



CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS
CLUB AWARD ENTRY COVER SHEET

Annual Reporting January 1- December 31, 2023

Chairman: Dianne Lundquist	Club: Ebell Club of Irvine		
Number of Members: 16	District: Orange	Area: C	
Club Position: President			
Reporter's Address: [REDACTED]			
City: [REDACTED]	State: [REDACTED]	Zip: [REDACTED]	
Email: [REDACTED]	Phone: [REDACTED]		
Civic Engagement and Outreach			

The City of Irvine was incorporated in 1971, evolving from a working ranch to a “model city” as planned by the Irvine Company. Three years later in 1974, the Ebell Club of Irvine was founded and federated with the General Federation of Women’s Clubs, an international organization dedicated to improving local communities through volunteer service in the following areas: Advocates for Children, Arts and Culture, Civic Engagement and Outreach, Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention, Education and Libraries, Environment, and Health & Wellness.

In the last 52 years, the City of Irvine has grown to over 309,000 residents and has been named the safest city of its size for more than 17 years. It includes the Orange County Great Park, Pretend City Children’s Museum, Irvine Art Museum, 2 universities and a junior college. Most residents are college graduate; the Irvine Unified School District is highly regarded; and the population is a diverse mixture of cultures. As the population of the city has grown, the number of volunteer organizations has also multiplied. Many of these have with a single mission, such as CHOC guilds, Friends of the Library, and Families Forward.

Our club offers volunteers a diverse approach to volunteering and has held steady over the years averaging about 15 energetic members who are proud to be federated and making a difference in the Irvine community.

Project: Food for Families Forward Hours 25 Donated \$ 0 In Kind \$ 400

Families Forward, a non-profit based in Irvine, helps families experiencing homelessness with temporary housing and counseling. On April 26, they held a 24-hour fundraiser in conjunction with a Day of Giving. Our club donated \$50 worth of groceries which one member delivered.

For the General Federation of Women’s Clubs National Day of Service addressing food insecurity on September 30, 2023 we selected Families Forward’s Food pantry as one of our recipients. We collected food from members valued at \$300. We also teamed with St. John Neumann Catholic Church to help them sort food donated by their church members for the poor; we checked for expiration dates. Once the church had the food items they needed, we inquired if they could give the leftovers to Families Forward; they informed us that they had already arranged for Families Forward to pick up the remaining food items the next day.

Then at Thanksgiving we delivered 2 bags of groceries (\$50) donated by club members and a \$30 gift card for a turkey to Families Forward helping them meet their goal of supplying their clients with the basic ingredients to prepare a Thanksgiving dinner.

Project: Adopt-A-Family for Christmas Hours 10 Donated \$ 100 In Kind \$277

Each Christmas, Families Forward reaches out to the community to help a family experience a happier holiday. When you “adopt” a family you are given a Wish List. Our family had a mother, father, and two children. We received the first names, ages, and sizes for the children. Members shopped for the gifts for the children using money donated by the club and other members.

Families Forward requested we include gift wrapping supplies for the parents to use when wrapping the gifts and four \$50 gift cards for gasoline, groceries, other gifts to be purchased by the parents for their children. The club money purchased gift cards for the gasoline and grocery cards. Two members donated the other 2 \$50 gift cards and a \$20 gift card for California Pizza Kitchen.

Project: Love Irvine Hours 3 Donated \$0 In Kind \$0

In 2022 our club elected to be part of Love Irvine, but our recycling project did not do well at the event so in 2023 we opted to not join as a club but to encourage our individual members to volunteer their time at the event helping other organizations better the community. Unfortunately, only one member was able to participate. She spent the 2.5 hours learning to make a beanie on a loom, which will be finished off by someone in the Youth Center and given to the homeless.

Project: Pocket Flags for Military Hours 16 Donated \$0 In Kind \$ 0

We started this project in 2022, but it was stalled as members had a difficult time folding the small flags to fit in the tiny plastic bags. This year 4 members met to try folding again. We completed 90 flags. A note is packaged in the bag with the flag that says, “A flag for your pocket so you can always carry a little piece of home. We are praying for you and are proud of you. Thank you for defending our country and our freedom.” We have a few more still being worked on. We will wait until they are finished to donate all of them together.

Project: Working Wardrobes Hours 36 Donated \$ 0 In Kind \$55

Working Wardrobes is a non-profit that helps people overcome barriers to gainful employment. One part of their career readiness services is providing clothing for when their clients go for job interviews. They collect appropriate clothing through a variety of programs, one of which is accepting donations from individuals. They also run a thrift shop where their clients can shop to select a free outfit. One of our members volunteers monthly at the Working Wardrobes’ warehouse accepting and sorting donated clothing. She collected clean clothing on hangers valued at \$55 from our members and delivered them on her volunteer days.

Project: Support Veterans Hours 5 Donated \$0 In Kind \$0

One member put an article in the newsletter posting facts and history about Veterans Day. Five members donated 1 pound of canceled postage stamps to be mailed to a Veterans group. We have not mailed them in 2023 due to difficulty obtaining the exact address.

Project: Pop Tabs for Ronald McDonald House Hours 5 Donated \$0 In Kind \$0

Ronald McDonald House recycles aluminum pop tabs to raise funds to help keep the nightly cost low for families staying in their facility near Orange County's CHOC Hospital. Since they are still closed for renovation and expansion, we have been stockpiling the pop tabs we have collected this year (70 pounds). Members collect the tabs from friends and family. One Irvine Elementary School also collects pull tabs for our club. Our project chair weighs the tabs as they are collected and another member stores the tabs and keeps checking when RMH will reopen and accept delivery of our collection.

Project: Meals On Wheels Hours 143 Donated \$0 In Kind \$45

One member delivers Meals on Wheels to 9 people who have been screened by the Meals on Wheels Program. The meals are from a nearby hospital and include enough food for 3 meals that day. Our member picks up the meals from a Senior Center every Monday and has spent 96 hours in delivery and 48 hours in transportation to and from home. This year she gave each recipient a 2024 calendar in December.

Project: Adopt-A-Native-Elder Hour 1 Donated \$ 150 In Kind \$ 150

For the last 20 years, the club has donated twice a year to Adopt-A-Native-Elder. This non-profit seeks to reduce extreme poverty and hardship facing traditional elders. Our elder is Elsie Begay, a Navajo elder living on the reservation in Arizona outside of Tuba City. The organization holds a Spring and a Fall Food Run for each elder to deliver food, simple medicines, clothing, household items, bottled water, fresh produce, and yarn.

With a tighter budget for philanthropy this year, our club chose to just send the \$150 for the Spring Food Run. The Chairman for this long-time project chose to send the \$150 for the Fall Food Run in our club's name.