



CLUB AWARD ENTRY FORM

Annual Reporting January 1-December 31, 2019

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Number of Members in Club: 101	Area: C
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Club Position: Advocates for Children Chair	
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GFWC Juniors' Special Program: Advocates for Children	

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: Alleviating Adverse Experiences Hours: 16 Donations: \$98 In-Kind: \$146

Let the play time and healing begin! In this chair's first interview, Grandma's House of Hope requested this project. Inspired by Waymaker's Victim Assistance Program, 20 tactile boxes were assembled for Grandma's House of Hope community outreach program called Hope Works. Families seeking help are selected into the program. Many live at poverty level and experience an inordinate amount of stress affecting the children. If left unaddressed, Adverse Childhood Experiences or A.C.E.'s can have a detrimental effect on a child.

Children are more likely to talk when distracted by toys. Children in the House of Hope program may experience economic uncertainty, food anxiety, recent moves, stress due to adjusting to a new culture, parent separation due to long work hours, domestic violence and exacerbation of learning difficulties. Caring adults can use this valuable tool to explore feelings that pose an obstacle for the child.

Our club members enthusiastically donated the majority of items for the boxes. At our first hands-on workshop, we cut out the laminated pieces that would be needed. Six women who donated 2 hours each. Then we had our second workshop with 22 women. Oh my! Pencil Boxes were filled with fringed fleece squares and all the items that were suggested to us. When we finished, we realized it had taken a mere twenty minutes to fill over 100 boxes. Members really had fun putting together the boxes for such a worthy cause! Win! Win!

Project Title: Stars for Siblings Hours: 92 Donations: \$70 In Kind: \$10

Once a year the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation sponsors a camp for families who have lost a child to brain cancer. This year was the 10th anniversary of the Foundation. Their logo is a star, so our club made star shaped flannel pillows for all the siblings. The fabric print on the back of each pillow was stars, another way to recognize the Foundation and the fronts were different child-friendly prints. After the star pillows were all sewn and quilted, we had a pillow stuffing party. Sixteen members lovingly filled fifty pillows with polyester as we envisioned the children who had lost a brother or sister to brain cancer. The pillows were designed for a child to cuddle, hold and hug while at camp grieving, talking and reminiscing about their lost sibling.

Project Title: For the Love of Too-New Babies Hours: 1,322 Donated: \$500 In Kind: \$2,000

The Yorba Linda Woman's Club supports the Threads of Love charity which focuses on supplying sixteen North Orange County hospitals with handmade items for their Neonatal Units. Each month, the hospitals request specific

quantities of various items made by the Threads of Love group. It's not uncommon for Threads of Love to fill two orders a month for a few of the hospitals. The most popular item is what's known as the Lovey Doll— it's made of flannel and designed specifically to help nurses prop tiny newborns, protecting their fragile skin while delivering the parents bonding scent to babies too small to be held. Additionally, we make bereavement gown sets, covers for the incubation beds to protect the baby's eyes while adding visual stimulation, flannel blankets, knitted and crocheted blankets. Our specially designed vests protect the tubes and medical devices attached to the babies while giving the appearance of infant clothing. All items provided to a child are theirs to keep and can be kept for use at home.

During 2019, the twelve Yorba Linda Woman's Club Threads of Love team members spent 1,322 hours and made and delivered approximately 6,000 items—an astounding number! This could not be achieved without the extensive time and labor offered by many non-club women. Each month we hold a three-hour “workshop” in our clubroom, preparing the fabric sets to send home with our sewers and log in the completed sets as they are returned ready for delivery to the hospitals. The majority of their time is spent sewing at home. Although this is a club project, we also welcome the support and assistance from many seamstresses who are not club members. These dedicated non-club member women contributed an additional 6,012 hours and made an additional 8,000 items this year. (The hours shown above reflect only time spent by club members.) A significant amount of fabric and sewing supplies (including sewing machines) are donated to this project by our members and people in the community (reported above as \$2,000 in-kind dollars).

For a number of years, CHOC Children's Hospital in the City of Orange has invited Threads of Love participants to a lovely lunch as a thank-you for our support. They give us a tour of their neonatal floor and we hear heart-felt testimonials from grateful parents who received our made-with-love items for their little ones and from the many staff who work daily with these babies.

In addition to contributions from Yorba Linda Woman's Club members, the members share the Threads of Love story at local churches, Elks Clubs and other philanthropic groups seeking additional funds or fabric for this wide-reaching cause.

Project Title: Wearing Your Cut with Pride Hours: 2 Donated: \$0 In-Kind: \$100

Support through the gift of a “cut”? What's that? The Yorba Linda Woman's Club invited three Bikers Against Child Abuse members of an actual Harley Davis biker's club to a general meeting. These biker members are in real life, doctors, lawyers, psychologists, bakers, etc. who all share a love of biking and a passion for helping children. Our donation was 15 jackets and 56 bears.

How does it work? The organization is contacted whenever there is a new case of child abuse in their area. They send a small group of members to meet the child, give the child a bear and a “cut” which is a denim jacket with the sleeves removed, a “biker name”, badges and patches and provide emotional support should the child wish it. The child is given one BACA member and phone number as his/her main contact. Later, when the child goes to court to testify, when the child goes to and from school, or whenever there is a need, the bikers show up in force to provide security.

Project Title: Crittenton Home for Children Hours: 246 Donated: \$0 In-Kind: \$3750

The Crittenton Home for Children is located in Orange County. It is a safe harbor for children who have been removed from a dangerous situation. The children are of all ages and stay there for as short or long a time as is deemed appropriate. These children arrive at the shelter with almost nothing. This year our *Sew Kind* sewing group section made 300 Christmas stockings, 168 baby bibs, 163 small baby blankets, 47 trauma bears, 22 Beanie Baby like toys, 27 crocheted blankets, 129 crocheted clothing/toys, 127 Bags for Belongings and 87 miscellaneous items. Members and non-members met once a month but most of the work was completed at home.

Project Title: Heroes, All Shapes, Sizes and Ages Hours: 93 Donated: \$0 In-Kind: \$372

The Children's Hospital of Orange is a major destination for children who are extremely ill and sometimes even arrive there from other hospitals. Our Yorba Linda Women's Club *Sew Kind* sewing section came up with a plan to make the children's stay more fun...Hero Capes! These days our movie theatres and video games are full of action figures— Superman, Batman, Thor and many, many more. The capes are simply designed but have a superhero

logo on the back. They wear them in bed and to and from the other departments. A simple idea but so very much joy.

Project Title: Giving Children Hope **Hours: 225** **Donated: \$0** **In-Kind: \$188**

In 2019, members of the Yorba Linda Woman's Club arrived at the nonprofit organization, Giving Children Hope, going twelve times throughout the year to volunteer for a variety of projects. Our club had a significant impact as volunteers as we had 24 different members of our club donate over 225 volunteer hours. Non-club members donated another 12 hours. In addition, the Yorba Linda Woman's Club donated 90 boxes of cereal for Giving Children Hope's 'We've Got Your Back' program and over 60 reusable grocery bags for the weekly Family Food Distribution. 'We've Got Your Back' helps to ensure a stable food source for students and their families and enables students in Orange and LA County to go to school ready to learn. Together our volunteer workers packed over 1,000 backpacks throughout the school year.

Another part of this project that our club worked on included washing, cleaning and sorting backpacks in order to get ready for the 2019/20 school year. We also participated in Family Food Distribution held on Fridays where members distributed food to families in need. They also helped to prep food stations, fruits and vegetables were sorted, to break down cardboard boxes and clean up after the distribution of food was over. On several occasions, our YLWC members assisted with categorizing medical supplies to be donated within the U.S. and abroad. These "hands on" volunteer projects provided everyone who participated with miles of smiles and we look forward to building our partnership with Giving Children Hope as we move forward into 2020.

Project Title: Providing Some Warmth **Hours: 2** **Donated: \$100** **In-Kind: \$0**

The Paul Newman Painted Turtle Camp had a fire that destroyed much of their inventory. We quickly responded and made 13 fleece blankets. These are the type of blanket that doesn't need sewing. Using two layers of fabric, the club held a "fleece blanket tying" training at our general meeting. One member who knew how to tie the blankets correctly was placed at each of the ten tables. It probably took only fifteen minutes but there was laughter and learning taking place throughout the room.

Project Title: Boy Scouts **Hours: 2** **Donated: \$200** **In-Kind: \$0**

The local boy scout troop has volunteered for several years at our fundraising events. They help with early morning parking (5:00 a.m.), vendor support (unloading cars), taking and delivering breakfast and lunch orders and all the lifting and carrying we need. We in turn want to support their coffers so we donate to their troop. Additionally, last year for the first time, we acknowledged our collaboration with the scout leaders involved with a certificate at our annual Awards Night. These two men continue to mentor these boys, and both men model what they teach by also suppling us with hands-on support.

Project Title: Snuggle a Baby with Love **Hours: 120** **Donated: \$0** **In Kind: \$700.00**

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. 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.