

# **GFWC-NC Resolutions**

## **Arts Community Service Program**

(Please also see GFWC Resolutions found at [www.gfwc.org](http://www.gfwc.org))

### **2013-2017 Arts Community Service Program**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., has long maintained an interest in the arts through scholarships, projects and programs at the local, district and state levels; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., believes the arts are not just for a privileged few but for the many and are of central importance to well-being and happiness; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., believes that our state government should take the responsibility for seeing that presentations of high quality are made available to citizens throughout the state for wider knowledge and enjoyment, particularly where local arts organizations cannot provide such opportunities; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., commends the General Assembly of North Carolina for its ongoing concern with the arts; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., encourages the continuing support of the local, district and state Arts Festivals; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina Inc., encourages the club members to continue support of local, district and state art endeavors in the community through resources such as VSA (Very Special Arts) and the Council for Art Education with activities ranging from supporting performing arts, musical groups, youth art month and saving community sculptures; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., encourages the continued support by state appropriations for the arts in North Carolina including the NC Symphony, NC Museum of Art, the Department of Cultural Resources and the NC School of the Performing Arts.

### **2014-2018 Arts Education**

WHEREAS, The inclusion of an arts program as an integral part of the curriculum in our public and private schools has shown the value of such studies in the complete educational experience; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., has demonstrated its interest and support for inclusion of the arts in such curricula by its creative programs and scholarships and recognizes the need for positive motivation for the cultural education of our young people; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., urges its club members to support and promote a program for a broad course in the arts using resources from institutions such as the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, the North Carolina Museum of Art, the North Carolina School of Performing Arts and local North Carolina County Arts Councils to be included in the curriculum of the schools in the State of North Carolina.

## **2016-2020 Art for Those With Special Needs**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., has been involved with promotion of the arts at the local, district, state, and national levels; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., believes that those persons with special needs should receive encouragement, materials and a helping hand in the arts; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., has contributed to and supported educational and physical opportunities for those with physical and mental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, The arts can contribute to an enrichment in the lives of these persons; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., recognizes the talents and strengths of persons with developmental disabilities and encourage participation in and support of programs such as the GFWC-NC Artfest.

# **GFWC-NC Resolutions**

## **Conservation Community Service Program**

(Please also see GFWC Resolutions found at [www.gfwc.org](http://www.gfwc.org))

### **2016-2020 Air Pollution**

WHEREAS, Air pollution is of continuing concern in many communities, and affects the health and safety of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, Air pollution is damaging to crops, gardens, animals, and natural resources; and

WHEREAS, Scientific studies have established that the emissions from manufacturing and industrial plants burning fossil fuels form acid rain, mercury, and other harmful substances that cause damage to trees and vegetation and waterways; and

WHEREAS, Highway vehicle emissions and non-highway mobile emissions account for a substantial portion of the ozone-forming emissions statewide; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges all member clubs to participate in programs through which individuals can help reduce air pollution in their daily activities and do anything they can do to reduce energy consumption which can help reduce air pollution; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges the North Carolina Division of Air Quality (DAQ) to vigorously enforce the legislation requiring all businesses and industries to control their emissions and to encourage federal legislation that will adequately control air pollution.

### **2015-2019 Conservation of Natural Resources**

WHEREAS, The prosperity and welfare of North Carolina depends upon an abundant and continuing supply of natural resources; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. has always worked for the preservation of the natural beauties of the landscape, waterfront and water; and

WHEREAS, The growth of population and the development of homes in and about towns and cities requires open recreation areas, and the land available for public use is greatly restricted; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to study, initiate, promote, and work with suggested resources such as the US Department of Agriculture, the NAHEE (National Association for Humane and Environmental Education), the National Audubon Society, the America the Beautiful fund, Keep America Beautiful and American Forests and various other affiliations in order to make their communities more attractive places to live and work, and support programs to:

1. Prohibit and prevent littering of public and private landscapes, waterfronts and water, protect existing water supplies from pollution and insure proper and adequate management for public watershed lands.
2. Beautify landscape areas of schools, homes, communities, and cities.
3. Undertake projects that are designed to support GFWC Partnerships with ACTrees, Inc.
4. Create interest in and seek to make provision for local parks and playgrounds.
5. Support designation of state and national parks and wilderness areas.
6. Promote land use management.
7. Promote the use of recycled materials such as glass, metals, paper, plastics and wood.

## **2014-2018 Energy Conservation**

WHEREAS, The citizens of North Carolina have not achieved the goal of maximum conservation of energies; and

WHEREAS, Action of federal, state, and local governments has not overcome the indiscriminate and wasteful use of heat, electricity, petroleum, and other natural products; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. has actively supported energy conservation measures; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its members to comply with requests from officials to conserve energy; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to initiate and participate in local programs of education and action to conserve rapidly diminishing energy resources through retrofitting homes and public buildings, controlling thermostats, initiating peak power programs, promoting gasoline saving campaigns, and other energy saving programs.

## **2016-2020 Environmental Education**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. has been vitally interested in conservation education, especially in the factors influencing the environment; and

WHEREAS, Many of the programs of the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. have been directed toward obtaining adequate controls that will ensure a cleaner and healthier environment; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. recognizes that an ongoing program of action is necessary if we are to forestall the impending ecological crisis; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to join their efforts with governmental organizations, private industry, and volunteer groups in a program of research, education, and service which will improve the quality of our environment; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. engages in a concentrated search for better environment through education, and develops a better understanding of the reciprocal relationship between man and his environment.

## **2013-2017 Forest Resources**

WHEREAS, Forest management can allow excessive timber harvesting in national forests, and

WHEREAS, Adverse impact on wildlife habitats, water resources, biological diversity, health and scientific values, and the beauty of natural forests is well documented; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges:

1. Positive steps are taken to restructure timber harvesting in national forests.
2. That national forests be managed to preserve all of their values; and further

RESOLVED, That member clubs are urged to study and support measures to improve forest management programs.

## **2014-2018 Hazardous Waste Disposal**

WHEREAS, Irresponsible disposal of all types of wastes by industry and private citizens and unregulated wastes, such as household waste, pose a threat to the quality of life in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Irresponsible disposal of these wastes will endanger the present and future health of the citizens of North Carolina through pollution of air, water supplies; and

WHEREAS, The State of North Carolina has citizen support in passing and enforcing regulations to protect its citizens and environment from irresponsible handling of waste materials; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to promote public awareness of the dangers of improper disposal of toxic materials, to join with other interested groups and organizations to participate in educational programs concerning proper transportation, treatment, storage, and disposal of all types of wastes and to urge local and state governments to provide monies to assist in these educational programs; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to encourage their communities to provide for the proper collection and disposal of hazardous wastes; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to encourage individuals to participate in and support programs that collect and dispose of hazardous waste in an environmentally responsible manner.

## **2013-2017 Land Trust**

WHEREAS, Local land trusts are groups of citizens organized to protect valuable natural areas by land acquisition, by establishing conservation easements and/or by negotiating limited development by property owners; and thus provide a means of maintaining and preserving natural habitats for plants and animals; and

WHEREAS, Land trusts in North Carolina have been organized by citizens in many areas of the State, other areas are still not part of a local or regional land trust; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to:

1. Work with and support local land trusts in their efforts to preserve natural areas, open and scenic landscapes, greenways, and other lands, or where there is no local land trust, to work with other groups in the area to form one.
2. Support the Conservation Trust for North Carolina in its work with local citizen groups, individual landowners, and local governments to support existing trusts and to aid in forming new ones in those counties that have none.

### **2013-2017 Mountains-to-the Sea Trails**

WHEREAS, A trail from the mountains of North Carolina to the sea would help – like the first primitive trails – to bring all North Carolinians together and provide a way to see the beauty and diversity of this state up close and personal – one step at a time; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly has declared the Trail part of the state park system; and

WHEREAS, 485 miles of the 1000 contiguous miles through 37 counties have been built, thanks mostly to the hard work of thousands of volunteers; and

WHEREAS, There are 515 miles to go; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to work to make the Trail a top priority of state and local government by urging cooperation with both public and private agencies, to work toward providing funds to buy land to construct the Trail, and to marshal volunteers to build and maintain the Trail; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to volunteer to build and maintain the Trail.

### **2015-2019 The North Carolina State Museum of Natural Sciences**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. recognizes the need for expanded and improved facilities and exhibits at the State Museum of Natural Sciences; and

WHEREAS, There is a statewide need to promote natural science programs in our schools; and

WHEREAS, The North Carolina State Museum of Natural Sciences has and is developing programs which facilitate knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of North Carolina's role in the nation's natural resources; and

WHEREAS, These programs are designed to help bring the North Carolina State Museum of Natural Sciences, its resources and its expertise to individual schools across the state; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to support and promote the North Carolina State Museum of Natural Sciences and the Friends of the North Carolina State Museum of Natural Sciences.

### **2016-2020 North Carolina Zoological Park and North Carolina Aquariums**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. recognizes the contribution of the North Carolina Zoological Park and the North Carolina Aquariums to the state; and

WHEREAS, The North Carolina Zoological Park and the North Carolina Aquariums need the active support and help of all civic clubs throughout the state; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to continue to support and promote the North Carolina Zoological Park and the North Carolina Aquariums.

## **2015-2019 Preservation of Endangered Species**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. recognizes that many species of wildlife have become rare and endangered; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. works to:

1. Preserve endangered species, to familiarize clubwomen with the plight of rare, threatened, and endangered plants and animals, and to promote active involvement in the preservation and restoration of these species and their habitats.
2. Collect and distribute information on the plight of endangered species, and encourage public efforts to ensure their preservation and restoration.
3. Limit the use of wildlife as pets because of the threats posed to wildlife by international wildlife trade and the cruelty involved in this activity.
4. Support state programs to benefit endangered and threatened species by involving clubwomen in supporting state non-game and endangered species programs.

## **2013-2017 Recycling**

WHEREAS, Recycling helps protect and improve land, air, and water resources; and

WHEREAS, Recycling conserves natural resources and reduces the demand for both foreign and domestic raw materials; and

WHEREAS, Recycling and composting extend dwindling landfill space by reducing the amount of municipal solid waste; and

WHEREAS, Recycling generates revenues by selling many recyclables previously buried or burned; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. and its member clubs continue to promote and support recycling by:

1. Educating the public on the advantages of recycling and composting.
2. Organizing and supporting recycling efforts at the community level.
3. Promoting the marketing of recyclables.
4. Encouraging printed identification of products made from recycled materials.
5. Encouraging legislation that promotes recycling.

## **2015-2019 Support of the North Carolina State Parks**

WHEREAS, The North Carolina State Parks System is an important natural resource for North Carolina, providing not only protected habitat for plants and animals, but also for recreational opportunities for its citizens; and

WHEREAS, The need for adequate funding for the renovation, operation, and maintenance of the State Parks System facilities has become apparent, with many park facilities in violation of safety codes and deterioration due to the low operating budget; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to study the needs of the North Carolina State Parks System, and to encourage their representatives in the General Assembly to provide adequate funding for the North Carolina State Parks, and to support measures adopted by the General Assembly to improve funding of the State Parks System.

## **2015-2019 The Blue Ridge Parkway**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. is vitally interested in preserving the natural resources of our state; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. is vitally interested in conservation education for children; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. recognizes the need for non-governmental support for the Blue Ridge Parkway; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. recognizes the need for expanded and improved facilities on the Blue Ridge Parkway; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to support and help conserve the Blue Ridge Parkway; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to support the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation and its Parks as Classroom program for student education; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its members to switch to a Blue Ridge Parkway license plate to support the Parkway and help spread the word about its importance state-wide.



# **GFWC-NC Resolutions**

## **Education Community Service Program**

(Please also see GFWC Resolutions found at [www.gfwc.org](http://www.gfwc.org))

### **2013-2017 Education for the Gifted**

WHEREAS, There are gifted students in North Carolina who do not receive challenging educational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. believes that the gifted and talented need recognition and rewards; and

WHEREAS, Some gifted students without challenges and appropriate instruction may become bored with school and drop out, and possibly adopt anti-social behavior; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges that appropriate educational programs be established for all gifted students so that they may realize their full potential; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its members, businesses, and industry to provide recognition and tangible rewards for academic achievement.

### **2016-2020 History and America's Future**

WHEREAS, All citizens of the United States should understand and appreciate our great American heritage; and

WHEREAS, The study of history not only increases appreciation of the past but also illuminates the present and gives perspective to our hopes for the future; and

WHEREAS, Contemporary studies indicate that both high school and college students are seriously deficient in their knowledge of American history and the place of the United States in world affairs; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. is interested in the development of future leaders who understand the history and political structure of our government and its role in world politics; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourages all school systems to provide required studies in United States history and elementary political science which emphasize:

1. American ideals;
2. The place of the United States in modern world affairs; and
3. Desired relationships between nations and their mutual responsibilities; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourages the continuing support of the history of North Carolina by state appropriation, including the North Carolina Museum of History.

## **2016-2020 Involvement in Public Schools**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. has always been an ardent supporter of quality education in the public schools; and

WHEREAS, There is a growing need for increased parent and community involvement and participation in the public schools; and

WHEREAS, Federal and State funding for public education is diminishing and more funds are needed for today's classrooms and after-school programs; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its members to become "Partners in Education" by adopting a school and giving strong support for its programs, after-school programs, and needs through volunteerism and material aid; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourages its members to support community and retail passive fundraising efforts, such as registering for grocery education reward programs, General Mills Box Tops for Education Program, Campbell's' labels, etc.

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourages its members to endorse and participate in American Education Week in November, to increase public awareness of the strengths and needs of the public schools and to assist with or help establish after-school programs; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourages its members to stay informed and support legislation and candidates strongly committed to excellence in education as well as to help provide complete information about initiating a community program that could assist with after-school programs, including the After School Alliance and the US Government.

## **2015-2019 Learning Disabilities**

WHEREAS, Nearly four million school-aged children in North Carolina have some sort of learning disability; and

WHEREAS, Learning disabled children have the right to receive a complete education; and

WHEREAS, Teachers of learning disabled students require specific training; and

WHEREAS, Many school drop-outs, homeless people, and convicted criminals are found to have specific learning disabilities; and

WHEREAS, It is important to educate our community about learning disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Sixty percent of adults with severe literacy problems have undetected or untreated learning disabilities; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to:

1. Support training and work of educators and professionals working with the learning disabled.
2. Increase awareness of learning disabilities in their clubs and communities.
3. Encourage early diagnosis and appropriate education.
4. Support the legal rights of the learning disabled.

## **2013-2017 Libraries**

WHEREAS, The General Federation of Women's Clubs, having been responsible for the founding of approximately 75 percent of the nation's libraries and the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., having been responsible for the formation of the bookmobile and the majority of the libraries in North Carolina has agreed since its formation to foster library development throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. believes that libraries are the educational and cultural cornerstones of communities; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. has shown continued interest and involvement in the North Carolina Public Library System; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. supports the establishment of technology based learning centers at the state and local public libraries; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourages its members to promote and participate in the "Friends of the Library" groups and continue to support and endorse public libraries and their services as a valuable educational institution in North Carolina.

## **2013-2017 Lifelong Learning**

WHEREAS, Since the inception of the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. the educational needs of women have been promoted and enhanced through educational forums, study groups, seminars, lifelong reading, libraries, and scholarships; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to sponsor discussion groups and forums, both among their members and in their communities and that subjects of local, national, and international importance be presented; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourages all adults to further their education through distribution of scholarships and available programs, such as the Elderhostel, ESO, Books for Babies programs, continuing education courses, and by support and utilization of their local libraries.

## **2013-2017 Literacy**

WHEREAS, Many school children cannot read well enough to make full progress in school and almost one million adults in North Carolina are functional illiterates; and

WHEREAS, Effective citizenship is dependent upon the ability to read, write, and comprehend; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its members to:

1. Support remedial reading programs in schools and community colleges.
2. Support programs to help train new literacy tutors.
3. Support programs that teach children and adults with literacy problems on a volunteer basis in the local communities.
4. Support and encourage student mentoring programs through participation and/or funding.

### **2013-2017 Mass Media**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. realizes that printed matter, movies, internet use, music and music videos, video games, and radio and television programs are powerful media for transmitting to masses of people, particularly youth, new ideas, cultural and ethical values, and social attitudes; and

WHEREAS, There is widespread distribution through mass media of production which results in desensitizing of society, even to the point of encouraging violent, sexually promiscuous, unethical, and materialistic behavior, and in which youth identifies itself with such anti-social behavior; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc.:

1. Endorse programs of education of parents, teachers, church and civic leaders concerning their share of responsibility or teaching, particularly to youth, discrimination in the selection and interpretation of reading matter, movies, music and music videos, internet use, comic books, video games, and radio and television programs.
2. Urges a program of action both on a national scale and in communities, in cooperation with other organizations, with youth, and with producers and distributors of the mass media for broadening the diversity of communication, promoting productions conveying ethical, moral values, and high ideals for citizenship.

### **2014-2018 Scholarships**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. demonstrates its interest and belief in higher education by awarding scholarships to deserving people; and

WHEREAS, Many member clubs award a variety of scholarships, including continuing education, in their local communities; and

WHEREAS, Many government sources of educational funds are being curtailed; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourages the development of additional scholarship programs by volunteer organizations, business and industry; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourages greater public awareness of available scholarship opportunities.

### **2016-2020 Teacher Appreciation**

WHEREAS, It is recognized that teachers in the public school are often underpaid, overworked, and often unappreciated; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. appreciates and respects the classroom teachers, assistants, and other educational professionals directly involved with student instruction as among the most important factors in a child's education; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. strongly believes that the parents and community need to recognize and honor the many dedicated teachers and other educational professionals in the schools; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. supports, promotes, and endorses activities and celebrations that recognize teachers and other educational professionals.

## **GFWC-NC Resolutions**

### **Home Life Community Service Program**

(Please also see GFWC Resolutions found at [www.gfwc.org](http://www.gfwc.org))

#### **2016-2020 Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome**

WHEREAS, Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome constitutes a major health problem in the world today; and

WHEREAS, Education can help prevent and control the spread of AIDS; and

WHEREAS, Further research is needed to identify the causes and to develop treatments and a cure; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. endorses a sound and adequate educational program in the school system and a well developed and informative program for public television and other media on AIDS; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its club members, parents, youth advisors, educators, and all other responsible citizens to support research and public education on AIDS.

#### **2014-2018 Advocates for Children**

WHEREAS, The GFWC and GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. have always been advocates for children; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. believes that all children should have a voice, and that voice should be heard; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. has always worked in communities to increase public awareness of the importance of early intervention, prevention, and advocacy on behalf of children; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. supports children and community projects encompassing the following child centered issues:

1. Advocacy
2. Counseling
3. Education
4. Legislation
5. Parenting
6. Safety
7. Self-esteem
8. Violence.

## **2016-2020 Bullying**

WHEREAS, One of the most serious problems facing our society today is bullying; and

WHEREAS, Both children and adults battle this problem as it is common in schools, work places, and organizations; further,

WHEREAS, Bullying is not only verbal and physical but also attacks via email, text messages, and social media (i.e. Facebook) and several individuals have committed suicide in the wake of bullying; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-NC encourages its members to support anti-bullying and an educational process in schools, work places, and organizations.

## **2015-2019 Cancer**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. recognizes the fact that approximately 50,000 new cancer cases are projected to be diagnosed annually in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Cancer can occur without any warning signs; and

WHEREAS, Regular screenings by health care professionals can result in the detection of cancers including but not limited to breast, colon, cervix, rectum, prostate, testis, oral cavities, and skin at earlier ages, and treatment is more likely to be successful and the survival rate is greatly increased.

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its members to:

1. Encourage local clubs to help work with their local cancer organization/foundation such as the American Cancer Society.
2. Encourage employers to offer workplace wellness programs that address the concerns of cancer.
3. Increase awareness of various cancer types and the importance of early detection.
4. Encourage doctor visits and self-examinations to work toward the prevention of cancer.
5. Encourage Congress/insurance companies to establish health plans that include early detection of cancer.

## **2013-2017 Child Care**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. realizes a safe and nurturing environment is essential to the well-being of children; and

WHEREAS, The high cost and scarcity of quality child care creates a concern with the well-being of young children; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to:

1. Encourage the establishment of more affordable child care facilities.
2. Investigate the need for further legislation and/or regulation of child care facilities.
3. Encourage enforcement of the standards of child care facilities.
4. Encourage employers to provide child care for the children of their employees.

### **2013-2017 Child Foster Care**

WHEREAS, Both short and long-term foster homes serve as a preferable alternative to detention and institutionalization for troubled youth who have committed no serious crime; and

WHEREAS, Much money is spent to institutionalize children while very little is spent to reimburse foster parents for quality care, thus discouraging competent people with limited financial resources from applying; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to:

1. Work for laws to facilitate the recruiting and training of qualified foster parents
2. Advocate adequate financial reimbursement for foster parents
3. Recruit and provide safe foster homes
4. Support and/or provide financial assistance to programs like Boys and Girls Homes; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. support programs and funding to provide optimal resources for the foster care system.

### **2016-2020 Child Hunger**

WHEREAS, Children are especially vulnerable to issues of hunger and one in four children in North Carolina goes without a consistent source of food and may be considered food insecure, and

WHEREAS, Research indicates that even mild under-nutrition experienced by young children during critical periods of growth may lead to reductions in physical growth and affect brain development, and

WHEREAS, A child who is unequipped to learn because of hunger and poverty is more likely to be economically disadvantaged as an adult. As such, the existence of childhood hunger in North Carolina threatens future state prosperity, therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-NC urges its members to promote and support awareness programs in their communities; and to identify organizations and centers dedicated to providing food to children and their families in need.

### **2013-2017 Children's Home Society**

WHEREAS, Children's Home Society was the first State Junior project and clubs of GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. supports the right to chose adoption; therefore

RESOLVED, That GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to continue to support the Children's Home Society.

## **2016-2020 Equipment for the Visually and Hearing Impaired**

WHEREAS, Special telephones for the deaf/blind can assist them in their daily living; and

WHEREAS, The program of Equipment under NC Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing provides these needed services for individuals with disabilities on fixed incomes and/or at the poverty level; and

WHEREAS, This program funding comes from the General Assembly; therefore

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the North Carolina State House and Senate members to promote continued funding for current and new technology; and further

RESOLVED, That the membership of the GFWC of North Carolina is encouraged to contact their respective legislators in support of the Resolution.

## **2013-2017 Health Care**

WHEREAS, People require a full range of health care services to meet their health care needs, including prenatal, preventive, screening, diagnostic, and comprehensive treatment; and

WHEREAS, There remain areas of the country which have no or substandard health services; and

WHEREAS, The cost of health care services is not affordable for all; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to work with their communities, the government, and private sector to help establish adequate, accessible, and affordable health care services for all through timely implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

## **2014-2018 Homeless**

WHEREAS, There are increasing numbers of homeless people, including families with children; and

WHEREAS, Food, shelter, clothing, medical and mental health services, and educational and employment training opportunities are greatly needed by the homeless; and

WHEREAS, Homeless families with children require specialized services to ensure the safety of children and to enable children to attend school; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to:

1. Survey the current services for homeless people in their communities;
2. Support the continuation of existing services and advocate for the creation of needed new services;
3. Support efforts to develop decent, affordable, permanent housing, so as to enable homeless families and individuals to become self-supporting members of the community.



## **2014-2018 Immunization for Prevention of Diseases**

WHEREAS, Preventable diseases which largely disappeared during the 1970's have resurged, despite great advances in vaccine technology, resulting in epidemics and needless loss of life; and

WHEREAS, This resurgence is due to a nationally relaxed emphasis on immunization exacerbated by one or more of the following:

1. Lack of knowledge of the current guidelines for the frequency and ages at which vaccinations should be administered.
2. Many private insurance plans do not cover basic immunization despite the greater expense of treating diseases rather than preventing them.
3. Much of the nation's population are uninsured and Medicaid providers are not adequately reimbursed for the escalating costs of vaccines and vaccine administration; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges swift implementation of the Centers for Disease Control's recommendations for immunizations; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its legislators at all levels to enact and immediately implement legislation:

1. Require health care providers to educate persons on the necessity for timely immunizations.
2. Require all insurance carriers to cover immunizations for preventable diseases.
3. Use Medicaid funds to adequately reimburse health care providers for the immunization of uninsured persons
4. To require proof of immunization as a prerequisite for enrollment in public and private day care centers and schools; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to encourage their members and communities to:

1. Educate all individual of the importance of immunization; and
2. Participate in programs that promote immunization.

## **2013-2017 Infant Mortality**

WHEREAS, The hope for the future lies with our children; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. is aware that North Carolina has a rate of infant mortality that exceeds the national average; and

WHEREAS Our nation also has a high rate of infant mortality; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to:

1. Work for programs of prevention and education of infant mortality.
2. Work for programs on proper prenatal and infant care and immunizations;
3. Cooperation with public and private agencies for the promotion of health and welfare of children.

### **2014-2018 Living Wills and Health Care Powers of Attorney**

WHEREAS, For some individuals, the fear of a lingering death is worse than the fear of dying; and

WHEREAS, Near the end of life people may be unable to make decisions or express desires concerning medical care to loved ones or medical personnel; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its members to become educated and to help educate their communities about living wills and health care powers of attorney.

### **2016-2020 Long-Term Care**

WHEREAS, Our population is growing older and living longer; and

WHEREAS, More people do not have the financial means for independent living; and

WHEREAS, Some people do not have supportive families to shelter and/or care for them; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its members to study and become informed of the financial impact of Long Term Care; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its members to encourage the availability and affordability of long-term care for our older population.

### **2015-2019 Mammography**

WHEREAS, The number of American women developing breast cancer in their lifetime is increasing annually; and

WHEREAS, Breast cancer can occur without any warning signs and if diagnosed and treated early the survival rate is greatly increased; and

WHEREAS, Modern mammography can reveal small breast cancers up to two years before they can be felt; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourages women to practice self examination and have mammograms.

## **2014-2018 Mental Illness**

WHEREAS, Mental illness is one of the greatest public health problems facing the people of North Carolina and this nation; and

WHEREAS, Conditions such as poverty, reading and learning disabilities, minimal brain dysfunction, etc. are factors in mental illness; and

WHEREAS, Ongoing budget restrictions and the continuing difficulty of implementing appropriate community based treatments are key factors in caring for North Carolina's mentally ill; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to help improve the lives of persons with mental illness by:

1. Supporting local comprehensive community health centers and regional hospitals.
2. Promoting education and understanding of mental illness thus removing the stigma of mental illness.
3. Supporting psychological, psychiatric, and maturity testing for children at risk before entering school.
4. Encouraging in-service training for teachers in the principles of mental health, especially for the primary grades.
5. Encouraging funding and research into the causes of mental illness.
6. Encouraging insurance companies to more fully cover services for the mentally ill.

## **2016-2020 Moral and Spiritual Values**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. recognizes that sound family relationships based on moral and spiritual values are vital to the preservation of the American ideals; and

WHEREAS, No institution can take the place of the family unit in giving meaning to human life and stable structure to society, and the moral and spiritual strength of our citizens should radiate from the home; and

WHEREAS, Conditions in many American homes indicate a weakening of the position of the home and role of the family in American life; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its members to rededicate themselves to the task of strengthening the American home in family relationships, recreation, education, moral, and spiritual living; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its members to maintain in every practicable way the influence of moral and spiritual values in the life and education of our children.

## **2016-2020 Obesity and Nutrition**

WHEREAS, North Carolina has a high rate of childhood obesity and children in the state are overweight and obese, and

WHEREAS, This puts these children at a higher risk of developing asthma, diabetes, hypertension and cardiovascular disease; and

WHEREAS, The stigma of obesity also means these students are more likely to face bullying and teasing and have higher rates of depression; and

WHEREAS, These consequences not only hurt a child's well-being, they eventually impact the entire community through higher health care costs and poorer school performance; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC-NC support providing quality nutrition to children as the need for healthy meals starts much earlier than grade school. Some of these students eat at least two meals or snacks a day in schools and day care centers; and increasing the nutritional levels of foods and beverages could substantially enrich each child's diet, and further

RESOLVED, That we recommend that children in North Carolina eat the recommended amounts of fruits and vegetables and shift from buying juice with higher levels of natural sugar to purchasing fresh produce for the health of our children.

## **2015-2019 PAP Smears**

WHEREAS, Pap smears detect cervical and uterine cancer; and

WHEREAS, When cervical and uterine cancer is detected early, the survival rate is greatly enhanced; and

WHEREAS, Cervical and uterine cancer can occur without any warning signs; and therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourages women to have periodic checkups.

## **2014-2018 Persons with Physical Disabilities**

WHEREAS, Persons who have a physical disability need to be recognized as equally valued members of society; and

WHEREAS, Many individuals who have physical disabilities are unable to reach their fullest potential without the removal of attitudinal, physical, and transportation barriers; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. supports legislation to protect and secure the rights of all persons with physical disabilities, and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its members to help improve the lives of persons with physical disabilities by:

1. Continuing to support the National Organization on Disabilities, Easter Seals UCP North Carolina, and others and legislation including the ADA (American Disabilities Act) and IDEA (Individual Disability Education Act).
2. Undertaking various projects that are designed to support Canine Companions for Independence, March of Dimes, and Habitat for Humanity.
3. Becoming advocates within local communities for adequate services and aids to enable self-determination and independence for persons with physical disabilities.

## **2016-2020 Persons with Mental and Developmental Disabilities**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. recognizes the fact that persons with mental and developmental disabilities affect the population without regard to age, race, religion, or other social status, and

WHEREAS, That persons with mental and developmental disabilities have for too long been neglected by exclusion from adequate educational programs and have thus become in some cases “forgotten citizens” and

WHEREAS, Many individuals who have mental and developmental disabilities are unable to reach their fullest potential without the removal of attitudinal, physical, and transportation barriers; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its members to help improve the lives of persons with mental and developmental disabilities:

1. Continue to support The Arc of US, The Arc of North Carolina, the National Association for Child Development (NACD), and the North Carolina chapter of the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.
2. Undertake various projects that are designed to support Special Olympics and the six NC Developmental Centers namely: Black Mountain, Caswell, Murdoch, Longleaf, O’Berry and J. Iverson Riddle.
3. Become advocates within local communities to enhance the life opportunities of people with developmental disabilities and their families.
4. Promote public policies, research, and services that advance individual choices and human rights.

## **2013-2017 Quality Nursing Home Care**

WHEREAS, Evidence of abuse, neglect, and substandard health care in nursing homes has been of great public concern; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. supports standards for quality care, guarantees the rights of residents, and enforces compliance with the law; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its members to:

1. Work with State Long Term Care Ombudsmen, nursing home administrators, and other state and local officials to ensure quality care and compliance with laws, and further
2. Work as a volunteer at nursing homes; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. supports the consumer Bill of Rights on health care.

## **2016-2020 Retired Persons**

WHEREAS, Statistics show that the population of older citizens of North Carolina is increasing faster than the general population; and

WHEREAS, Many citizens have been required to retire in the useful years of their lives, resulting in inadequate income, loss of incentive and self-esteem, causing deteriorating physical and mental health;

WHEREAS, With the increasing number of corporations going out of business, many citizens are being forced to retire, therefore

RESOLVED, That the members of the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourages and cooperates with federal, state, and local agencies in providing older North Carolina citizens with:

1. Adequate income under the provisions of the Social Security Act.
2. Meaningful employment opportunities.
3. Volunteer opportunities utilizing their talents and abilities.
4. Expanded transportation facilities.
5. Adequate housing, food, and extended hospital and nursing care.
6. Local centers providing information and referral services.
7. Social and supportive services appropriate to the needs of the individual; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. cooperates and participates in programs for older adults.

## **2013-2017 Social Security and Medicare**

WHEREAS, Social Security has become a major source of income for many people; and

WHEREAS, There is a concern for the ability of the system to meet the demands of future generations as the work force decreases and the number of Social Security beneficiaries increases; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. supports education and legislation addressing the future capabilities of the Social Security and Medicare.

## **2016-2020 Social Services**

WHEREAS, The common concerns and goals of the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. and the State Division of Social Services on behalf of the people of North Carolina have led to a continuing working relationship on both state and local levels; and

WHEREAS, Greater knowledge, understanding, and support of the programs of assistance offered by the State Division of Social Services are needed; therefore,

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. endorses:

1. A vigorous program of public information and education to bring the facts concerning public assistance to the attention of the people in all the counties of the state.
2. A financial program to support statewide social, medical, and protective services as a means of attaining the goals of preventive and remedial help.

## **2015-2019 Special Olympics**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. recognizes the athletic abilities of the physically and mentally challenged persons throughout the world; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. endorse, contribute to, and support the International Special Olympics program, enabling the impaired person to compete under the sponsorship of the “Special Olympics” in the United States of America.

## **2015-2019 Substance Abuse**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. is vitally interested in the health and welfare of the citizens of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, There is an alarming increase in the number of alcoholic and drug dependent Americans, especially youth; and

WHEREAS, The concerted efforts by public and private organizations to create a public awareness and concern for the causes, problems, and treatment of alcoholism and drug addiction have been only partially successful; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. adopts the following plan of action:

1. Urges the education of each member of the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. as to the causes and effects of the misuse of drugs and alcohol.
2. Promote the education of parents, teachers, youth, and the public at large in recognizing the symptoms of a person using harmful substances.
3. Provide facts concerning drug and alcohol problems through educational discussions and materials.
4. Strongly urges that the General Assembly pass stringent laws which can be enforced requiring maximum punishment of those providing harmful substances to other people and that the General Assembly of North Carolina appropriate additional funds for the enforcement of such laws.
5. Urges the General Assembly to enact legislation providing more adequate treatment and rehabilitation of those who misuse alcohol and drugs.

## **2016-2020 Women’s Health Care**

WHEREAS, The GFWC-NC recognizes the importance of various aspects of women’s health issues, in which a full range of services is needed to meet those needs, including neonatal, hormonal, preventative screening, diagnostic, and comprehensive treatment; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC-NC recognizes the importance of education on physical health issues such as heart disease, osteoporosis, smoking, organ transplant, diabetes, and others; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC-NC recognizes the importance of education on mental health issues such as premenstrual syndrome, postpartum mood disorders, menopause, and others; therefore

RESOLVED, In order to dispel myths and to make club members aware of women’s health needs the GFWC-NC urges their members to continue education in their clubs and communities on these issues.

## **2016-2020 Youth Suicide Awareness and Prevention**

WHEREAS, Suicide is one of the leading causes of death among youth; and

WHEREAS, The statistical increase in schools and on the Internet has lead to an increase in violence and suicides, and

WHEREAS, The number of peer to peer bullying cases has dramatically increased; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its members to promote and support youth suicide awareness education in their local schools and communities; and to identify organizations, centers, and hot lines for troubled young people, their families, and concerned friends; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its members to work toward prevention of youth suicide; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to work toward identification and prevention of peer to peer bullying; and further

RESOLVED, That the membership of GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourage North Carolina legislators and local law enforcement to enact legislation for more adequate laws to combat this issue.



## **GFWC-NC Resolutions**

### **International Outreach Community Service Program**

(Please also see GFWC Resolutions found at [www.GFWC.org](http://www.GFWC.org))

#### **2015-2019 CEDAW**

WHEREAS, The Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 15, 1979; and

WHEREAS, It became an international treaty on September 3, 1981, and by September 2002, 170 countries consented to be bound by the Convention's provisions and by 2006 90% of the United Nations Member States had ratified CEDAW; and

WHEREAS, Although women have made major gains during the 20th Century in the struggle for equality in social, business, political, legal, health, educational, and other fields there remains much to accomplish to ensure women's equality; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourages the General Assembly of North Carolina to adopt a resolution urging the United States to ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women; and further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the North Carolina and United States House and Senate members; and further

RESOLVED, That the membership of the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. is encouraged to contact their respective legislators to urge their support for United States ratification of the Resolution.

#### **2014-2018 International Aid**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. believes that we are all a part of a world community and our interest should extend to all parts of this community; and

WHEREAS, The people of deprived countries need assistance with good nutrition, adequate health facilities, advanced methods of agricultural production, and skills in construction and the field of education; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. support efforts to meet these needs through international outreach programs such as Heifer Project International, Save the Children, CURE International, CARE, Operation Smile, Childreach and World Food Day.

#### **2015-2019 International Exchange Programs**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. believes that gaining understanding of everyday patterns of living of the peoples of the world is the concern of individuals both in this country and abroad; and

WHEREAS, This understanding can best be achieved through personal contact and international travel; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. express its approval of the international exchange programs and urges member clubs to provide opportunities whereby the experience of American persons abroad, and international visitors in our country can be used constructively to further international understanding and world peace.

### **2015-2019 International Understanding**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. believes that an understanding of cultural, economic, historic, and religious heritage of the nations of the world is necessary to world peace; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourages members to study these issues, the languages, and the role religions play in world events; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. works to promote international understanding and peace.

### **2015-2019 Support of United Nations**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. recognizes the interdependence of nations; has consistently urged cooperation and collective action as the only road to mutual security and enduring peace; and has repeatedly endorsed the United Nations as an instrument for “solving international problems of economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian nature with an understanding of global issues like literacy, human rights, and health,” and

WHEREAS, National integrities are safe guarded by the Charter of the United Nations; and

WHEREAS, The Charter of the United Nations provides for a General Conference of the members of the United Nations for the purpose of reviewing the present provisions of the Charter; and

WHEREAS, the GFWC maintains a presence as a Non-Governmental Organization Observer (NGO)); therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. affirms its endorsement of participation by the United States in the United Nations; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., disseminates accurate information, and promotes programs on the United Nations UNICE and UNIFEM.

### **2015-2019 Woman to Woman International Development**

WHEREAS, The need to support women throughout the world in their effort to realize their full potential must be a common cause of all women; and

WHEREAS, Areas of concern include: poverty, education, health, violence, armed and other conflicts, economic disparity, institutions, human rights, mass media, the girl child, and power sharing; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. pledges support and assistance to women throughout the world to help them build better futures for their children; achieve better health, living conditions, and education; and to become leaders who direct and develop the growth of their communities; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. supports and promotes programs and organizations that will help women of all countries in their efforts for self-development and peace.

## **GFWC-NC Resolutions**

### **Public Issues Community Service Program**

(Please also see GFWC Resolutions found at [www.GFWC.org](http://www.GFWC.org))

#### **2013-2017 Public Policy Programs**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., is a member of NC Women United and the NC Center for Nonprofits; and

WHEREAS, Each of the above organizations study and formulate a public policy program for presentations to each session of the General Assembly; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., encourages its member clubs to become involved with public policy programs; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., encourages its members clubs to use the

GFWC-NC and GFWC Resolutions as a foundation to formulate and to become involved with public policy programs.

#### **2014-2018 Automobile Safety Restraints**

WHEREAS, Safety studies have proved that the proper use of seat belts and child safety seats as required by law in North Carolina has reduced the incidence of fatal and serious injuries to motor vehicle occupants; and

WHEREAS, All new cars come factory-equipped with driver's-side and passenger's-side air bags; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. has consistently promoted the use of safety belt restraints; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to:

1. Increase public awareness and support of auto safety for children through multimedia exposure.
2. Learn the proper use of child safety seats, air bags, and lap and shoulder belts, especially as related to the correct seating of children and small-framed adults.
3. Establish, when possible, a loaner program of approved auto restraints to protect children; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges the strict enforcement of all existing laws concerning automobile safety restraints.

### **2013-2017 Cell Phone Use**

WHEREAS, GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. has long been concerned about the safety on the highway of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Many motor vehicle accidents on the highway are caused when the driver is distracted; and

WHEREAS, Drivers are distracted by the use of cell phones and text messaging while driving; therefore

RESOLVED; GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to:

1. Encourage the use of hands-free cell phones while driving; and further
2. Contact their representatives in the General Assembly to pass legislation to require drivers to use hands-free cell phones.
3. Encourage the strict enforcement of existing laws concerning text messaging.

### **2013-2017 Child Abuse**

WHEREAS, Reports indicate that thousands of children are abused each year in the United States through non-accidental injury, physical neglect, sexual abuse and emotional abuse; and

WHEREAS, Although state laws require reporting of suspected child abuse, the child may be permanently injured or killed before action is taken; and

WHEREAS, Many abused children grow up to be abusing parents and/or nonproductive citizens; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to:

1. Work for programs of prevention of child abuse through community based support groups, education, and public information.
2. Support legislation recognizing the rights of children to express themselves privately to judges concerning child abuse and to have testimony transmitted to the courtroom by videotape or other electronic equipment in order to avoid intimidation of the child.
3. Encourage the public to identify and report suspected cases of child abuse.
4. Study and support enforcement of existing laws concerning child abuse and sexual exploitation of children and promote more security for children.

### **2016-2020 Children at Risk**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. is concerned with the increasing number of children being neglected at the hands of their parents and guardians; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. is concerned with children who are dropping out of school before receiving a high school diploma; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. is concerned with children who are involved in substance abuse; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. is concerned with funding reductions in the area of social services; and

WHEREAS, The prevailing policy of presumptive parental rights does not always provide for the best interest of neglected and/or troubled children; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges all club women to support volunteer service in this area through programs such as Guardian ad Litem, Friends of the Court, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, Youth Unlimited, Boys and Girls Home of NC, and mentoring programs.

## **2015-2019 Citizenship**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. has been concerned with the complex sociological, environmental, and economic problems facing our society; and

WHEREAS, Informed, concerned, and strong leadership is needed in all levels of our government as well as the history of promoting good citizenship; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourages its members to support our Women In The Military Services (WIMSA) and the Department of Veteran's Affairs as well as to become involved in our political system by working to elect capable leaders and by becoming candidates; to become informed citizens; and to express our studied opinions to our officials and encouraging individuals in our communities to VOTE.

## **2016-2020 Crime Reduction**

WHEREAS, GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. is vitally interested in implementing a crime reduction program due to the steady increase in crime throughout North Carolina and the United States; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. continues its commitment to promote better use of community resources relating to education and citizen awareness, and better law enforcement with particular focus on guns in schools and gangs; studies judicial and prison systems and legislation; and

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourages the establishment of neighborhood Crime Watch programs, and utilizes the means of labeling and registering personal property; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourages its member clubs to investigate and educate their communities regarding the Amber Alert and Code Adam emergency response systems to help rescue abducted children across our nation.

## **2016-2020 Domestic Violence**

WHEREAS, Based on police records that show a correlation between serious crime and family crises, the problem of domestic violence is a public issue and not solely a private problem, and is prevalent in a wide range of socioeconomic groups; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. has far reaching interests in family problems including alcohol and drug dependence, unemployment, pregnancy, and divorce that often result in child abuse, teen abuse, adult abuse, spousal abuse, and elder abuse; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to become involved in the prevention, identification, and treatment of domestic violence, to promote family rehabilitation, and support, and to help establish and support emergency shelters for the protection of threatened family members.

### **2015-2019 Driving While Impaired**

WHEREAS, A large percentage of all North Carolina traffic deaths are caused by drivers under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs each year; and

WHEREAS, Many suffer bodily injuries in property-damage accidents caused by such drivers; and

WHEREAS, The Safe Roads Act passed by the General Assembly in 1983 identifies substances and conditions which impair safe driving; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. pledges its active commitment in support of the Driving While Impaired Program in North Carolina; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges the strict enforcement of existing laws controlling the sale of alcohol and/or drugs and laws pertaining to driving while impaired.

### **2015-2019 End Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking and Increase Victim Support**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. recognizes the need to combat and address the sex trafficking of children across America; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. recognizes the number of children at risk of being trafficked across the U.S. is on the rise; therefore

RESOLVED, That GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges it member clubs to support legislation that would allow more trafficking survivors to access restorative care services and increase resources for law enforcement to arrest and prosecute the traffickers and predators that victimize children.

### **2014-2018 Fire Prevention**

WHEREAS, A program of fire prevention and safety education for children and adults is needed to make the home, work place, and places of public assembly safe from deadly smoke and fire; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its members and communities to install and maintain smoke detectors and fire extinguishers in their homes; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its members and members of their communities to learn and identify potential hazards in the home and at work and to plan and practice using escape routes; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina Inc., urges municipalities to strictly enforce fire inspection laws and other laws necessary to protect lives and property.

### **2015-2019 GFWC Identity**

WHEREAS, The General Federation of Women's Clubs has entered its second century as a service organization; and

WHEREAS, There is a need to enhance the image and identity of the General Federation of Women's Clubs; and

WHEREAS, All newly federated clubs are required by the bylaws to incorporate the GFWC name into their club name; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourages all clubs to incorporate the name of GFWC into their local club name.

### **2013-2017 Harassment in the Workplace**

WHEREAS, Harassment is a problem affecting the lives and livelihoods of millions of people; and

WHEREAS, Sexual harassment is a violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and, in 1986, the Supreme Court declared workers are entitled to freedom from a hostile working environment; and

WHEREAS, The majority of persons who report harassment do not file formal complaints due to the fear of retaliation; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. supports increased enforcement of the laws against harassment.

### **2015-2019 Highway Safety**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. has long been interested in the highway safety programs of North Carolina and in the safety of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Since observing posted speed limits reduce traffic accidents; and

WHEREAS, The mandatory licensing and enforcement of safety features for all motored vehicles has reduced accidents; and

WHEREAS, Driver education has been a beneficial factor in the reduction of single and multiple vehicle accidents; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. supports the observance and enforcement of legally posted speed limits; and further

RESOLVED, That the study of safety features for all motored vehicles be continued; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. continues its support of efforts in driver education.

## **2016-2020 Honoring Our Veterans**

WHEREAS, North Carolina has one of the greatest number of military bases in the US and numerous military troops are stationed in this state, and

WHEREAS, The troops have been serving overseas and many of them are combat veterans of war, and

WHEREAS, These troops are now returning home; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of NC honor the bravery of our veterans and honor the memory of those who paid the ultimate sacrifice and that we honor our troops, their spouses and children; and further

RESOLVED, That we will remember their outstanding courage and commitment to freedom and we will be thankful for the fine Americans who have given so much to our great country and thank them for their service to our country and our state.

## **2014-2018 Non-licensed Vehicle Safety**

WHEREAS, There are many means of transportation and recreation that put users at risk; and

WHEREAS, The number of non-licensed vehicles on public and private roadways has increased sharply; and

WHEREAS, The injury and mortality rates have increased because of disregard for legal and safety factors; and

WHEREAS, Those who do not wear safety helmets risk sustaining serious head injuries when involved in crashes; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its members clubs to:

1. Promote non-licensed vehicles courses for all types of non-licensed vehicles.
2. Urge cooperation between school officials and safety officials in the presentation of bicycle and other non-licensed vehicles safety courses.
3. Encourage the use of safety helmets by children and adults as required by state law.
4. Support legislation requiring safety helmet use by those using bicycles, mopeds, all-terrain vehicles (ATV's), skates, skate boards, scooters, etc.; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges governmental units to authorize construction of exclusive or preferential non-licensed vehicles lanes, or paths, non-licensed vehicles traffic control devices, shelters, and parking facilities to serve non-licensed-vehicles.



## **2014-2018 NC Broadband Authority & Utilization**

WHEREAS, Broadband is another term for bandwidth-or the amount of data that can be sent through a connection-to access high-speed Internet, and the more bandwidth, the more information a user can send or receive at any given time; and

WHEREAS, Broadband technology for businesses and citizens is a key component to economic development, education and government efficiency for our state; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's broadband deployment rate ranks roughly equal to the U.S. average, but the availability of broadband decreases considerably at higher speeds, and data trends suggest that the need and demand for faster broadband speeds is growing and will continue to grow rapidly; and

WHEREAS, Broadband access at home is critical for North Carolina school children as the state moves to online textbooks in 2017, for online learning overall, for teleworking, and for home-based businesses; and

WHEREAS, The remaining areas in North Carolina unserved by broadband are likely to remain unserved without concerted efforts to develop last-mile solutions for these areas; and

WHEREAS, Broadband adoption is the demand side of the economic equation that allows companies to invest in building out broadband infrastructure based on consumers subscribing to these services, and North Carolina has average adoption rates for the lowest broadband speeds, but as speeds increase, adoption rates decrease dramatically; and

WHEREAS, Broadband adoption is a complex challenge with many factors impacting uptake of broadband such as cost and income levels, literacy, and digital literacy, access to devices, availability of other public Internet access such as libraries, and relevancy; and

WHEREAS, Solving the adoption challenge directly impacts the rate of future deployment and growth in the state, and having a digitally literate and active population directly impacts educational and workforce preparedness for the state, and digital exclusion by sectors of population will become more and more expensive for governments and other groups offering services online; and

WHEREAS, Local engagement and focus on broadband planning from county leadership, economic developers, businesses, schools, communities, and citizens is necessary to try to move the needle forward for increases broadband availability, adoption and use; and

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., believes that all citizens, schools, and businesses in North Carolina benefit from the availability and utilization of affordable broadband Internet access; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc., urges its member clubs to support local broadband planning and engagement efforts in partnership with regional and state efforts, to continue the growth of broadband infrastructure and utilization for the increased competitiveness of North Carolina, and to benefit its communities and citizens

## **2015-2019 North Carolina Law Enforcement Officers**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. is aware that the North Carolina Law Enforcement Officers, because of their excellence, dedication, and concern for public safety, have earned a national reputation for their exceptional service; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. commends the North Carolina Law Enforcement Officers for their achievements; and urges its member clubs to recognize the achievements of the North Carolina Law Enforcement Officers and to express their appreciation for their creditable performance of duties.

### **2013-2017 Pornographic Materials**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. has worked to eliminate pornographic materials in the state through promotion of surveys and action programs locally by member clubs; and

WHEREAS, Americans are besieged today by the spread of obscenity through the Internet, audio-visual, and other materials; and

WHEREAS, Obscene material is being sent unsolicited through the United States mails and computers into homes and is sold openly elsewhere; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. encourages its member clubs to write to their elected officials urging them to move pornographic materials on the internet to a unique domain that will identify the material in that website as unacceptable for children; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to use every available means to combat obscenity and pornography by legislative means and by programs of cooperative community action.

### **2013-2017 Preserving Our Heritage**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. is aware of the importance of the preservation of our heritage; therefore,

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to:

1. Promote and participate in activities that preserve this heritage through education and action.
2. Identify special landmarks in their communities and work with community preservation leaders and organizations to preserve these landmarks including historic clubhouses.
3. Celebrate Historic Preservation Week during the second week in May.
4. Document their club history and send copies to both State Headquarters and the GFWC Women's History and Resource Center.

### **2015-2019 Prevention of Crime Against the Older Adult**

WHEREAS, Crime has a tremendous effect upon the lives and emotional well-being of older citizens, and is consistently cited as one of their major concerns; and

WHEREAS, Studies show that older adults are the victims of crimes (principally criminal fraud, strong arm robbery, purse snatching, theft of checks from mailboxes, vandalism, harassing telephone calls, and unethical sales practices); and

WHEREAS, Many elderly North Carolinians are becoming prisoners in their own homes, too afraid to go out and remain active in their communities, surrendering their lives to the fear of crimes; and

WHEREAS, Many elderly North Carolinians are victims of crime, abuse, and/or neglect in retirement and nursing facilities; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its members to work for the prevention of crimes against the elderly; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its members to support efforts of the North Carolina Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Aging, the Department of Insurance, and the office of the Attorney General in their public awareness programs dealing with the prevention of crimes and the fear of crimes against older adults.

## **2014-2018 Reducing Underage Drinking**

WHEREAS, Scientific study has shown that the social environment is an important and largely unrecognized factor affecting underage drinking; and

WHEREAS, Concerned persons are working to promote the use of effective policies to control the ways in which the social environment both encourage and supports drinking by young people; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to support identifying policies that business, organizations, schools, and communities can use to reduce youth access to alcohol in public and private settings; and

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to support promoting efforts to ensure that laws against selling alcohol to underage persons are enforced, obeyed, and strengthened; and

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to support researching how to reduce the impact of advertising and marketing of alcohol in ways and locations that appeal to young people and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to support study and discussion of the relationship between the price of alcohol and underage consumption.

## **2015-2019 Sexual Assault**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. recognizes that sexual assault is a reprehensible and underreported crime of violence against women, children, the elderly, and others; and

WHEREAS, The prosecution and conviction of rapists occur significantly less often than the perpetration of rapes; and

WHEREAS, Improved procedures using Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) in hospitals would alleviate some of the trauma suffered by the victims; and

WHEREAS, Extensive self-protection and sexual assault prevention education programs would decrease the incidence of sexual assault; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its members to work for improvement in the laws concerning rapists and sexual abusers; to implement programs on self-protection; to develop prevention education programs; and to work to alleviate the trauma and stigma attached to victims of sexual assault.

## **2015-2019 Status of Women**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. has a continuing interest and involvement in improving the status of women; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. adopts the following recommendations as fields for action in its program:

1. Support the work of the North Carolina Council for Women and similar groups.
2. Promote and work for:
  - a. Elimination of wage and salary scales with differentials based on sex.
  - b. Expanded day care programs for all children of working mothers who need this care.
  - c. Equal educational opportunities for women of all ages.
  - d. Assistance to women of all ages to achieve their highest potential.
  - e. Opportunities for personal growth and development for women in employment.
  - f. Women to become well-informed concerning public affairs and their rights and responsibilities as women.
3. Encourage public and private agencies to:
  - a. Provide licensed day care facilities for employees' children.
  - b. Offer part-time and flexible time employment opportunities.
4. Encourage and support the election and/or appointment of women in government and policy-making positions.

## **2016-2020 Transportation Museum**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. recognizes the contribution of the North Carolina Transportation Museum to the state; and

WHEREAS, There is a statewide need to promote the history of transportation in our schools and communities; and

WHEREAS, The North Carolina Transportation Museum needs the active support and help of all civic clubs throughout the state; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to support and promote the needs and resources of the North Carolina Transportation Museum.

## **2014-2018 Victim/Witness Assistance**

WHEREAS, Victims and witnesses of violent crimes often suffer traumatic experiences after the occurrence of the crime as well as at the time the offense is committed; and

WHEREAS, Victims and/or witnesses may need medical aid, counseling, emotional support, shelter, or financial assistance; and

WHEREAS, To assure that justice is carried out, victims and/or witnesses may require assistance in understanding court procedure or help in making it possible for them to appear in court; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. urges its member clubs to sponsor and support the implementation of victim/witness assistance projects and the community awareness of the Statewide Automated Victim Assistance and Notification Project (SAVAN).

## **2014-2018 Volunteerism**

WHEREAS, The GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. is founded on the principles of volunteerism and has used its volunteer force for improving the quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Involved citizens are the backbone of many vital programs which serve the local community and the general public on all levels; therefore

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. actively engage in volunteer activities which support its objectives and enlists the services of citizens in each community to make active contributions to educational, religious, governmental, and other agencies; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC of North Carolina, Inc. endorses the program of the Office of Citizen Affairs of the State of North Carolina in its emphasis on Volunteerism.

