



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

Chairman: Megan Martinez-King		Club: GFWC Woman's Club of Cypress	
Number of Members ( <i>per CFWC Yearbook</i> ): 117		District: Orange	Area: C
Club Position: President			
Reporter's Address: [REDACTED]			
City: [REDACTED]		State: [REDACTED]	Zip: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]		Phone: [REDACTED]	
<b><u>LEADERSHIP</u></b>			
Name of GFWC Special Program, Community Service Program, Advancement Plan or ESO			

**INSERT CLUB PARAGRAPH HERE**

The GFWC Woman's Club of Cypress has contributed time, talent, and funds to help the community for 57 years. Located in the northwest corner of Orange County, the club provides service and philanthropic opportunities for our membership, including dozens of members who mark either 50, or more than 25 years of membership, multiple past-presidents, and new members each year. Members range in age from 35 to 94 years. The majority are retired and able to be actively involved, with the experienced members mentoring those who are newer or working, helping them to get involved however possible. In addition to financial donations, members volunteer hundreds of hours working on vital projects that impact our local, national, and global communities. Our members are motivated, compassionate, creative, civic minded, infinitely generous, and grateful to give back to others.

**Project Title: Staying Connected & Engaged    Hours 750    Donated \$ 0    In Kind \$625**

One of our biggest challenges and goals as a larger club is keeping our members engaged. Our club members in leadership champion the myriad of programs we have put in place to maintain and encourage connection and engagement. In addition to the monthly in person Club, Chair and Executive Board Meetings, we have monthly Legislation and Public Policy Meetings via Zoom, fundraiser game nights, and ESO meetings. We try to have a guest speaker at every club and LP&P meetings to educate, inspire and inform our members and guests. We encourage club chairs to hold monthly game nights to support their charities; they promote these game nights at each meeting, and regularly fill up immediately with new and established members. Our President sends weekly emails to the entire membership to keep them informed of upcoming events and to encourage members to participate. Our monthly newsletter, the Friendly Informer, is a must read with save the dates for the coming month, reports from our chairs, updates, information and anecdotes. We receive great feedback from our members each month.

While we want to maintain the seriousness and decorum accorded to the history of the GFWC, we want to make our meetings fun and engaging for all. We regularly play games like Name that Tune, or Scary Movie Trivia (for our October Meeting). Our Social Committee organizes regular outings to plays and local events to encourage bonding and camaraderie. We had a wonderful time at the Pageant of the Masters this year; several members were seeing it for the first time! Our President has encouraged the singing of the CFWC song, America the Beautiful, at several of our meetings. It is a powerful moment and encourages unity and pride. Our members are encouraged to share a "Brag" at the end of each meeting; they put a dollar (or more) in the brag box and share a personal win for themselves or a loved one. It is a great way to get to know our members and strengthens us as a group.

**Project Title:** Beyond the Club **Hours** 690 **Donated \$** 0 **In Kind** 0

Part of our responsibilities as leaders is keeping up with District, Area and State happenings. Our members are regular attendees of the CFWC Orange District Council Meetings and Area C conferences, in addition to the yearly CFWC conference. We have had as many as 25 members attending these meetings, establishing our club as involved and influential. In addition to simply attending, we have several members in District positions including Parliamentarian and First Vice President/Dean, and several chairmen positions. Networking at these events is a great way to share ideas and sharpen all of our skills.

We also had 5 members participate in the Orange District Leads/Prep Workshop where we learned valuable leadership skills and strategies. We workshopped possible scenarios that might arise within our clubs and how to respond. District representatives gave presentations, and it was a wonderful way to connect and learn how to continue to grow as club leaders.

**Project Title:** Expanding our Membership **Hours** 405 **Donated \$** 0 **In Kind** 0

It was another year of growth for our club; we started the year with 109 members and are ending with 121, even though we have experienced a devastating number of losses this year with 5 members passing away. Our social media presence, our reputation in the community, and our presence in the Orange District and Area C have contributed to a continued influx of members into the club. Our President has encouraged younger and more diverse members of the community to join; the more points of view we have the stronger we will become as a membership. We have even had members join from other area clubs after hearing about our programs and activities. Our leadership team has a major role in attracting and maintaining members; our feedback from new members has been nothing but positive and we are excited to see where we can go in the future.

**Project Title:** Partnering with the City of Cypress **Hours** 76 **Donated \$** 0 **In Kind** 0

When our club was founded in 1966 our members were a major force in developing the City of Cypress; our small town in the middle of a huge county would not be the same without them. Over the years we have developed a partnership with the city which enables us to get a grant every two years to use City facilities free of charge for our General and Board meetings each month. Each year we partner with the city at three major events: we were a Patriot Sponsor at the Salute to America event in the summer at a cost of \$1,000 for a VIP booth, public recognition and a special introduction at the event. In October we sponsored 25 seniors at a cost of \$1,125 for the city's 5k walk which included registration and a T-shirt for each participant. Also, in October we worked with the Recreation Department on the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual City of Cypress Women's Conference; we had a membership booth at the event and recruited and managed all speakers and vendors. We received accolades and highly positive feedback from each of these events; as leaders in our community, we continue to inspire, engage, uplift and represent the ideals of the GFWC.