8:30 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.	Open Hours
Monday, June 29	9:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.	Open Hours
Monday, June 29	4:30 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.	Exhibitor Move-out

BOOSTERS LOUNGE

The Boosters Lounge will be located in Sitgreaves Room

Thursday, June 25	9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Friday, June 26	9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Saturday, June 27	9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, June 28	9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

VOTING AND CREDENTIALS

All GFWC members are invited to attend the GFWC Annual Convention. However, not all attendees have voting privileges. In accordance with GFWC Bylaws, Article VIII, each club is permitted a certain number of voting delegates.

To determine your voting status for GFWC Business Sessions, credential cards are issued onsite at the GFWC Registration Desk. Credential cards are not mailed in advance and must be picked up onsite. When completing your registration, indicate your voting status and the capacity in which you are a delegate. Your voting status is then verified by the GFWC Credentials Committee.

Club Level

Two members from every Woman's, Junior Woman's, or Juniorette club of 20 or fewer members may be voting delegates.

For each additional 10 members (or major fraction of 10) one more delegate may represent the club. For example, a club with 56 members may have six voting delegates: two for the first 20 members, one for having 21–30 members, one for having 31–40 members, one for having 41–50 members, and one for having an additional six members, which is a major fraction of 10.

To be eligible to vote, attendees must belong to a club whose dues were submitted by its State Federation to GFWC by February 15, 2026.

A delegate must pay the registration fee for the entire convention to be entitled to vote. A daily registration fee does not include voting privileges.

Board Level

All current members of the GFWC Board of Directors and of the GFWC Standing and Special Committees are eligible to vote.

Region Level

The Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer of each Region are delegates. The Region President is a delegate as a member of the GFWC Board of Directors.

State/District of Columbia Federation Level

If your State or District of Columbia Federation has any of the following elected officials, they may be delegates by virtue of their office: President-elect; First, Second,

and Third Vice Presidents; Secretary; Corresponding Secretary; Treasurer; and the Director-elect of Junior Clubs. The State and District of Columbia President and State and District of Columbia Director of Junior Clubs are delegates as members of the GFWC Board of Directors. Chairmen of State and District of Columbia Community Service Programs, Signature Program, Juniors' Special Program, Communications and Public Relations, Fundraising, Leadership, Legislation/Public Policy, Membership, the Women's History and Resource Center, may be delegates.

A State/DC Federation may have additional officers, elected positions, chairmanships; however, individuals holding titles other than those listed are not delegates by virtue of their position. They may serve as delegates only if appointed as delegates by their club or by another authorized entity.

GFWC National or International Club

One delegate from each such club.

National Organization or International Affiliate

One delegate for each such organization.

For further information regarding dues, credentials, and representation, please refer to the GFWC Bylaws ARTICLE V Dues and Finance Section 5.2 Dues., ARTICLE VIII Conventions, and ARTICLE XII Committees Section 12.1 Standing Committees. E) Credentials.

Refer to Governance documents on the GFWC Member Portal, www.memberportal.gfwc.org.



HELPFUL TIPS AND INFORMATION

To qualify as a voting delegate, a full Convention registration fee must be paid. Daily attendees do not receive a vote.

After checking into the hotel, your first stop should be the GFWC Registration and Welcome Desk to pick up your Convention materials. The Credentials Committee will be ready to assist with any questions.

Each delegate must pick up and sign for her own credentials. Voting delegates receive a white voting card. The Credentials Committee keeps a portion of the card, and the other portion is yours to use during voting.

If you register in a non-voting capacity, you receive a marked non-voting card, and you are not permitted to vote at Convention.

Only an accredited delegate may introduce motions, debate, and vote.

No delegate may represent more than one organization or be entitled to more than one vote.

No proxy voting shall be allowed.

A member registering as a non-voting member may, upon proper clearance by the Credentials Committee, be transferred to a delegate status during a business session meeting.

OFFICER ELECTIONS AND AWARDS

2026-2028 CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION

PRESIDENT-ELECT
JOLIE R. FRANKFURTH

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
MARY BETH WILLIAMS

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
DR. SUSAN GETTYS

SECRETARY
JULIET CASPER

TREASURER
CHERIE WILLIAMS DEWITT

TREASURER
JENNIFER NOWAK

**DIRECTOR-ELECT OF
JUNIOR CLUBS**
MICHELLE MUNOZ

SATURDAY, JUNE 27

Luncheon

- Millie Crom Award for Excellence in Junior State Leadership
- Juniorette Participation: Darlene Adams, Chairman
- Juniors' Special Program: Advocates for Children: Suzanne Hooser, Chairman
- National Clubs Certificates of Appreciation
- International Club Certificates of Appreciation: Nancy Ames, Chairman
- Leadership: Mary Beth Williams, Second Vice President
- Fundraising: Judy Martin, Chairman
- WHRC: Marian St.Clair, Chairman

Business Session

- Communications and Public Relations: Becky Bolden, Chairman
- Website Contest
- Newsletter Contest

SUNDAY, JUNE 28

Luncheon

- Photography Contest: Patricia Heepe, Chairman
- Legislation/Public Policy: Mary Pat Marcello, Chairman
- Arts and Culture CSP: Billie Williams, Chairman
- Civic Engagement and Outreach CSP: Vicky Ann Trimmer, Chairman
- Environment CSP: Sharon Oliphant, Chairman
- Health and Wellness CSP: Lynn Foreman, Chairman

Platinum Affiliate Organization Awards

- Shot@Life United Nations Foundation
- Heifer International
- Hope for Justice
- St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
- Operation Smile
- Alzheimer's Association

Gala

- Jennie Honorees: Deborah Allen, Chairman

MONDAY, JUNE 29

ESO Breakfast

- Education and Libraries: Dana Jones, Chairman
- ESO Awards
- Writing Contest: Hope Royer, Chairman

Business Session

- Membership: Karyn Charvat, Chairman
- Membership Increase Recognition
- Charlotte Emerson Brown Award: Jolie Frankfurth, First Vice President

Luncheon

- CIP Awards: Katie Moydell, Chairman
- Signature Program: Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention: Carrie Zimmerman, Chairman
- Signature Program: Recognition

2024-2026 BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Deen Meloro, Chairman; Socorro Cooper; Yvonne Ford; Jean Revis; Judi Stankowich
Carol Habgood, PRP, GFWC Parliamentarian, Advisor

PROPOSED GFWC BYLAWS IN 2026

The following are proposed changes for consideration at the 2026 GFWC Annual Convention. Proposed additions are noted in **[bold green text and surrounded by brackets.]** Proposed deletions are noted in ~~strikethrough text~~.

ARTICLE IV Constituent Divisions, Section 4.3 State Federations or the District of Columbia Federation

Currently reads: Woman's Clubs, Junior Woman's Clubs, and Juniorette Clubs may join to form a State Federation or District of Columbia Federation. There shall be no more than one federation per state or the District of Columbia. To be recognized by GFWC, such federation shall elect a President, Secretary, Treasurer, and additional officers or directors as provided in the federation bylaws. Federations shall hold a minimum of one federation-wide meeting each year of the administration. At least one of the federation-wide meetings during an administration shall be a convention. State Federations may establish districts, if desired.

Proposed amendment: **[at which elections are held.]** after "shall be a convention." In the fifth sentence.

If adopted will read: Woman's Clubs, Junior Woman's Clubs, and Juniorette Clubs may join to form a State Federation or District of Columbia Federation. There shall be no more than one federation per state or the District of Columbia. To be recognized by GFWC, such federation shall elect a President, Secretary, Treasurer, and additional officers or directors as provided in the federation bylaws. Federations shall hold a minimum of one federation-wide meeting each year of the administration. At least one of the federation-wide meetings during an administration shall be a convention **[at which elections are held.]** State Federations may establish districts, if desired.

Rationale: To distinguish between statewide meetings and conventions.

ARTICLE VI Officers, Section 6.6 Duties of Officers A) International President. 6)

Currently reads: GFWC Headquarters shall serve as this officer's address during the term of office where a suite of rooms shall be provided. GFWC may provide the International President a monthly stipend plus food allowance to assist with the cost-of-living expenses while in office and in residence at Headquarters. The amounts for the stipend and food allowance will be determined by the Budget and Finance Committee and shown as a separate line item in the budget. Visitors or members of family in residence at GFWC Headquarters shall assume their own expense.

Proposed Amendment: GFWC Headquarters shall serve as this officer's address during the term of office where a suite of rooms shall be provided. ~~GFWC may provide the International President a monthly stipend plus food allowance to assist with the cost-of-living expenses while in office and in residence at Headquarters. The amounts for the stipend and food allowance will be determined by the Budget and Finance Committee and shown as a separate line item in the budget. Visitors or members of family in residence at GFWC Headquarters shall assume their own expense.~~

If adopted will read: GFWC Headquarters shall serve as this officer's address during the term of office where a suite of rooms shall be provided.

Rationale: The deleted sentences are not duties of the president and will become part of GFWC Financial Policies.



ARTICLE VII Endorsements and Elections Section 7.3
Elections

Currently reads: Candidates' names and the offices they seek shall be announced in the Call to Convention in even-numbered years. The officers and Director-elect of Junior Clubs shall be elected by ballot one day before the closing of the annual Convention in the even-numbered years, at a time and place detailed in the convention program. A plurality shall elect. The President-elect and the Director-elect of Junior Clubs shall automatically accede to their respective offices without standing for election.

Proposed Amendment: Candidates' names and the offices they seek shall be announced in the Call to Convention in even-numbered years. The officers and Director-elect of Junior Clubs shall be elected by ballot one day before the closing of the annual Convention in the even-numbered years, at a time and place detailed in the convention program. **[When there are two candidates, a majority shall elect. When there are three or more candidates, a] plurality shall elect. [In the event of a tie vote, a re-vote shall be held before the Installation of Officers.]** The President-elect and the Director-elect of Junior Clubs shall automatically accede to their respective offices without standing for election.

If adopted will read: Candidates' names and the offices they seek shall be announced in the Call to Convention in even-numbered years. The officers and Director-elect of Junior Clubs shall be elected by ballot one day before the closing of the annual Convention in the even-numbered years, at a time and place detailed in the convention program. **[When there are two candidates, a majority shall elect. When there are three or more candidates, a] plurality shall elect. [In the event of a tie vote, a re-vote shall be held before the Installation of Officers.]** The President-elect and the Director-elect of Junior Clubs shall automatically accede to their respective offices without standing for election.

Rationale: Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised states "A plurality vote is the largest number of voters to be given any candidate or proposition when three or more choices are possible; the candidate or proposition receiving the largest number of votes has a plurality." When there are two candidates, the candidate receiving the larger number of votes wins by majority vote.

To create a procedure in case of a tie vote.

PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS

2024-2026 RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Ida Dorvee, Chairman; Patty Benskin; Shari Carter; Kimberly Meyer; Denise Price
Mary Pat Marcello, Legislation/Public Policy Chairman

PROPOSED GFWC RESOLUTIONS IN 2026

The following are proposed resolutions to be presented for consideration at the 2026 GFWC Annual Convention. Proposed additions are noted in **[bold green text and surrounded by brackets]**. Proposed deletions are noted in ~~strikethrough text~~.

SIGNATURE PROGRAM: DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION

110-020 **Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention** (Convention 2022: Includes "Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention," Convention 1987; and "Sexual Assault," Convention 1987)

WHEREAS, Domestic and sexual violence, including but not limited to verbal, physical, emotional, mental, and sexual abuse, continues to increase, regardless of race, religion, gender and/or gender identity, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, age, educational and socioeconomic status, and may result in emotional distress, physical injury, and/or death to victims; and

WHEREAS, Domestic and sexual violence has many aspects requiring society's attention, including:

- Financial dependence on the abuser, forcing the victim to remain in dangerous situations;
- ~~Human trafficking for sexual exploitation of victims who are forced, defrauded, or coerced;~~
- Dating violence, particularly among teens, where a person in a dating relationship is harmed, threatened, intimidated, or controlled;
- Increased risk of future domestic and sexual violence actions by children and youth who witness and/or are victimized by domestic and sexual violence, including emotional trauma;
- Increased risk to native women residing on American Indian Tribal land and

in Alaskan Native villages who suffer domestic and sexual violence at a greater rate than other populations; and

WHEREAS, Research shows that domestic violence abusers and stalkers with firearms are five times more likely to kill their victims, and firearms further exacerbate the power dynamic used by abusers to inflict emotional abuse and coercive control over their victims; and

WHEREAS, Prevention and prosecution of domestic and sexual violence may be provided through collection of evidence and legal protections; and

WHEREAS, State laws and available legal remedies only address certain areas of abuse and may be applied inconsistently, and the need for law enforcement and judicial training, emergency shelters, and counseling services for survivors of abuse continues to grow; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to support legislation and promote programs to:

- Support survivors of domestic and sexual violence without discrimination;
- Identify at-risk families and suspected cases of domestic and sexual violence;
- Increase awareness of the risks of financial dependence and provide necessary resources to become financially self-sufficient;
- Advocate for increased awareness and education on the prevention of domestic and sexual violence, including dating violence prevention programs in schools;

- Provide emergency aid, shelter, and transitional housing for those who are forced to leave or flee violent settings;
- Authorize Tribal governments to have jurisdiction under federal law to prosecute and hold domestic and sexually violent offenders accountable and provide services to survivors;
- Strengthen state laws prohibiting possession of firearms by individuals charged with domestic violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking until the charges have been resolved or their complete sentence has been served, and requiring the relinquishment of firearms to law enforcement while a valid order of protection is on record against them;
- Ensure the timely entry of all domestic violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking criminal records and orders of protection into the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS);
- Provide survivors access to Rape Kits, medical testing, and treatment;
- Advocate for legal support and assistance for victims **[of domestic and sexual violence;]**
- Expand the legal protection for Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) to include both current and former spouses and dating partners, as in the definition provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
- Advocate for law enforcement and judicial training, and rape crisis centers, emergency shelters, and specially trained medical and counseling service providers for victims and survivors.

Rationale: To update

110-030 Elder Abuse Prevention (Formerly “Elder Abuse,” Convention 2011; Amended 2015; Amended 2019; Amended 2022)
 WHEREAS, Millions of older Americans **[senior citizens]** are victims of physical, sexual, financial, emotional and psychological, and/or neglect each year; and
 WHEREAS, Many nursing care facilities

and long and short-term care facilities including, but not limited to memory care, home health, assisted living, and hospice, lack adequate staff to properly care for patients; and

WHEREAS, Perpetrators of elder abuse are seldom identified or punished; therefore
 RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- Programs that educate the community on identifying and reporting suspected elder abuse;
- Training for caregivers on identifying and reporting suspected elder abuse;
- Inter-professional geriatric education and training **[on elder abuse];**
- Legislation that increases the prosecution of and penalties imposed on perpetrators of elder abuse.

Rationale: To update

110-040 Military Sexual Assault (Formerly “Sexual Assault of Those Serving in and with the Armed Forces,” Convention 2009; Amended 2013; Amended 2017; Amended 2022)

WHEREAS, ~~Those attending a military academy, or~~ **[Active duty personnel, and those]** serving as reservists, ~~or in the national guard, and military family members and civilian personnel,~~ are particularly vulnerable to abuse and assault due to geographical isolation, distance from family and friends, and the potential for social isolation within the military culture; and

WHEREAS, Sexual assault **[and sexual harassment experienced by service members]** and domestic violence within the military continue to occur at alarming levels **[rates];** and

WHEREAS, Victims are fearful of reporting incidents due to the lack of privacy and confidentiality in military communities, fear of retaliation, and limited availability of victim services; and

WHEREAS, Military Sexual Trauma (MST) may negatively affect an individual's current and long-term mental and physical health; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- Expansion of services to address military sexual assault, including survivors' unique needs in reporting sexual assault **[including access to the Safe Helpline to make a formal report to the Department of Defense Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office (SAPRO)];** and accessing legal remedies;
- An independent and impartial justice system for service members by removing from **[that removes]** the **[decision to prosecute from the survivor's]** chain of command; prosecution for sexual assault and domestic violence crimes;
- Efforts to improve the ability of veterans who are survivors of MST and domestic violence to seek and received **[Department of Veteran Affairs]** disability benefits **[based on their documented physical and mental health conditions;]**
- Enhancement of family services on military bases and development and communication of ways for victims of violence to report the abuse and seek services and support;
- **[Continued funding for the Office of Special Trial Counsel in each of the military departments, as well as significant funding for the Department of Defense (DoD) to continue to support services, such as Sexual Assault Response Coordinators (SARC), DoD Victim Advocates, or certain DoD health care professionals so that survivors can access medical treatment and services;]**
- Implementation **[Continued]** of sexual assault prevention training of all personnel to improve military culture; **[as well as the]** accessibility of **[to]**

trained Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) to ensure proper medical and psychological treatment, use of Rape Kits, and **[the implementation of guidelines assuring victims']** assured privacy and confidentially **[.]** to facilitate reporting assaults without fear of retaliation.

Rationale: To update

110-050

Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits (Convention 2022)

WHEREAS, Statistics show **[a]** that less than 1% **[small percentage]** of alleged rapists will be convicted and serve time in prison; and

WHEREAS, Hundreds of thousands of untested Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits, often referred to as Rape Kits, are stored in police and crime labs in every state, and untested **rape kits sexual assault kits** impede prosecution of perpetrators, **[which]** adversely affect survivors and prevent healing, and allow serial rapists to avoid identification; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to advocate for legislation to:

- Require law enforcement agencies and crime labs to inventory and test all untested Rape Kits in their possession;
- Mandate the timely **[collection,]** testing, **[and annual inventory]** of all newly collected Rape Kits **[sexual assault kits]** and grant survivors the right to know the status of their Rape Kits;
 - Provide adequate funding for:
 - the testing of Rape Kits **[sexual assault kits];**
 - **Sexual Assault Response Teams (SART);**
 - **information technology (IT) that allows data sharing among law enforcement agencies and laboratories in order to improve and expand DNA collection and analysis;**

- **Support legislation to develop uniform state-wide reporting systems to track the submission and status of sexual assault kits with secure electronic access for victims;**
- Establish a nationwide tracking system for Rape Kits **[sexual assault kits]** and require **[that]** DNA profile[s] from the kits be entered into the FBI's Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) forensic database.

Rationale: To update

110-060

Sexual Harassment (Formerly "Sexual Harassment in the Workplace," Convention 1992; Amended 1994; Amended 1998; Amended 2002; Reviewed 2006; Amended 2010; Reviewed 2014; Amended 2018; Amended 2022)

WHEREAS, Sexual harassment involves the use of explicit or implicit sexual overtones, including but not limited to the promise of rewards in exchange for sexual favors, **[as well as includes a range of actions from verbal transgressions to sexual abuse or assault];** and

WHEREAS, Sexual harassment includes a range of actions from verbal transgressions to sexual abuse or assault; and

WHEREAS, Sexual harassment may occur in many different settings, including but not limited to workplaces, businesses, homes, schools, and churches: **[religious institutions];** and

WHEREAS, Sexual harassment is a violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- New and existing programs to educate individuals on recognizing and reporting sexual harassment;
- Legislation strengthening penalties and reporting procedures for sexual harassment;
- **[Stronger enforcement of Title VII of**

the Civil Rights Act of 1964.]

Rationale: To update and clarify

PROPOSED NEW RESOLUTION

[Human Trafficking

WHEREAS, Human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery that exploits individuals through force, fraud, or coercion, for commercial sexual purposes; and

WHEREAS, Human trafficking affects millions of individuals worldwide, including women, children, immigrants, and those experiencing economic hardships or homelessness; and

WHEREAS, Public awareness, community engagement, and interagency collaboration are critical in preventing and addressing human trafficking, resulting in the need for a comprehensive, victim-centered, and multi-sectoral approach for human trafficking prevention; and

WHEREAS, Stronger penalties for traffickers, increased training for law enforcement and first responders, and expanded services for survivors are necessary to combat this crisis; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to advocate for:

- **Comprehensive anti-trafficking laws that align with international standards and best practices, including coordinated law enforcement actions;**
- **Allocation of government funding for victim assistance programs, including shelters, legal aid, medical care, and vocational training for survivors;**
- **Cross-sector collaboration between government agencies, private sector entities, and non-government agencies to enhance trafficking prevention strategies;**
- **Local and regional transportation projects to include the procurement and installation of human trafficking awareness signs at rest stops and welcome centers along the Interstate System, making such projects eligible for federal transportation funding;**
- **Mandatory training programs for law enforcement, judicial officials, and policymakers to recognize and respond to human trafficking cases;**
- **Public awareness campaigns that educate**

communities, businesses, and vulnerable groups about human trafficking risks and prevention measures.]

Submitted by GFWC Texas, GFWC North Carolina; edited by the GFWC Resolutions Committee.

RESOLUTIONS PROPOSED TO REMAIN UNCHANGED

110-010 Campus Sexual Assault (Convention 2022)

WHEREAS, Sexual assault on college and university campuses impacts 1 in 5 women and 1 in 15 men during their college years; and

WHEREAS, Sexual assault on high school and middle school campuses is on the rise; and

WHEREAS, Only a small percentage of campus sexual assaults are reported due to confusion about the reporting process and a lack of confidence that the perpetrator will be held accountable; and

WHEREAS, Campus sexual assault survivors suffer high rates of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), depression, and drug and/or alcohol abuse that can adversely impact their health and productivity; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- Comprehensive campus sexual assault programs that include prevention, education, bystander intervention, and services for survivors, including the provision of an independent, on-campus advocate;
- Healthy relationship forums that include abstinence and consent topics;
- Legislation that ensures coordinated, confidential support and serves the needs of survivors in a non-judgmental environment;
- Funding for training of students, faculty, and campus staff in reporting and responding to sexual assault cases;
- Sexual assault policies that are transparent, have clear procedures for

reporting sexual assault, and penalties that hold perpetrators accountable;

- Legislation that permits survivors to choose whether the sexual assault is handled through the campus non-judicial system, the criminal justice system, or both.

JUNIORS' SPECIAL PROGRAM: ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN

120-010 Child Foster Care (Convention 1976; Reaffirmed 1980; Amended 1981; Reaffirmed 1986; Amended 1990; Amended 1994; Amended 1998; Amended 2002; Amended 2006; Amended 2010; Reviewed 2014; Amended 2018; Amended 2022)

WHEREAS, According to the Department of Health and Human Services, more than half a million children in the United States are in out-of-home **[foster]** care; and

WHEREAS, The Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 ~~establishes national goals for children in the child welfare system, including safety, permanence, and wellbeing~~ **[(ASFA) seeks to prioritize the health and safety of children in foster care and to expedite the process of achieving permanency, with the focus on reunification];** and

WHEREAS, In **[Under]** some states **[Medicaid programs]**, children in foster care may not have access to adequate medical and mental health services ~~under Medicaid statutes;~~ and

WHEREAS, Placement of children in out-of-state foster care is a slow and time-consuming process due to antiquated systems; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- Legislation and programs that facilitate recruitment, training, and retention of high-quality foster parents and kinship providers;
- Legislation mandating procedures for the orderly and timely out-of-state placement of children in foster care, including an electronic processing system;
- Efforts by agencies that have legal custody of foster children to keep siblings together and maintain their cultural heritage;
- Legislation for the expansion of **[to expand]** Medicaid to ensure adequate

medical and mental health services for children in foster care;

- Legislation providing **[to provide]** adequate and equal financial support and services for foster parents and kinship providers.

Rationale: To update and clarify

120-030 Sexual Exploitation of Children (Convention 2022: Includes "Legal Reform in Sexual Abuse of Children," Convention 1986; and "Sexual Abuse of Children," Convention 1978) WHEREAS, Sexual exploitation of children, including child sex trafficking, child sex tourism, and child pornography, **[and child sexual abuse materials (CSAM)]**, refers to a range of crimes and activities involving the sexual abuse or exploitation of a child for the benefit of an individual or in exchange for anything of value; and WHEREAS, Child sexual exploitation may occur in or outside the home, or on the internet **[as exploitation no longer requires a live perpetrator;** WHEREAS, **Child marriage, defined as marriage in which at least one party is under 18 years of age, is legal in 34 U.S. states, and in some states, minors cannot legally divorce or leave their spouse, and domestic violence shelters typically do not accept minors; and** WHEREAS, **Artificial Intelligence (AI) chatbots and/or companions mimic empathy and affection to capture attention and build dependency, exploiting children's developmental and emotional instincts for commercial gain; and]**

WHEREAS, All children should reach the age of majority without suffering sexual trauma, **[and/or]** exploitation, or forced marriage; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- ~~A national strategy for child exploitation prevention that reaffirms our unwavering commitment to ensure that all children are protected from violence and abuse;~~
- **[Access to medical services and assistance programs, including c]**ounseling programs for survivors of child

sexual exploitation and their families;

- ~~Medical services and assistance programs for the survivor.~~
- **[Online safety education programs providing age-appropriate videos and activities to teach children to be safer online, with an emphasis on awareness of potential online risks and assistance in preventing victimization;**
- **Distribution of Cyber-Tipline information to report child sexual exploitation;**
- **Expansion of criminal definitions to cover "morphed" or "virtually indistinguishable" images that appear to depict minors in sexual conduct;**
- **State statutes to ban child marriage;**
- **Legislation to:**
 - **Require age verification before accessing AI chatbots and prohibit minors from using AI companions that simulate emotional or romantic attachment;**
 - **Make it illegal to design or distribute AI systems that solicit sexual content from minors, or promote violence or self-harm;**
 - **Mandate clear disclosures so users know they are engaging with AI, not a person or professional.]**

Rationale: To expand and update

RESOLUTIONS PROPOSED TO REMAIN UNCHANGED

120-020 Keeping Children Safe (Convention 2022: Includes "Child Care," Convention 1988 and "Safe Children," Convention 2017)

WHEREAS, A safe, educational, and nurturing environment is essential to the wellbeing and development of children at home and/or in childcare; and

WHEREAS, Millions of children are alone in the home before and/or after school; and

WHEREAS, Young children are left unattended due to the lack of available, affordable, accessible, and quality childcare, thus putting them at risk; and

WHEREAS, Unexplained absences of young children may be overlooked and under-reported; and

WHEREAS, Unattended children are vulnerable to the misuse of mass media and/or other forms of technology; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- Availability of affordable, accessible, and quality childcare;
- Health, training, and safety standards for children at home and/or in childcare;
- Legislation expanding the availability and amount of childcare tax credits;
- A living wage for childcare providers;
- Community awareness of the need to ensure children's safety;
- Establishment of designated neighborhood safe houses;
- Education of parents and/or guardians, and childcare providers, on the importance of monitoring children's use of mass media and/or other forms of technology;
- Establishment of out-of-school programs and workplace childcare facilities;
- State and federal legislation to ensure recovery of unlawfully abducted, detained, or concealed children.

120-040 Youth Suicide Prevention (Formerly "Youth Suicide," Convention 1986; Amended and Reaffirmed 1989; Reviewed 1993; Amended 1997; Amended 2001; Amended 2005; Amended 2009; Amended 2013; Reviewed 2017; Amended 2022)

WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, suicide is one of the leading causes of death among youth ages 15 to 24 years old; and

WHEREAS, Suicide attempts are the greatest predictor of death by suicide and major risk factors include abuse of alcohol and/or drugs, mental disorders, and self-destructive behaviors; and

WHEREAS, Suicide is complex and tragic, but may be preventable; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to support programs to:

- Increase awareness of behavioral characteristics, risk factors, and warning signs of at-risk youth to peer groups, parents, school personnel, and other concerned adults;
- Offer treatment, counseling, and other services;
- Build self-esteem and develop coping skills;
- Provide support groups and networks for youth who have survived an attempted suicide, and for family and friends of suicide victims;
- Fund and develop school plans to identify at-risk youth and provide staff training in recognizing risk factors and warning signs of suicidal behavior.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH

140-160 Firearms Safety (Convention 2022: Includes "Gun Control," Convention 1992; "Firearm Safety and Responsibility," Convention 2015; and "3D Printed Gun Safety Act," Convention 2019; Amended 2025)

[WHEREAS, The Center for Disease Control and Prevention states that firearms are the leading cause of death in the U.S. for those under the age of 20; and]

WHEREAS, A growing number of violent crimes, suicides, and accidental deaths involve firearms, and [missing,] or stolen, [or illegally obtained firearms] are often used to commit crimes; and

WHEREAS, 3D printed firearms and firearms made from kits (ghost guns) are untraceable thereby avoiding the controls currently in place to legally obtain firearms; and

WHEREAS, The required use of firearm locks [and secure storage] significantly reduces the risk of accidental discharge and use by someone who is not the legal owner of the firearm; and

WHEREAS, Victims' safety requires laws that prevent people with histories of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, or an individual subject to an order of protection, from purchasing or possessing firearms; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- Mandatory background checks, waiting periods, and firearms safety education prior to all purchases, including private sales;
- Legislation banning the sale of military-style assault weapons for civilian use;
- Legislation prohibiting the distribution and/or use of digital instructions and computer-aided design files used to produce 3D printed firearms, and the sale or use of kits used to create ghost guns;
- Educational programs to promote safe and secure storage and use of firearms;
- **[Partnerships with gun retailers and organizations in their local communities to assist with communication campaigns, firearm safety training and demonstrations, and the distribution of safe storage maps as well as firearm locks and storage devices;]**
- Legislation requiring the prompt reporting of firearm losses and/or thefts to local law enforcement agencies, and the creation of national firearms database to which losses and/or thefts can be reported;
- Legislation requiring firearms dealers to notify local and state law enforcement agencies when an individual convicted of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, or an individual subject to an order of protection, attempts to buy a firearm and fails the background check;
- Legislation prohibiting the provision of firearms to an individual subject to an order of protection.

Submitted by GFWC South Carolina; edited by the GFWC Resolutions Committee.

Rationale: To update.

140-220 Humane Treatment of Animals (Convention 2025: Includes "Humane Treatment of Animals," Convention 1966 and "Pound Seizure" Convention 1987; and "Humane Slaughter Enforcement," Convention 2002)

WHEREAS, The Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International (AAALAC International) accredits institutions that demonstrate a commitment to responsible animal research and good science; and

WHEREAS, The procurement and utilization of animals for use in experimentation are essential for the advancement of medical science; and

WHEREAS, Unclaimed animals in public or private shelters, **[as well as unsold animals from breeders]**, may be released or sold for use in research; and

WHEREAS, The Humane Methods of Livestock Slaughter Act does not protect all food animals from inhumane treatment during the slaughter process; **[and**

WHEREAS, The Federal Animal Welfare Act sets requirements for the care of animals]; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to:

- Support the rigorous enforcement of the Humane Slaughter Act to protect animals from inhumane treatment;
- Advocate for inclusion of all food animals in the Humane Methods of Livestock Slaughter Act;
- Support legislation banning the use of steel jaw leghold traps and other body-gripping traps;
- Promote rigorous enforcement of the laws and regulations that protect slaughterhouse employees who report inhumane handling and slaughter violations as well as enforcement of animal cruelty prevention laws;
- Advocate for the use of animals to advance medicine and science only when there are no non-animal alternatives, and when it is carried out in an ethical and humane way;
- Support the AAALAC International

accreditation program, the Public Health Service Policy on the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, **[and rigorous enforcement of]** the Animal Welfare Act;

- Support Programs promoting the training of personnel in the area of laboratory animal care, lawful procurement of the animals, and construction of adequate animal care facilities;
- **[Support enforcement of state criminal laws addressing cruel treatment of animals and implementation of regulations for both commercial and non-commercial breeding facilities, including puppy mills.]**

Submitted by GFWC Ohio; edited by the GFWC Resolutions Committee.

Rationale: To update.

140-300 Labor Exploitation and Human Trafficking (Convention 2022: Includes “Labor Exploitation,” Convention 1996; “Human Trafficking,” Convention 2001; and “International Child Labor,” Convention 1988. Reviewed 2025)

WHEREAS, Human trafficking is a modern form of slavery, involving victims who are typically forced, defrauded, or coerced into labor and/or sexual exploitation; **[Labor exploitation occurs when an individual is compelled against the individual’s will to provide work or service through the use of force, fraud, or coercion;]** and

WHEREAS, Labor exploitation impacts more than 20 million[s of] people around the world, including children, **[aged 5 to 18 years]**, by forcing individuals to provide labor, particularly in the areas of domestic work, construction, agriculture, garment production, drug trafficking, and as child soldiers; and **[therefore]**

WHEREAS, The number of children aged 5 to 11 forced into labor exploitation is increasing; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- Enactment and enforcement of laws,

domestic and international, guaranteeing individuals, including children, the right to work without abuse and exploitation;

- Legislation to ensure that products made by forced labor are not imported into the United States;
- Aid, education, and public awareness campaigns to alleviate poverty, provide educational opportunities, and address unstable social and political conditions that are often the cause of commercial exploitation of individuals;
- Assistance to and protection of victims and prosecution of exploiters.

Rationale: To update.

EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES

PROPOSED NEW RESOLUTION

[Early Childhood Education

WHEREAS, According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, early childhood is a pivotal period of child development that begins at birth through age 8; and

WHEREAS, Early childhood education is essential to the intellectual, emotional, social, and physical development of young children, forming the foundation for lifelong learning and success; and

WHEREAS, High-quality preschool programs significantly improve literacy, math readiness, and social skills, leading to better educational outcomes; and

WHEREAS, Financial investment in early education supports higher graduation rates, better employment outcomes, and reduced social costs; therefore

RESOLVED, that the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its members to support:

- **Initiatives that expand access to affordable, high-quality early childhood education programs;**
- **Local, state, and national policymakers to prioritize funding for early learning programs, teacher training, and family support services;**
- **Awareness campaigns emphasizing the**

lifelong benefits of early education and engaging in community partnerships to strengthen early learning opportunities;

- **Commitment to ensuring that every child, regardless of background, has access to the resources and educational experiences necessary for a successful start in life.]**

Submitted by the GFWC Resolutions Committee

ENVIRONMENT

160-070 Household Waste Management (Convention 2021: Includes "Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)," Convention 1988; and "Waste Management and Recycling," Convention 1997; Amended 2024)

WHEREAS, The disposal of household waste, including the disposal of household hazardous waste (HHW), which contains corrosive, toxic, flammable, or reactive ingredients, can:

- Pollute the environment;
- Harm plant and animal life;
- Leach into soil and ground water;
- Produce toxic gases or spontaneously combust; and

WHEREAS, The use of green **[biodegradable]** products and recycling conserves natural resources and helps protect the environment by preserving the quality of the environment and reducing the quantity of solid waste; and

WHEREAS, Single-use plastics **[and other non-biodegradable products, including but not limited to bags, straws, take-out containers, and helium balloons,]** are generally not compostable or biodegradable, and can make their way into the food chain and water supply generating a threat to the environment, marine life, wildlife, and humans; and

WHEREAS, The reduction of packaging used on products for the household decreases the amount of household waste; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to:

- Support the use of green **[biodegradable]** products and substitution of non-hazardous products for household cleaners, yard care, and car maintenance;

- Support public education regarding alternatives to single-use plastics and encourage the elimination of single-use plastic products by individuals and businesses;
- Promote public awareness of the dangers of improper disposal of household hazardous waste;
- Encourage local and state agencies to provide and promote public participation in recycling, household hazardous waste "drop off" programs, collection days, and permanent collection sites, and to provide educational materials through the classroom, publications, and the media;
- Encourage retailers and manufacturers to reduce over-packaging, to promote recycling within their businesses, and to provide information to households on safe disposal and recycling;
- Support legislation that encourages continued development of and standards for green **[biodegradable]** products, and encourages efforts to increase appropriate recycling.

Submitted by GFWC North Carolina; edited by GFWC Resolutions Committee

Rationale: To update.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

170-150 Mental Health Parity (Convention 2004; Amended 2008; Amended 2012; Amended 2014; Amended 2016; Amended 2021)

WHEREAS, The National Institute of Mental Health reports one in five adults and one in five children aged 3-17 suffer from **[have]** a diagnosable **[diagnosed]** mental health disorder; **[and]**

- ~~Estimates untreated mental illnesses cost more than \$100 billion annually in lost productivity; and~~

WHEREAS, Significant barriers, including lack of mental health providers, higher out-of-pocket costs for mental healthcare, limited treatment options, and significant financial burdens for patients and families prevent many Americans from accessing mental health



treatment; therefore [and

WHEREAS, Mental Health providers include psychiatrists, psychologists, cognitive behavioral therapists, music and art therapists, and other qualified professionals who require college degrees, clinical experience, and certification; therefore]

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- Public awareness campaigns **[to reduce stigma and encourage individuals to seek treatment, including]** ~~on available~~ mental health counseling **[and therapy]** services in the community;
- Efforts to provide resources for patients and families.
- **[Legislation providing increased access to mental health services.]**

Submitted by GFWC North Carolina; edited by GFWC Resolutions Committee

Rationale: To update