

GFWC-Mississippi Federation
of Women's Clubs, Inc.



Dear Federation Friends,

What an honor it is to serve as your State President for this 2018-2020 Administration, with our theme: "Empowering the Heart to Make a Difference: Detect. Correct. Protect." I am proud of our Federation and the work that we do — collectively empowering others. To quote Helen Keller, "Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much." I am proud of each club, and each clubwoman, and the difference that you are empowering.

To be empowered, one must have information, and this GFWC-MFWC Handbook, full of information, has been compiled by Lisa Harris, Media/Communications and Technology Coordinator with input from our GFWC-MFWC Officers. We have selected a unique cover using our administration logo designed by Lisa Harris signifying our administration theme with the open heart surrounding our MFWC emblem exemplifying our unconditional love as volunteers. Important information regarding 2018-2020 programs and partners of GFWC and our State are included, as well as information concerning HOBY, State Institutions, Mississippi Public Broadcasting, Mississippi Library Commission, and the 1935 Society.

To empower the difference, we will focus on three areas of emphasis: women's health, membership, and lifelong learning.

To empower the difference and enhance the lives of others, we must care for ourselves. With heart disease being the number one killer of women, I have chosen the American Heart Association as the beneficiary of our PSP. Our "plan of care" will be to detect, correct, and protect. We will start the conversation by detecting: **G**etting our numbers. To correct, we will **O**wn our lifestyle through smart decisions and healthy habits. To protect, we will **R**aise our voice being an advocate for women's health. We will **E**ducate our federation, friends, and family using the resources from Life is Why, Life's Simple 7 and Go Red. We will **D**onate through MFWC to the American Heart Association. Collectively, we will empower the difference.

United, we will continue to make membership a priority in Mississippi. MFWC empowers the difference through membership with our Community Service Programs and Partners, our GFWC Signature Program: Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention and our GFWC Juniors' Special Program: Advocates for Children. We will share that empowerment by participating in Thankful Tuesday. Specifically, each Tuesday, we will write in our journal or post on social media something that we are thankful for that is due to our MFWC membership, giving encouragement to our current members, building retention, and creating interest with our potential members. Collectively, we will empower the difference.

Furthermore, we will continue to empower our minds through Epsilon Sigma Omicron, our honorary educational society exclusive to GFWC members. Remembering that knowledge is power, we will empower the difference with lifelong learning through ESO as we continue to participate in this self-improvement reading program, while encouraging others to join us. Through structural and planned reading, we will participate in reading groups, enabling us to experience intellectual discussions on a variety of books, create new friendships, recruit new members in our communities, and gain knowledge about life, love, family, politics, cultures, technology, and the world around us. Focusing on literacy, beginning within, collectively, we will empower the difference.

In addition to the three areas of emphasis, with input from the Executive Officers, I have set a few goals for this 2018-2020 Administration because we should always have a "plan of care". They are:

1. Implementing a service project at each state meeting, we will rise by lifting others.
2. Maintaining relevancy, and to engage and connect with more members, we will grow our social media presence with Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Pinterest.
3. Allowing electronic payments, we will work toward online payments for an alternative to registration and use for Ways and Means.
4. To enhance our communication, we will attempt to visit every club in our state within the next two years. Through this effort, we will build relationships, share knowledge and encourage leadership.
5. Encouraging all members to embrace the history within, we will graciously put out the welcome mat at our beautiful Headquarters.
6. Utilizing the wealth of knowledge and wisdom from within, we will grow our leadership base. MFWC LEADS Chairman Judy T. Martin and MFWC Leadership Chairman Dr. Carolyn Tedford will be encouraging clubs to recognize and train up leaders through our Leadership Education and Development Seminar.
7. With open hearts, we will embrace the Seven Grand Initiatives of GFWC International President Mary Ellen Brock, as we remind GFWC and the world that Mississippi is the most charitable of all states.

In closing, always remember that enthusiasm moves the world, so go forth enthusiastically, and have fun Empowering the Heart to Make a Difference!

Much love,

Becky

Becky C. Wright
GFWC-MFWC President