



**CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS**  
**CLUB AWARD ENTRY COVER SHEET**  
**Annual Reporting January 1 - December 31, 2020**

Prepared by: Gayle Carter	Club: Ebell Club of Irvine	
Number of Members: 19	District: Orange	Area: C
Club Position: Co-1 <sup>st</sup> VP/Dean		
Reporter's Address:		
City: Laguna Woods	State: CA	Zip:
Email:	Phone:	

**\_\_\_\_Advocates for Children\_\_\_\_**

Name of GFWC Special Program, Community Service Program, Advancement Plan or ESO

The Ebell Club of Irvine was founded and federated in 1974. Ebell active membership consists of 19 active members. We also have 2 Honorary members that have a long history of service with Ebell and philanthropy. Three members are also active members of Tustin Area Woman's Club. Our president, Dianne Lundquist, currently serves on the Orange District Board. Two other members have served on the Orange District Board.

We are an aging but active and committed group of people who would most benefit from other club's affiliate activities. Good examples of affiliate success include our partnering with the Tustin Exchange Club for support of our Cuddle Quilt projects and the local catholic church to support the St. Theresa's Orphanage project. Partnering with other groups looks to be a recipe for success for future projects for our small club.

Please Note: As our club is small, we often have multiple 'project' leaders within the categories and no category chair assigned, as such. As I have taken the responsibility for the Narrative Reports, my name is listed as preparer, however I have endeavored to put a project leader's name in the appropriate section to ensure that their work is correctly acknowledged.

**Project Title** Operation Christmas Child Hours 10 Donated \$ 50 In Kind \$221

The journey of a shoe box filled with items that children can use and enjoy that belongs only to them evokes the joy that every child experience when getting a gift and goodies. It is especially poignant when a child who has little gets to enjoy a gift from unknown giver – letting them know that they are cared about. To that end Ebell membership generously provides in kind donations to fill 11 boxes. You can find Irene Iverson, passing out empty boxes, sending emails to remind the members of deadlines and collect the filled boxes, labeling them, and sending them along.

**Project Title:** Stand up for Kids; Hours:4; Donated: \$50; In-Kind \$60

Stand up for Kids is a District charity that Ebell membership supports with a \$50 donation and personal and toiletry items. This is a start for ensuring a pathway to end future homelessness for the at-risk teens and young adults.

**Project Title: Partners in Parenting - Haiti; Hours:1; Donated: \$50; In-Kind \$.55**

The mission for PIPH is to provide family life for children without homes. Ebell membership voted to donate to cover medical expenses for a child in Haiti, the \$.55 covers the postage for the donation check.

**Project Title: St. Theresa's Orphanage; Hours:100; Donated: \$12,510; In-Kind \$**

The project has a long history, starting with Dianne Lundquist's mother, Ebell Honorary Member, Marty Grimm. This year's story touches so many left adrift in the wake of a pandemic, and it is thanks to Dianne, her daughter, and so many contributors that care enough to help the nuns and the children through this hard time. Here is the story in Dianne's own words.

*During the summer, one of my volunteers for the Christmas trip to the orphanage in Mexico wanted to know how the orphanage was faring in the pandemic. He found out that they were quite distressed because they had to close the school (their source of income was tuition from those attending the school that could afford it) and find homes for the orphans to shelter with during the pandemic. That left 7 nuns living in the orphanage with no source of income. They were struggling with paying electricity and phone bills to keep the place running and getting food for themselves. Subsequently, 10 girls had returned to the Orphanage as the conditions at the homes they were placed were bad.*

*Stuart and his friend wired them some money (maybe \$400) via Western Union and advised me of the situation. I put out an email and facebook blast and collected donations of \$6340 through the Ebell Club of Irvine.*

*Barbara Reynolds and I spent a lot of time making out deposit slips, her making multiple deposits and me making multiple trips to her house with deposit slips. I spent a lot of time issuing tax receipts to donors (maybe 58) and mailing or emailing them out. I arranged for articles on the need to be placed in my church bulletin on 3 weekends and the deacon announced the project from the pulpit. After that there were many emails asking how people could help. I would estimate all these hours would add up to 100. To date we have collected \$9710.00. I will withdraw the funds tomorrow and start making multiple Western Union wires of the funds to the orphanage in \$800 increments. I spent several hours sending out on Facebook and by email to friends and relatives the GoFundMe page my daughter set up. As of last week, it had raised \$2200 but we have not yet received a check from them.*

*Western Union's web page indicated one could wire up to \$5000 in one transaction. I tried twice to wire \$3600 and \$4700 but was unsuccessful. Apparently Western Union thought there was some kind of fraud involved because of the large amount and they did not put it through. Therefore, I sent the money in smaller amounts – 9 installments. Of course, there was an \$8 fee each time we wired money. The smaller amounts went through, although the fees added up to \$72 instead of the \$30 it would have been if we were allowed to wire it all at once. In order that they could receive the money*

*asap, I had my husband wire \$800 while I wired \$800. I got the names of 2 other nuns so all the funds would not be wired to the same person, setting up red flags for Western Union. Of course, this took multiple trips and waits in line. Estimate is we spent 9 hours in wiring and waiting in line and another 3 hours dealing with phone calls and bank visits to resolve issues. I received email verifications that the nuns picked up the money wired.*

Dianne went through hoops dealing with the bureaucracy to make a bad situation better for the Orphanage and the children. Most stories have an ending, however, as long as this Orphanage is in place and helping children, and Ebell and many public patrons continue to care, this story will improve for all involved. Support will be given to the Orphanage. People will be available, compassionate, and caring and our world is graced by a job well done with many hands and much love.