



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

|   |                                    |            |
|---|------------------------------------|------------|
| Chairman: Pat Nelson  | Club: Temecula Valley Woman's Club |            |
| # of Club Members (as recorded in 2024-25<br>CFWC Yearbook): 57             | District: De Anza                  | Area: D    |
| Club Position: Co-Chair Advocates for Children                              |                                    |            |
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| <b><u>Advocates for Children</u></b>  |                                    |            |

In 1980, a small group of energetic, community and service-oriented women met and founded the Temecula Valley Woman's Club (TVWC). With membership of ten, the Club was chartered as a CGWC/GFWC that same year, and incorporated in 1981. The Temecula Valley is a community in Southwest Riverside County with a population of approximately 210,000. The Club's membership is currently 57 women committed to their original and still viable mission to improve the education, ethical, and cultural life of the community.

The **Advocates for Children** committee members (9 strong), made a commitment, with the help of our general membership, to continue support to the Oak Grove Center (a school directed in rebuilding the lives of at-risk children), Project Touch (a non-profit for homeless prevention), Calicinto Ranch (an organization that breaks the cycles of at-risk youth of incarcerated parents), SAFE Family Justice (an agency that deals with abused and abandoned children), Koinonia (a foster care to adoption agency), Operation Smile (doctors providing care to children), Michelle's Place (children of a parent(s) fighting cancer, and BACA (Bikers Against Child Abuse). The pathway to adulthood can be hard on any child. But what is it like to have constant heartache, fear of parents, siblings, or relatives, not be able to smile when happy, or even learn? Children must be allowed to be part of society, to radiate smiles, learn their strengths, and know what giving is when they receive through gifts of care, understanding and love. According to Harley Rotbart, MD, "there are eight requirements for kids to become happy, successful adults: Security, Stability, Consistency, Emotional support, Love, Education, Positive role models, and Structure". It's nice to know we can make a difference!

**Project Title: I've Got Your Back(pack)!** Hours: **248** Donated: **\$1,653.05** In-Kind: **\$ 489.02**

With the award of the Temecula Valley Woman's Club Education Grant (\$1,500), Committee expenses (\$53.05), in-kind donations, and club participation (\$100), we up'd our game and were able to provide 146 backpacks filled with necessary school supplies to children of Oak Grove, Project Touch, Michelle's Place, Koinonia, and Safe. Each year the need for these filled backpacks becomes greater, but our committee seemed up to the task of providing these organizations with some of their needs. These agencies provided information to the committee as to what level (high or middle, school) and types of supplies needed. After collecting and buying the backpacks and supplies, the backpacks were assembled by ten TVWC members at one of our Co-chairs home, and delivered that afternoon: 41 to Project Touch, 40 to Safe, 25 to Oak Grove, and 40 to Michelle's Place. Tags, made by one of our committee members were placed in the backpacks - "Wishing You a Good School Year!" It has been shown the children having the needed "supplies of their own improve grades, creativity, attitudes towards learning, behavior, peer relationships, and self-image".

**Project Title: Now for Smiles!** Hours: **450** Donated: **\$317.07** In-Kind: **\$0**

For more than 30 years, GFWC clubwomen have combined their efforts to support Affiliate Organization Operation Smile's surgical programs and patients in need. About 1 in 500 children are born with a cleft lip or cleft pallet. Doctors with the expertise in these surgeries have joined Operation Smile to deliver safe procedures to children in more than 30 countries. Operation Smile continues to ask clubwomen to come

together and champion the volunteer spirit by using their crafting skills to create blankets. Our committee put out the call to all members to join our committee last March to make knotted blankets for children going through cleft lip/palate reconstruction. With quite a turnout to do the knotting at the Temecula Museum, 37 bright and colorful blankets were constructed and sent off to Operation Smile.

**Project Title:** Purses for a Purpose **Hours** 8 **Donated** \$0 **In-Kind** \$290.00

During the Spring, four of our committee members participated in Safe Family Justice Center's "Purses for a Purpose" project. Handbags, wallets, jewelry, watches, scarfs, hats, belts, sunglasses broaches and perfumes are collected and sold. Along with these proceeds and monies collected at the event are used to honor the passing of Allison Jacobs who was tragically murder by her boyfriend and raise funds to support those in our community who are experiencing violence. Eighty purses were donated to the cause by just one of our members.

**Project Title:** Welcome to Camp Calicinto **Hours:** 8 **Donated:** \$150.70 **In-Kind:** \$30.00

Calicinto Ranch is a special Christian based respite for the children of incarcerated adults. It is located in San Jacinto, California. The children that visit are 7 - 12 years old and get to have a wonderful experience of camping and being around animals in an outdoor setting. Each camper is required to bring their own sleeping bag and pillow. In some cases, the children are from a very impoverished family and do not have a sleeping bag to bring. If this occurs, the child is given a brand new sleeping bag and gets to take it home when s/he leaves. Our committee voted to provide ten new sleeping bags and purchased them from Amazon. Two of our committee members drove to San Jacinto and delivered them. The Calicinto Ranch folks were extremely pleased and grateful for our gift.

**Project Title:** A Day With the Children **Hours** 48 **Donated \$** 0 **In Kind** \$90

Using our regular meeting date in October, five committee members met at the Oak Grove Center for a hands on session with 15 younger (ages 9-12), non-gender specific students. Fun was had by all - students and committee members alike as cupcakes and small pumpkins (donated by The Pumpkin Patch in Murrieta) were decorated to celebrate the Halloween Holiday. It was nice to get back to doing more hands-on!

**Project Title:** Giving Thanks **Hours** 12 **Donated \$** 179.7 **In Kind** \$0

The Temecula Valley Woman's Club is so blessed to be able to donate 30 pumpkin pies to Calicinto Ranch (The Boys and Girls of Prisoners Foundation). These pies will help the families enjoy a wonderful Thanksgiving meal. The families have taken these children in while one or both parents are in jail. The two committee members that delivered the pies had a bonus - a guided tour of the facilities and area.

**Project Title:** Let our Gifts Abound **Hours:** 40 **Donated:** \$200 **In-Kind:** \$78

Although our committee is committed to giving throughout the year, December is a special month to bring joy to five (5) boys and girls at Calicinto Ranch by providing 2, \$20 gifts per child. Two of our committee members shopped, and the committee delivered them December 11th. At that time, the committee, along with our Sister Club (Hemet), were also vested in joining in gift wrapping hundreds of gifts at the Ranch from 10am to noon.

**Project Title:** Angels To Angels **Hours:** 140 **Donated:** \$0 **In-Kind:** \$1,500

Each year the Advocates for Children committee presents to the general members an opportunity to giving a gift to a child in need at either Oak Grove Center or Project Touch, according to their individual wish list. Fifty (50) tags are attached to a tree in November allowing Angel members to pick a child to be their Angel. It's amazing how many of our members pick more than one tag! Presents are not to exceed \$25 per child, but usually do go over some. Once purchased and wrapped, the gifts are brought to our Holiday party mid-December and delivered by committee members to the two organizations.

**Project Title:** Collaboration Between TVWC Committees and Sister Clubs **Hours:** 25 **Cost:** \$0

With the many projects the Advocates for Children pursue, we occasionally call upon our individual members (such as knotting the Operation Smile Blankets and assembling the school backpacks); assist other TVWC committees (such as Environment with introductions to SAFE personnel to establish their program "Children Meeting Nature" and Education and Libraries also with introductions to SAFE personnel for the presentation of a check to purchase books for their new bookshelves); and work with Hemet with projects like our pinwheels "against domestic violence" and gift wrapping at Calicinto Ranch.

***Happy Smiles Make Content Children***