

## SERVICE PROJECTS

GFWC members have done an amazing job providing gowns, blankets, Smile Bags and so much more to our patients before and after surgery. If your club is interested in pursuing any of the projects below with Operation Smile, please also consider that financial support is crucial to allow us to get these supplies to our patients and to provide the safe surgical care that they need.

Needs for our medical missions are constantly evolving, so if you haven't been in touch with us in a while, please reach out to learn about some of the exciting changes we have made to our service projects!

### HIGH-PRIORITY ITEMS

We currently have the most need for children's hospital gowns, blankets, Smile Bags and supplies, and child life therapy items. Before your club begins to collect for any of these projects, please get in touch for a current list of priority items.

### SMILE BAGS

After receiving surgery, each child receives a Smile Bag filled with small personal care items, toys and a mirror to see their new smile. Clubwomen can sew the cloth bags or collect the items that go into each bag.

**NEW!** We've updated our Smile Bag inventory list. Please contact us before your club begins collections to ensure your items can be used in Smile Bags!

### SMILE SPLINTS

Proper healing is essential for a healthy new smile. Smile Splints prevent a child from bending their arms and touching their stitches. A sewing pattern and instruction sheet is available upon request.

### CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL GOWNS

A clean, fun hospital gown will bring joy to a child's face before and after surgery. Yet hospitals in low-and middle-income countries may have few or no resources to provide them. A gown pattern is available from Operation Smile. Contact us for more information.

### QUILTS, BLANKETS & AFGHANS

Few things give more comfort to a child in a hospital than a warm, soft blanket. Clubwomen can help provide blankets for children receiving an Operation Smile surgery. For some children, this will be the first blanket they've ever owned. Please contact us for sizing and instruction sheets.

### CHILD LIFE THERAPY SUPPLIES

The Operation Smile child life therapy room is the last stop for a patient before the operating room. Licensed therapists facilitate therapeutic play and activities by explaining and demonstrating every aspect of care to our patients.

**NEW!** To ensure that our therapists have the best possible tools, we have updated our child life therapy donation list. Please contact us before your club begins collections to ensure that your items can be used in our child life therapy rooms!

### MEDICAL RECORD SUPPLIES

Operation Smile medical professionals provide health care assessments to determine which children can safely undergo surgery. We bring everything we need to help with our screenings - from pens to staplers and many other items that may be unavailable at the medical mission site. These donated items will help us serve more children around the world.

For more information on fundraising ideas or service projects, or to obtain a pattern or instruction sheets, please contact us. Thank you for helping us heal smiles worldwide!

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# Operation Smile

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GENERAL FEDERATION  
of WOMEN'S CLUBS

GFWC Florida is excited to partner with Operation Smile for the 2018-2020 administration.

GFWC Florida President Sharon Oliphant has chosen "Smiles Across the Miles" as her theme for the next two years. During this time, a fundraising goal of \$250,000 has been set. In order to accomplish this goal, GFWC Florida clubs will be asked to assist with awareness activities and projects to share the organization's vision and mission. Operation Smile envisions a future where health and dignity are improved through safe surgery, which it provides free of charge to its patients around the world. To help make this possible, the organization calls upon the generosity of dedicated members of the global community. Through a cleft surgery that costs as little as \$240, you can help make a meaningful difference in the life of a child in need.



A GFWC Florida-sponsored medical mission trip with a few lucky participants will be organized for the 2020 year.

Through this project, GFWC Florida President Project Chairman Mary Jacobs will be providing updates and available opportunities in which you, as a club member, can participate. Contact her at MTJ215@gmail.com.

Our GFWC Florida President Project Fundraising Chairmen Charlyne Carruth and Anita Jenkins will be working closely with all of the district chairmen to generate ideas for fundraising activities and events to help meet the \$250,000 fundraising goal. You can contact them at Charcar@bellsouth.net or Ajtrav2644@att.net.

The GFWC of Florida has built a legacy around giving back to those in need. We hope that as GFWC Florida members you will be a part of "Smiles Across the Miles" and help us reach this attainable goal for the 2018-2020 administration.

## OPERATION SMILE & GFWC - PARTNERS IN SERVICE

In 2017, Operation Smile proudly celebrated its 35th anniversary. Our incredible achievements would not have been possible without the support of thousands of generous hearts like yours. For nearly 30 years, GFWC clubwomen have been advocates for children who may never know their names but will never forget their kindness. From children's hospital gowns, hand-sewn with love, to the incredible financial support GFWC clubs have provided over the years, we are so very grateful for this partnership.

## FUNDRAISING IDEAS

Each year, GFWC members continue to amaze us with their creativity and ingenuity. When you raise funds for Operation Smile, you can inspire others to support what you do in the name of helping children around the world. We need your help to get to our patients and provide them with the free surgery they need! For as few as \$240 and in as little as 45 minutes, a single surgery can change a child's life forever.

## CONTEST FUNDRAISING

Find your favorite contest theme (chili cook-off, ugly sweater, best photo, etc.) and let guests vote by placing money in the jar of their favorite theme.

## TOURNAMENT STYLE

Tournaments are a great way to encourage healthy competition while raising funds to heal a child's smile! Anything competitive works, from basketball to board games. Charge an entry fee to participate, set a grand prize and encourage teams to compete before your event by rewarding the team who raises the most funds before the tournament.

## CLASSIC FUNDRAISERS

Host a car wash, bake sale, lemonade or hot cocoa stand, community yard sale, sell candy or popcorn. These classic fundraisers are oldies, but goodies.

## EVENT-BASED FUNDRAISING

Events are a fun way to raise funds and awareness for Operation Smile. Your options are endless, from a 5k walk or run, to a masquerade ball and everything in between. We are happy to help you brainstorm ideas!

## CHARITY AUCTIONS

Charity auctions are a popular fundraising activity. Ask each club member to get a basket or gift card donated from a local business, then set up an auction night or a silent auction during an event to pick the winners.

## GAME SHOW NIGHT

Who doesn't love a good game show? Re-create your favorite one as a fundraiser - you can find step-by-step directions to set up this kind of fundraiser for most game shows by searching online!

## JULY IS CLEFT AND CRANIOFACIAL AWARENESS MONTH

Help us spread awareness for Operation Smile while raising much-needed funds!

We will supply a set number of paper pin-ups. Your charge is to ask local businesses to collect a donation and display the pin-ups in their store. Paint your town with support for cleft children around the world throughout the month of July!

## WORLD SMILE DAY OCTOBER 5, 2018

Request a donation box and information to pass out from us, and set up a table at your favorite local hot spot on Friday, Oct. 5, 2018 to celebrate World Smile Day. Bring fun props and encourage visitors to take a selfie using the hashtag #worldsmileday and post on social media!

- Sharp shears or scissors

### Instructions for No-Sew Light Weight Fleece Blankets

1. Cut your fabric so that it measures 54" square. Remove the selvages (machined edge) and even up all uneven sides.
2. Cut a 4" square from each corner.
3. (Optional) Use masking or painters tape to make a line across the length of the blanket from the square you just cut, and use this as a guide for cutting your fringe!
4. Starting from one of the edges you just cut, begin cutting 1" fringe to the tape (or 4" deep if you don't use the tape) all the way around the fabric.



5. Take each fringe piece and gently tie a knot at the end of the cut (closest to the masking tape). Do not tie two pieces together, just knot each single piece of fringe. Be careful not to stretch the fleece if possible! This creates a finished edge so the blanket won't fray. Once all fringe pieces are tied, remove the tape and your blanket is ready to go!

### Instructions for Serged-Edge Fleece Blankets

1. Cut your fabric so that it measures 54" square. Remove the selvages (machined edge) and even up all uneven sides.
2. Use a small plate or saucer to round the corners of your fleece. Line the plate up to the edges and cut around the edge of the plate. Repeat for all corners. This gives your blanket rounded corners.
3. Set your serger machine up for fleece (check your machine's manual for the proper settings). We've found that ball-point needles work best for fleece. You can use one color of thread for the whole blanket, or use multiple colors for a fun look!
4. Once your machine is set-up and you've tested on some scrap material, choose a starting point on the straight side of your blanket, and serge all the way around.
5. Serge over the beginning stitches, leaving a bit of a tail.