



CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS
CLUB AWARD ENTRY COVER SHEET
Annual Reporting January 1- December 31, 2023

Chairman: Dinah O'Brien	Club: YORBA LINDA WOMAN'S CLUB	
Number of Members 97	District Orange	Area: C
Club Position: Chair of Domestic Violence		
Reporter's Address: [REDACTED]		
City: [REDACTED]	State: [REDACTED]	Zip: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]	Phone: [REDACTED]	
<u>DOMESTIC VIOLENCE</u> 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 ability 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: JUST ONE **Hours:** 25.4 **Donated:** \$0 **In Kind:** \$0

Just one is a California Federation of Women's Clubs (CFWC) sponsored project to reach out to victims of domestic violence and sex trafficking and provide them life-saving assistance. The CFWC Chair came to Yorba Linda Woman's Club (YLWC) to present this project for our second year in a row. Victims do not know how to reach out for help or where to turn. We have to step in and make a difference. We are providing decals with contact information in both Spanish and English that are adhered to the inside of bathroom stalls; help is available 24/7. Groomers will often follow their prey into bathrooms, but rarely into the actual stall, so this is a way of getting this vital information to the victim safely and without fear of detection. YLWC members have purchased 144 of these decals and they have been put all over the area, into the inside of bathrooms stalls in schools, restaurants, fast-food restaurants, rest stops, businesses, etc. The idea is for everyone to help at least *just one* victim escape the situation they are in, and to exponentially increase help and assistance. It is appalling that anyone is in a dangerous, horrendous situation and we are going to make a difference.

Project Title: TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE **Hours** 38 **Donated:** \$0 **In Kind:** \$0

Knowing that Domestic & Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention are topics many avoid talking about, how do you educate club members and motivate them to pass on educational information you provide them? Finding ways to educate others on the topics of Domestic & Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention is a hard road to travel. However, making a path to educate others is necessary to break the generational cycle of abuse. A member of the club came up with a way to *TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE* on these topics. This member had previously been the chairperson for domestic violence in our club and at the district level. She attends numerous informative seminars on the subject and is affiliated with a Domestic Violence Action Coalition. She created a test that would *TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE* regarding Domestic & Sexual Violence Awareness. The test consists of 13 questions of true or false. At the club's October General Meeting, she distributed the test to 60 members and guests in attendance and the contemplation of the answers began. The test-takers conferred with one another about the answers. This was the perfect time to present this test, as October is Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Month. When they finished the test, each question was read out loud and the members were asked to verbally respond with a true or false. After each question, an explanation was given as to why the answer was true or false. The test covered topics of child abuse, elder abuse, sexual assault, pets and domestic violence, gun violence, and staggering statistics. It was also discussed that the Domestic & Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention Program is the Signature Program of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. The members were informed of the websites of the General Federation of

Women's Clubs (GFWC.org) and the California Federation of Women's Clubs (CFWC.org). They are great educational tools to refer to when researching THE Signature Program. As the answers of the test continued to be discussed, the members caught on that all the answers were TRUE? It is not just a TRUE OR FALSE TEST! It is a FACT SHEET! As the reading of the questions continued, their voices rang out with the word *TRUE* for the answers to the questions loud and clear. The SHEET, in the form of a test, was educating them as well as giving them knowledge. The member that created the test also presented it to another club in a neighboring woman's club district. The test was well received and, since then, she was asked to speak at a Rotary Club event. The knowledge that the test participants' gained is now wisdom that they can use to educate others to help to break the cycle of abuse.

Project: CRUCIAL INFORMATION! **Hours:** 32 Hours **Donated:** \$0 **In-Kind:** \$0

Educating ourselves, our members and our community about domestic violence is crucial. A tri-fold pamphlet was created to inform about the Warning Signs of Domestic Violence, types of domestic violence, and the history of the General Federation of Women's Club's Signature Program of domestic violence. The most vital information in the pamphlet is the National Hot-Line Number (1-800 799-7233), to call when you need help because of domestic violence. Also included are numbers for local safe-haven shelters, adult and children protective services and rape crisis hotlines to call for help. The hot-line numbers are not just for victims. If you have questions because you are concerned about a friend or family member, don't hesitate to call to see how you might guide them to safety. This pamphlet was made available to the community at the club's annual Fall Craft Fair at our information center booth. It is also made available to the club members at meetings or by calling/emailing/texting our Domestic Violence Chairperson. This pamphlet is a great tool for guiding a victim to a safe-haven and to find their way to be a survivor.

Project: DENIM DAY **Hours:** 14 **Donated:** \$0 **In-kind:** \$0

For the past 24 years, Peace Over Violence has run its Denim Day Campaign on a Wednesday in April, in honor of Sexual Violence Awareness Month. The campaign was originally triggered by a ruling by the Italian Supreme Court where a rape conviction was overturned because the Justices felt that, since the victim was wearing tight jeans, she must have helped her rapist remove her jeans, thereby implying consent. The following day, the women in the Italian Parliament came to work wearing jeans in solidarity with the victim. Peace Over Violence developed the Denim Day Campaign, in response to this case and the activism surrounding it. Since, then, wearing jeans on Denim Day has become a symbol of protest against erroneous and destructive attitudes about sexual assault. The Chair educated our members on this and encouraged all of our members to wear denim jeans at our April General Meeting, and we had an overwhelming response in support. Education is key to awareness and change and, by wearing denim jeans, is a visible means of protest against the misconceptions that surround sexual assault.

Project: OPERATION UNDERGROUND RAILROAD **Hours:** 14 **Donated:** \$0 **In-kind:** \$0

Law Enforcement in the United States is facing an uphill battle to protect our children and adults from sex trafficking and sexual exploitation. Despite their unwavering dedication, many lack essential resources to successfully combat child and adult sexual exploitation and sex trafficking. This is where Operation Underground Railroad steps in to empower those who courageously serve us with needed support, to take meaningful steps against these heinous offenses. Operation Underground Railroad fights to protect children and adults in our own backyard by developing relations with law enforcement agencies and offering resources to expand and amplify their anti-human trafficking and exploitation efforts. The Chair spoke to the YLWC Members about this organization and advising them that YLWC will be supporting this group. The Chair also advised all Members to see the movie *The Sound of Freedom* for further education to empower all of us to be aware of what to look for and how to help. Sex trafficking is exponentially on the rise and it must be stopped.