



CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS
CLUB AWARD ENTRY COVER SHEET
Annual Reporting January 1- December 31, 2024

Chairman: Carol Soliday		Club: Woman's Improvement Club of Corona	
# of Club Members (as recorded in 2024-25 CFWC Yearbook): 84	District: DeAnza	Area: D	
Club Position: First Vice President			
Reporter's Address: 25172 Cypress St.			
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FUNDRAISING <hr/> GFWC Special Program, Community Service Program, Advancement Plan, ESO			

Founded in 1899 as the Town Improvement Club, the Woman's Improvement Club of Corona WICC has continued to this day to serve others. It has provided a visible thumbprint and resonating voice throughout our city, once known as "The Lemon Capitol of the World" and now known as the Gateway to the Inland Empire." We provide continued support in all the following areas: Education, the Military, Conservation, Anti-Domestic Violence, Public Issues, Persons with physical and mental disabilities, the poor and homeless. Fight against Cancer, Good Health, Women's History, and Arts and Crafts. Individual projects to help others are too numerous to mention, but while members work to raise funds and volunteer service, they are also forming lifetime friendships and enjoying activities together that bring joy and camaraderie. The Founding Mothers of the City of Corona were the founding Mothers of the Woman's Improvement Club, now 125 years in existence. The club members set up the first Humane Society, supported Women's Suffrage, created the Settlement House for the poor and homeless, established the first Sanitation Department, the first Girl Scout Troop, and the first Red Cross. Our clubhouse, built in 1913, was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1988. Our motto, "The World is advancing; advance with it," clearly defines who we are and the work we started 125 years continues today with hard-working, dedicated sisters in service.

Project Title: Pasta Italiano **Hours** 121 **Donated \$** 330 **In Kind** \$1,157.5

On Saturday October 19th, 2024, Our Woman's Improvement Club of Corona held its 27th annual "Pasta Italiano" spaghetti dinner. Along with Paula Munoz, chairwoman of this event, we had a team of 21 committee members and a participation of about 97% of our general membership. This dinner is our annual fundraiser specifically to raise funds for our graduating seniors, in the Corona, Norco, Eastvale school communities. Along with a very delectable meal of spaghetti and meatballs, we had salad, fresh baked bread sticks, and cookies. Also with our delicious meal, we sold tickets at our new bar for wine, beer, soft drinks, and water. We offered the musical stylings of Mr. Jake Gutierrez, a fabulous DJ and husband of one of our members. Altogether we all had a great time and brought in a fantastic profit of \$14,325.63, of which \$10,744.22 will go towards the 2025 scholarships. Profit was an 8.47% increase from 2023. We had \$9,900 in sponsorships. That's Amore!

Project Title: Garden Party **Hours** 10 **Donated \$** 795.33 **Kind** 200

In the year of 2023, our Ways and Means Chairwoman, Paula Munoz was inspired from hearing a jazz band at the State of the City of Corona. She thought it would be a fun thing to have some kind of Jazz in Corona in a garden type atmosphere. This year she and her 8 committee members made it happen on April 27th, 2024, for the price of \$35/ticket. The proceeds, \$2,786.07, from this fundraiser went into the Woman's Improvement

Club of Corona General Fund. Our garden party was held at Paula's friend's historic estate, Lemonia Grove, in Corona. The weather was pleasant and as the sun went down the atmosphere became magical with the garden lighting and the soothing Jazz sounds coming from the band, The Jazz Doctors. Paula had previously heard them in Clairmont Village and found out that their woman drummer knew of her father's Big Band group out in Calimesa. From then on, Paula's vision was put into action by she and our club members. She and her team members were very hands on and very resourceful. In-Kind Donations were given by community businesses. The Garden Party included vendors, opportunity tickets for baskets and items. Charcuterie bites were provided along with wines and other drink options. We enlisted help from a couple of our club members spouses. The Corona Art Association, which our club and members are affiliated with, set up a booth as well and they agreed to give us 50% of their profit. Some of our members helped with the potting of succulents in donated teacups and bowls. They also crafted plant stake decorations made of wire and beads to add to the potted plants. An enjoyable time was had by all.

Project Title: Military Gala (Civic) **Hours** 675 **Donated \$** 17,410 **In Kind**

Each year on the third Saturday in March, the Woman's Improvement Club of Corona holds a Military Gala to raise money for our local veteran's organizations. "Grateful To Those Who Serve" was the theme for the 11th annual military dinner and dance. Carol Conway, Chairwoman and 21 members made up our committee. Our clubhouse was decorated with buntings and other military memorabilia. This year a Wall of Honor displayed photos of family members who had served or were serving. A learning area focused on Doughnut Dolls had fresh doughnuts to snack on. A POW Table and a Poppy center, along with information on each, were displayed. The ceremonies included a Color Guard, Quilts of Valor (5 Veterans received quilts), Blue Star Banners, Military Greeters, Introduction of sponsors, and a sit-down dinner served by Sea Cadets in their dress blues. We had DJ Jake Gutierrez to provide music for our dancing pleasure and entertainment. It was so gratifying to see our veteran's responses as they were awarded their Quilts of Valor. Our goal was to raise money for local non-profit Veteran's organizations to help support their mission. The following 11 organizations (Honor Flight, U.S. Vets [March Air Reserve Housing], Patriotic Dogs, Corona Vet Center [gift cards], Blue Star Mothers, Strings [music therapy], Sea Cadets, Queen of Hearts [horse riding therapy], Quilts of Valor, Shuttles4Vets, Corona Library Veteran's Reading Program [directed by one of our two Veterans/club member Sally Kabbara, Air Force. Total received: \$17,412.80, Total Expenses \$4,473.91 (includes paper products, decorations, printing, catering, ABC license, DJ, and opportunity drawing), Profit: \$12,938.89, Distributions \$3,234.72 General Fund (club) and \$9,704.14 Military Organizations.

Project Title: Clubhouse Rentals (Civic) **Hours** 1500 **Raised \$** 53,000 **In Kind**

Our historic clubhouse, built in 1913, and placed on the National Historic Register in 1988, is our most valuable resource for fundraising. The sunroom, parlor, meeting hall with a stage and dressing rooms, are beautifully furnished with period and updated furniture. A kitchen completes the scene and provides a lucrative opportunity for the Woman's Improvement Club of Corona to rent the facility out for wedding receptions, honorary banquets, meetings, AA Meetings, and Church services as well. The church also provided new seating as well this year. In 2024, we did some renovations and replaced the flooring. We also had our stone sign installed on our front lawn as well. At the same time, the cost to maintain our vintage home is very great. The electric bill, gas bill, water bill, maintenance, landscaping, repairs, and all that costs in one's own home for upkeep are enormous and the rental of our lovely vintage home pays for its upkeep, ().

Project Title: Stater Bros. Scrip **Hours** 26 **Donated \$** 7600 **In Kind** \$351

Stater Bros. Markets offer the opportunity for non-profit organizations to earn 6% of \$1,000 on the sale of their gift cards, their form of scrip, for making purchases without the use of cash. Cards are available in various denominations to accommodate the needs of our members. Two of our members purchase the scrip from Stater Bros. and sell the cards to members at Board Meetings, general meetings, or in between when individuals might run out and give the co-chairs a call to replenish their supply.

Project Title: Heifer International **Hours** 20 **Donated** \$360 **In Kind**

The Woman's Improvement Club of Corona has been a supporter of Heifer International. Together, we can assist this organization by donating to them while they build inclusive, resilient economies, so communities can develop effective ways to end global hunger and poverty in a sustainable way through agriculture. We appreciate being able to help our international communities and hope our donations will add up and improve peoples' health and give them a hand up and promote self-sufficiency.

