

Education and Libraries Top 10 Service Projects 2025

1. **GFWC/Iowa Solon Women's Club – Spring Flower Fundraiser.** The GFWC/Iowa Solon Women's Club hosted its annual Spring Flower Fundraiser during the three days prior to Mother's Day. Ten members partnered with a local greenhouse to purchase spring flowers, baskets, and arrangements, which were then sold to the community. The fundraiser was organized to support the Solon Public Library's effort to replace a meeting and conference room divider that had been inoperable for several years. With the growing need for community event space – including meetings for their Women's Club – the updated divider will improve functionality and accessibility. Members contributed 60 volunteer hours, and the project generated \$1,251 in donations for the library.
2. **GFWC/Iowa Akron Friendship and Service Club – 75th Anniversary Celebration.** In October, the GFWC/Iowa Akron Friendship and Service Club celebrated 75 years of Federation membership during a special club meeting held at the Akron Museum. Twenty-five members and five Golden Members attended the celebration. The program highlighted the club's history of volunteer service, changes through the decades and fun historical facts. Members shared favorite memories during roll call, and historians' books and artifacts were displayed. Special refreshments and a celebratory toast were added to the occasion. The museum setting was especially meaningful as it includes a room dedicated to local women's organizations and showcases many items from the club due to its long-standing community involvement. Members contributed 17 volunteer hours and \$60 in in-kind donations.
3. **GFWC/Iowa Maquoketa Woman's Club – Library and School Support.** The GFWC/Iowa Maquoketa Woman's Club continues its strong commitment to supporting the local library and school district through ongoing service projects. Thirteen members were trained by the Library Director to participate in the "Adopt-a-Shelf" program, where each member maintains designated shelves through monthly cleaning and organization. Over the year, members contributed 23230 volunteer hours to this effort. In addition, club members help decorate the library, update displays, and volunteer at the Friends of the Library book sales each spring and fall, contributing another 64 hours of service. These efforts help maintain an inviting, organized space that promotes literacy and community engagement.
4. **GFWC/Iowa Granger Women's Club – Storybook Trail Project.** The GFWC/Iowa Granger Women's Club enhanced literacy and outdoor recreation in their community by creating a Storybook Trail in the local park. Members laminated pages from children's books and mounted them on sturdy frames, placing approximately 20 pages sequentially along the park walkway. Families can read the story while enjoying a short walk, completing the book in about 15 minutes. The project promotes early literacy, encourages family interaction, and increases awareness of the club's presence in the

community. Members contributed 51 volunteer hours and \$200 in monetary donations to bring this project to life.

5. **GFWC/Iowa Aurelia Women's Club – Classroom Reading Outreach.** The GFWC/Iowa Aurelia Women's Club supports literacy by partnering with local teachers to read to students twice annually. In May, members read to first-grade students, and in December, they visit TK classrooms. After a group reading, students are paired with club members to reread the story together, reinforcing comprehension and building confidence. Each child receives a copy of the book to take home, extending the learning experience beyond the classroom. Teachers coordinate with the club, and students later send thank you notes that highlight their writing, drawing, and social skills. This program fosters literacy, intergenerational connection, and a love of reading.
6. **GFWC/Iowa Peterson Tuesday Club – Youth Programs.** Throughout the school year, members of the GFWC/Iowa Peterson Tuesday Club volunteer at the local library to support monthly after school programs. They assist with serving snacks and guiding students through craft activities. Each summer, members also volunteer during a weeklong summer reading program, helping facilitate activities and encourage participation. In total, members contributed 38 volunteer hours, supporting literacy enrichment and youth engagement in their community.
7. **GFWC/Iowa Adel Women's Club – Summer Reading Support and Memorial Donations.** Ten members of the GFWC/Iowa Adel Women's Club supported the Adel Public Library's summer reading program kickoff by promoting the event through flyers, Facebook, and the Adel Living Weekly. During the event, members provided bookmarks and a flavor ice station, distributing approximately 200 treats and helping boost attendance and enthusiasm for the program. The club contributed 55 volunteer hours, \$150 in monetary donations, and \$100 in in-kind support. In addition to program support, the club honors members and spouses by making memorial donations to the library, further strengthening their commitment to literacy and community service.
8. **GFWC/Iowa Lake City Monday Club – Accura Community Improvement Project.** The GFWC/Iowa Lake City Monday Club identified a need at Accura's facility library, where shelves and cupboards were overflowing with disorganized books, games, and puzzles. Five club members and two additional volunteers met with staff to assess how they could improve the space. Over the course of eight hours, they sorted materials, discarded unusable items, and reorganized the remaining resources with accessibility in mind. The result was a more inviting and functional recreational area for residents to enjoy.
9. **GFWC/Iowa Progressive Chautauqua Circle Study Club – Creston Library Partnership.** The GFWC/Iowa Progressive Chautauqua Circle Study Club partnered with the Creston Library and Friends of the Library throughout the year to support fund raising and literacy initiatives. Members volunteered at numerous events, including Valentine Cookie sales, the Scholastic Book Fair, Used Book Sales, Holiday Bake Sales,

and Pi Day activities, contributing 45 hours. They also participated in a Library Treasure Hunt and donated books to a local preschool, adding 11 volunteer hours and \$50 in in-kind donations. Three members attended library programs, contributing an additional 34 hours. In total, the club contributed 90 volunteer hours and \$88 in in-kind donations to strengthen library programming and outreach.

10. **GFWC/Iowa Hudson Tuesday Study Club – Annual Christmas Auction.** In December, the GFWC/Iowa Hudson Tuesday Study Club held its annual Christmas Auction fundraiser. Ten members organized and conducted the event, raising a record-breaking \$700. These funds will be distributed in June 2026 to support the Hudson Education Foundation, Hudson Public Library, scholarships, and other local causes selected by members. Additionally, the club approved an \$18 donation to the Hudson Education Foundation, bringing the May 2026 scholarship total to \$325. This annual event continues to be a meaningful way for the club to invest in education and community enrichment.

Lisa Harris
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