

## CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS CLUB AWARD ENTRY COVER SHEET

## Annual Reporting January 1-December 31, 2022

Chairman: Heather Laporte	Club: Yorba Linda Woman's Club				
Number of Members 93	District: Orange	Area: C			
Club Position: Advocates for Children Chair					
Reporter's Addres.					
City	State	Zi			
Emai	Phone				
ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN Name of GFWC Special Program, Community Service Program, Advancement Plan or ESO					

Yorba Linda has a small-town feel and is known as the *Land of Gracious Living*. In 1912, the Yorba Linda Woman's Club was founded by a group of motivated women, whose inspiration was boundless and was matched only by their faith in their abilities to accomplish good things for their community. To this day, they follow their Mission Statement: *We are a diverse organization working to promote civic, philanthropic, cultural, and educational interests within our community through the spirit of volunteerism*.

Project Title: Bikers Against Child Abuse (B.A.C.A.) Hours 146 Cash Donated: \$1,500 In Kind: \$2,341.50

Biker's Against Child Abuse exists with the intent to create a safe environment for abused children. They work in conjunction with local and state officials who are already in place to protect these children. They stand ready to lend support to their wounded friends by involving them with an established, united organization and to shield these children from further abuse.

The Chairman of this project asks our members to donate stuffed bears and denim jackets and/or vests during the year. Our club collected 128 bears and 67 jackets/vests. Of the 128 bears collected, 30 were handmade by the Sew Kind Group, a section of the Yorba Linda Woman's Club.

Periodically, a representative from B.A.C.A. will pick up these donations from the chairperson's home. The B.A.C.A. representatives put their B.A.C.A. emblem patch on the back of the vests and jackets, then give to each child, along with a teddy bear.

Project Title: Threads of Love (T.O.L.) Hours 600 Cash Donated: \$500 In Kind: \$9,807

Threads of Love is a nationwide charity that supports the Neonatal Intensive Care Units at hospitals across the country. Currently, our workshops serve 16 area hospitals with handmade items. Each month, the hospitals request specific quantities of various items made by the Threads of Love group. It's not uncommon for us 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, isolette covers to protect the babies' eyes while adding visual stimulation, flannel, knitted and crocheted blankets, eye patches to protect the eyes of the newborn, and scent pads to help the baby adjust to nursing. All items provided to a child are theirs to keep and can be taken home with the baby.

During 2022, the Threads of Love team members made and delivered approximately 10,000 items – an astounding number! This could not be achieved without the extensive time and labor offered by many. Our volunteers include men, women, and teenagers from a local church; some of whom cannot sew but instead become our pattern cutters or head makers. Each month, we hold a two-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 our time is spent doing home sewing. Although this is a club project, we also welcome the support and assistance from many seamstresses who are not club members. The hours shown

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 (reported above as in-kind dollars).

In addition to contributions from club members, our Threads of Love chairmen (who are women's club members) often speak at local churches, Elks Clubs and other philanthropic groups seeking additional funds or fabric for this wide-reaching cause.

Project Title: Crittenton Home for Children Hours 225 In Kind: \$3,005

Crittenton Home for Children, located in Orange County, 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 group made 400 Christmas stockings, 54 bags for belongings, 30 baby blankets, 36 bibs, and 25 quilts and pillowcases. The Sew Kind membership is small in numbers, but have been able to produce a large variety of items.

Project Title: Garden of Innocence (Infant Burials) Hours 30 In Kind: \$85

The Sew Kind group provided 170 – 8"x8" blankets to the Garden of Innocence services. The Garden of Innocence sole purpose is to provide dignified burials for abandoned and unidentified children. The children may be found in trash, sewers and in hospitals, but the parents walked out and abandoned their bodies. This organization makes sure no child leaves this earth without someone who cared. The little blankets are put in the small urns or caskets for the funeral service of the abandoned child.

Project Title: Giving Children Hope (We've Got Your Back) Hours 149 In Kind: \$398.50

Giving Children Hope (GCH) is a faith-based, non-profit organization whose mission is to provide sustainable hope through wellness programs and disaster response, in collaboration with local and global communities. Their goal is to serve vulnerable children and families through the gathering and giving of: Basic Needs, Nutritional Foods and Medical Resources on a weekly basis.

The Yorba Linda Woman's Club (YLWC) began volunteering in 2018 with packing of backpacks. The YLWC continued volunteering throughout 2019 and the early part of 2020 with packing of backpacks and Family Food Distribution at the GCH Warehouse. Although most of 2020 and 2021 brought many challenges due to the pandemic, the YLWC continued to support GCH with donations of cereal/snacks. The YLWC returned to volunteering in 2022 in a number of capacities – assisting with Family Food Distribution, sorting and packing produce, packing and cleaning backpacks and the sorting of holiday gifts.

During April, June, October, November and December 2022, 26 club members and four non-members collected and delivered 140 boxes of cereal, 9 large and small boxes of individually packaged breakfast snacks, 3 jars of peanut butter, 1 box of waffle mix, and 1 large box of individual packets of oatmeal.

The YLWC looks forward to extending our partnership in 2023, and has set up a consistent monthly volunteering date on the last Tuesday of each month.

Project Title: UNICEF U.S.A. Hours 0 Cash Donated: \$200 In Kind: 0

In our effort to support the struggling children in Ukraine, a check was sent to UNICEF U.S.A. This is a California Woman's Club State Project that we participated in.