



**CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS**  
**CLUB AWARD ENTRY COVER SHEET**  
*Annual Reporting January 1- December 31, 2023*

|   |  |                                  |                 |
|---|--|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Chairman: Carolyn Lehmann                             |  | Club: Laguna Niguel Woman's Club |                 |
| Number of Members ( <i>per CFWC Yearbook</i> ):<br>78 |  | District: Orange                 | Area: C         |
| Club Position: Advocates for Children Chair           |  |                                  |                 |
| Reporter's Address: [REDACTED]                        |  |                                  |                 |
| City: [REDACTED]                                      |  | State: [REDACTED]                | Zip: [REDACTED] |
| Email: [REDACTED]                                     |  | Phone: [REDACTED]                |                 |
| <b>ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN</b>                         |  |                                  |                 |

In 1969, 20 years before Laguna Niguel was incorporated, eighteen women decided they wanted a park for their children. They organized an effort to build the park and decided to continue meetings. The Laguna Niguel Woman's Club was formed. Our objective is the advancement of cultural, philanthropic, and educational interests of the club and the surrounding community. Throughout the year, the club conducts many service projects and fundraisers for causes both domestic and international. We also give scholarships every year to local students. We have a diverse population of members that include working women as well as those that are retired. Along with financial donations and many hours of volunteerism, our members enjoy many social activities that provide the cultivation of friendship.

**Project Title:** Back to School Project **Hours:** 62 **Donated:** \$0 **In-Kind:** \$2,184

We partnered with Families Forward to assist them with their Back-to-School Project. They stuff age-appropriate backpacks for low income elementary, middle school and high school students. With the donated money we received we purchased supplies to add to the in-kind donations we already received. We then delivered **\$2,184** worth of unused school supplies and new backpacks to Families Forward. This year they were able to provide over 1100 backpacks to students throughout Orange County. We chose to partner with them because they have a 4-star rating with Charity Navigator and have been in existence since 1984. Their main focus is to fight homelessness and they are committed to ensuring every child has a place to call home. The children of their clients were the recipients of the backpacks. We felt this would be a good first project for our Advocates for Children CFWC Special Program.

**Project Title:** Dresses and Washable Menstrual Pads for Girls in Uganda **Hours:** 580

**Donated:** \$0 **In-Kind:** \$400

Members who are interested in sewing gathered for this project. We worked with an organization called Dress A Girl, who delivers the items to girls in Uganda. Their website gives guidance as to how the items should be made. We had up to 10 women working at 3 large tables. They completed 80 dresses for younger girls in Uganda. For each dress we also printed and adhered a hemline label "Dress a Girl" to help identify girls who are kidnapped from villages or schools by enemy factions. 100 washable menstrual pads were sewn for older girls so they could attend school during their monthly periods. This was our international project for the year.

**Project Title:** It's Your Cup of Tea Fundraiser **Hours:** 690 **Donated:** \$3,000 **In-Kind:** \$0

Teamwork is known to bring people together and was on display at our "It's Your Cup of Tea" event to raise money for Beta Foster Care. Our amazing women worked together on invitations, decorations, food creation and preparation in order to make this event happen. All food and a collection of antique teacups were

donated by members, as well as a local vendor who provided the tea. Sixty-seven members and guests attended the tea. As a result, we were able to deliver a check for **\$3,000** to Beta Foster Care.

**Project Title:** Halloween Costume Collection **Hours:** 21 **Donated:** \$0.00 **In-Kind:** \$972

Our Mayor Pro Tem Stephanie Oddo, who is one of our members, was principal for a day at Hidden Hills Elementary School, a Title 1 school in Laguna Niguel. Title 1 schools are schools that have over 50% of students that received either a free or reduced fee lunch. Some children aren't sleeping on mattresses at home and the staff estimates that over half of the students are in multifamily households. Stephanie alerted us that there was an immediate need for Halloween costumes for 5–10 year-old boys and girls who did not have any costumes. With only a 3-day window to respond, our generous members quickly went out and purchased 36 costumes to bring a day of joy to these young students.