

# 2024

Meeting Adversities With Joy

## Year-End Report GFWC Hobe Sound Women's Club

GFWC Hobe Sound Women's Club  
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# Who Is The HSWC

The General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) is a beacon of community service and empowerment. It is recognized as one of the world's largest and oldest volunteer service organizations dedicated to women. With thousands of vibrant clubs in the United States and over 20 countries worldwide, GFWC fosters an inclusive environment for women to unite in purpose and passion.



Within this expansive network, your local chapter, the Hobe Sound Women's Club (HSWC), thrives as a nurturing community dedicated to various important causes. Our club passionately supports the arts, champions the preservation of natural resources, advocates for healthy lifestyles, promotes civic engagement, and addresses pressing international issues.



## Fiduciary Minded

The \$50 annual membership dues are essential for covering the club's administrative and operational expenses, ensuring we can effectively run our activities and support our members.

Club events and fundraisers are designed to be self-sustaining. All the proceeds generated from these events are reinvested into various humanitarian projects that benefit our community. These projects may include initiatives such as food drives, educational scholarships, and support for local shelters. You can be confident that your donation is used as intended. .

We want to express our heartfelt gratitude to all our donors, whose generous contributions significantly enabled us to carry out these philanthropic endeavors. Their support helps us turn our vision of making a positive difference in the community into a reality each year.



# Belinda Lowe

Dear Friends,

This year, our world was engulfed in a whirlwind of debate, confusion, and stress. The air was thick with the weight of endless political discussions. At the same time, the sharp rise in food, gasoline, and housing costs hit hardest on the more vulnerable members of our community, leaving many struggling to make ends meet.

In October, our community experienced the fury of Hurricane Milton, a devastating storm that wrought havoc in its path. As tornadoes spiraled off from this tempest, they violently ripped homes from their foundations, leaving a trail of destruction. In the wake of this catastrophe, the HSWC and other organizations began working tirelessly to aid in the clean-up and provide essential moral support to those affected. The outpouring of supplies and monetary donations was overwhelming, and we continue to assist the families who have suffered greatly.

On the home front, several of our club members faced serious illnesses and bore the heavy burden of grief from the loss of loved ones. True to our mission, our members rallied together, offering each other support and compassion during these trying times. They tackled challenges head-on, finding creative solutions to problems and summoning the courage to push forward, even in the face of adversity.

However, despite our trials, we also sought and found moments of joy and celebration. One of the highlights of our year was the Annual Fundraising Gala - Hippie Dippy Ball, where we dressed in vibrant 1960s attire and reveled in a night filled with laughter and camaraderie, all while raising vital funds to support our humanitarian efforts.

Moreover, we proudly organized the 5th Annual Hometown Festival, our most successful festival. The anticipation is already building with a diverse lineup of vendors, handcrafters, and civic groups eager to participate, promising an exciting and enriching experience for everyone involved.

Each event, good or bad, has reaffirmed our commitment to community and the spirit of togetherness. Even amidst challenges, we can always find joy.

*Belinda Lowe*



## 2024 Achievements

- ♥ Delivered 363 nutritious meals to families and individuals in need, specifically targeting clients served by Family Promise of Martin County, ensuring no one goes hungry in our community.
- ♥ Made a generous contribution of over \$300 towards CareBags, Inc., which provides mobile shower units, offering essential hygiene resources to those experiencing homelessness and enhancing their dignity and well-being.
- ♥ Raised \$300 for Reverse The Door organization, which assists non-violent offenders in Martin County with education, therapy, and employment opportunities to break the prison cycle
- ♥ One of our anonymous benefactors donated \$1,200 to the House of Hope, recognizing our club's efforts and contributing to its mission of aiding those in need.
- ♥ Continue to enhance the Zeus Park Butterfly Garden, an initiative to promote biodiversity and environmental awareness. This included the installation of a delightful Little Lending Library and dog biscuit box catering to both canine and human visitors alike.
- ♥ Raised over \$500 to assist the Soup Kitchen at Immanuel Lutheran Church, which provides meals for over 100 homeless individuals every Sunday, thus playing a crucial role in alleviating food insecurity in our area.
- ♥ Spread joy and seasonal spirit through our Annual Christmas Tree Lighting on Federal Highway and Bridge Road. A beloved tradition brings the community together to celebrate the holiday season.
- ♥ Participated enthusiastically in the Hobe Sound Christmas Parade, showcasing our commitment to community involvement and fostering festive cheer.
- ♥ To date, the club has raised \$750 for our State President's Project, which is a unique Honor Flight for Women Veterans. The trip will provide 167 women member veterans the opportunity to travel to Washington, D.C., later this year.
- ♥ We continue to invite you to participate in the above or one of our other humanitarian project!

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