

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

Annual Reporting January 1- December 31, 2024

Chairman: Valry Pendergraph	Club: Hemet Woman's Club	
# of Club Members (as recorded in 2024-25	District: De Anza	Area: D
CFWC Yearbook): 39		
Club Position: Project Chairman		
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DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE AWARENESS		

The Hemet Woman's Club was founded in 1906! We celebrate the women whose foresight envisioned a community library and dedicated their efforts to ensure its success. The legacy handed down from the original group of 13 women has focused on improving the quality of life in our valley through a wide variety of special projects. Through the years we have fostered the General Federation of Woman's Club's motto of "Living the Volunteer Spirit" as it continues our commitment to community service.

Project Title: _Pin Wheels Popping Up _ Hours _ 43 _ Donated \$ 88.48 In Kind _None

As April, Child Abuse Awareness Month draws closer, the Hemet Woman's Club joins the nationwide "Pinwheels for Prevention" Campaign to make our community aware of our dedication to preventing child abuse and neglect.

Early in March the committee begins to write invitations to the pre-schools in the area to join us in this campaign. Supplies must be gathered and sorted. Paint sticks have recently become a problem as the merchants are not as willing to donate them to our project. After we acquire them, the holes must be drilled in each. Brightly colored paper is donated by members or purchased with rewards from Staples. This must be marked, cut, and holes punched to form the pin wheels. One of our local copy center cuts and punches the holes in all the pages. Five members gathered to sort and bag the materials to take to 9 schools who volunteered to join us in the project this year.

Nine club members delivered materials to the schools. The teachers then discuss bulling, personal safety, talking with strangers, and other age-appropriate hazards a child might encounter. They also, share materials that the club furnishes suggesting projects for parents and students to do during Spring Break and how to relieve stress during this time. The teachers help the students make the pin wheels that are planted in a "garden" with a child safety theme. The club selects a winner and a gift card for school supplies is awarded to the school. All schools receive a certificate of participation and a book. "Strictly No Elephants" by Lisa Mantchev was the book selected which gave a message of inclusion and helping others. Elephant coloring pages were also given to the children.

We felt the project was very successful as 478 students were involved in making the pinwheels for their gardens. A poster was created with all the participating schools and gardens pictured. These are then given to the schools and participating merchants who donated to the project.

In December all merchants and schools are sent a Christmas card to again thank them for their participation and remind them of the up-coming event next April when we will again be recognizing Prevent Child Abuse month.

Project: Middle School Pin Wheels are Spinning Hours <u>58</u> Donated <u>\$63.00</u> In Kind <u>\$ None</u>

Diamond Valley Middle School Pinwheel Project is a joint project with the Hemet Woman's Club, Temecula Valley Woman's Club, Menifee/Sun City Woman's Club, and The Diamond Valley Middle School. The 3 Woman's Clubs meet in March to begin the planning and preparation for the day that we actually go to the school and help the children make the pinwheels.

Since we have been doing this for several years the staff at the school thought that the 7th graders and particularly the 8th graders have seen the presentation and have made the pinwheels at least once, so it was decided that only 6th graders would be involved in the project this year. This made the preparations easier as we only had to plan for about 365 students. Paint sticks, which are used in the making of the pinwheel are not generously donated by the paint stores like they were pre-covid years, so we had to be creative in getting other types of sticks or gathering them in small bunches of 10 to 15. Paper had to be cut into 8 X 8-inch squares, "X" printed on each sheet for the students to use when cutting to enable folding for the pinwheel, and 4 holes are punched in the 4 corners of each square for the brads to be inserted before they are put through the stick completing the pinwheel. The brads are purchased with points collected from returned ink cartridges at an office supply store; this keeps the cost down. Members drill the hole in each stick as they learn how to use an electric drill! The supplies are then sorted and ready for quick distribution to the students.

The day of the event we get as many club members as possible to help the students make the pinwheels. Hemet had 10 members, Temecula Valley had 5 members, and Menifee/Sun City had 1. The staff from the school presents the 15 to 20-minute program regarding child abuse. The emphasis is on who is a safe person at school that they can go to for help. The councilors are introduced and again state that their offices are open to help all. A slideshow entitled, "The Protect Yourself Rules" which included: Tell an Adult, Unsafe Touches, Smart Choices, Doesn't Matter Who It is, Hitting is Wrong, and Tell Them to Stop, was shown. After the students make the pinwheels supervised and help by the club members, they take them and place them on a fence along the side of the school. This fence faces one of the main streets leaving the city so many people can see the pinwheels and our sign that says, "Prevent Child Abuse America".

This is an extremely rewarding project as again this year at least one student took the message to heart by contacting a councilor in getting help and escaping a dangerous situation. We feel successful if we can help just one!