



CLUB AWARD ENTRY FORM

Annual Reporting January 1-December 31, 2019

Prepared By: Lucy Park	Club: Yorba Linda Woman's Club
Number of Members in Club: 101	Area: C
Reporter's Address: [REDACTED]	Placentia, CA 92870
Club Position: Domestic Violence Chair	
City: Yorba Linda, State: CA Zip: [REDACTED]	
Email: [REDACTED]	Phone: [REDACTED]
GFWC Special Program: Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention	

Yorba Linda Woman's Club was founded in 1912 by a group of progressive women seeking to better themselves and following in the footsteps of Jane Cunningham Croly, our founder, they focused upon furthering their education and being more involved in their community. Aided by these forward-thinking women, Yorba Linda became the beautiful, well-respected city it is today— *"The Land of Gracious Living."* Our club Mission Statement is: *We are a diverse organization working to promote civic, philanthropic, cultural and educational interests within our community through the spirit of volunteerism.* Today, Yorba Linda still has a small-town feel with over 100 miles of trails used by dog walkers, hikers, bikers and equestrians. Our club supports the City of Yorba Linda as it continues to improve and embrace the many recent changes in our city: low-income housing; infrastructure, including our new Cultural Arts and Public Library campus and Town Center; technology including our city's interactive website and government transparency.

Project Title: Civics and Our Club Hours: 10 Donated: 0 In Kind: 0

The Yorba Linda Woman's Club Domestic Violence Chair wrote a Proclamation which was sent to our Mayor and the Yorba Linda City Council to highlight October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The YLWC was recognized on the City Council docket. The Mayor read aloud the Proclamation which was broadcast live on the city's television channel. (Great publicity for us because the council meeting is on a loop on two monitors located in the Yorba Linda Community Center and also in the City Hall.) Basic Domestic Violence statistics were shared and more importantly Orange County services were highlighted for those who need assistance in escaping Domestic Violence. It was an amazing learning curve on how city civics work. Each City Council Member was given a Domestic Violence Awareness ribbon; club members received theirs at our October General Meeting. Several YLWC members were in attendance at the Council Meeting and available for a photo op among Council Members.

And to make it even more special, the current mayor, the mayor pro tem, and one other member of the council are also members in our club.

Project Title: Snuggle a Baby with Love Hours: 120 Donated: \$0 In Kind: \$700

This project supplied baby blankets for baby showers given by the Orange County Human Trafficking Task Force. Baby Blankets were crocheted or knitted in a myriad of colors and styles with baby appropriate yarn. The Task Force has an average of 10 baby showers a year for Survivors of Human Trafficking. Their grant money does not cover the expense of gifts for new mothers. Our industrious members volunteered to complete blankets at home. Ten blankets were requested but a bounty of twenty was received! The visual of the piles of baby pinks, blues, yellows, greens and purples drew *oohs and ahhs* from club members and the Orange County Human Trafficking Task Force Leadership alike.

Project Title: "Cool Down" Boxes

Hours: 30.5 Donated: \$586 In Kind: \$876

The Waymaker's Victim Assistance Program requested tactile boxes for children suffering from Domestic Violence and/or Human Trafficking. Caseworkers use these boxes both in counseling and court settings because the children are more likely to talk when distracted by toys. Pencil boxes were filled with fringed fleece, stretch discs, fidget cubes, sand hourglass, liquid motion - oil and water toy, breathing star (for self-calming), emotion face chart to communicate feelings, Playdoh and porcupine characters to entertain children traumatized by Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking. During the first club activity we had to cut out laminated breathing stars and emotion charts. During the second club activity 22 club women gave enthusiastically and filled 100 boxes in 15 minutes! Our members understand that many hands make a task enjoyable, doable and worthwhile. We had an absolute blast.

Excess Playdoh and pencil boxes were accepted by Waymaker's. The boxes will be used as replacement boxes. The extra Playdoh was set aside for the Survivor Christmas Party given by the Orange County Human Trafficking Task Force. Club members remarked how satisfying it was to do a project that was for children. Ultimately, helping the child helps the parent when both are recovering from trauma of Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking. In addition, our club sewing section, Sew Kind, graciously donated all the fleece.

Project Title: Make a Difference Today Card Project Hours: 4 Donated: \$0 In-Kind: \$51

The Human Trafficking Task Force asked our club to write a note of encouragement to a recently rescued teen. She was placed in Juvenile Hall for protection and was extremely depressed. The Caseworker was encouraging her to believe that there are good people who want the best for her. Unfortunately, the teen could not believe it. The trauma had been too overwhelming. Her caseworker requested our help. At a general meeting, members wrote cards that were collected and turned in to the caseworker. The caseworker delivered the stack of cards and gifts from complete strangers. After reading note after note, the girl's attitude changed from despair to joy. Remarkably, out of the seventeen cards our club members sent, four members received a handwritten thank you note in classic teen bubble writing. The club was amazed that one small act of kindness could have such an impactful effect. It has energized our members to be proactive in **showing compassion** to survivors of human trafficking.

Project Title: "Give a Sweetheart a Purse" Hours: 5 Donated: \$0 In-Kind: \$1,000

Are we good at planning or what! We knew time would be tight, so we started this one early. Last year, the **GFWC Signature Program Committee** challenged the Federation clubs to raise awareness and benefit domestic violence shelters in our state and others by having a national "Purse Contest".

The winning club purse would go to our Orange District with the top three purses taken to the annual CFWC State Convention to be held in 2019. The balance of our purses would be delivered to Gramma's House of Hope, a homeless facility, for Valentine's Day 2019—hence, the "Sweethearts."

Our club members were asked to bring new or like-new purses to a meeting so that we could spiff them up before filling them with some goodies that would be helpful to the ladies receiving them, i.e. hygiene items, gift cards and feel good items. We were astounded to find we received almost thirty purses in one night. We continued our project by combining the purses with all the collected items which had been donated by our members. We decorated the purses with scarves, broaches and other items to make them beautiful and presentable for giving.

These purses were delivered to Gramma's House of Hope where women with any special need would be able to choose their purse. Most of the women don't really get an opportunity to "choose" something. They get what they get. This time, with so many available to choose from, the story changed.

Project Title: "Denim Day"

Hours: 1

Donations: \$0

In-Kind: \$0

In staying with Domestic Violence tradition, an eBlast went out to all club members to wear denim to our monthly meeting in April to support the "Denim Day" Sexual Assault Awareness Month. A photograph was taken with approximately sixty women of all ages wearing their blue denim.

Denim Day was established as a result of an incident in Italy in 1992: a 45-year-old man raped an 18-year-old girl. When the case went to trial, he was convicted and sentenced; however, the Italian Supreme Court overturned the decision in 1998, stating because the victim had been wearing tight jeans, she must have helped him remove the pants, which indicated consensual sex and not rape! Just days later, the women in the Italian Parliament wore jeans in protest of this decision and held placards stating "Jeans: An Alibi for Rape." The California Senate and State Assembly eventually became aware of the protest in Italy and showed support for the protest.