

Other Ideas:

- Advocate for local and state funding for your library
- Volunteer at your local library
- Donate books to public libraries including STEM and STEM careers; teach a class
- Honor your librarian on National Librarian Day April 16, 2023 and April 16, 2024
- Celebrate 'Library' recognition days (see calendar at ala.org) with social media posts
- Partner with daycares and summer camps with reading activities for children.
- Establish reading programs at veteran and senior facilities.
- Partner with businesses and civic groups to purchase books related to their work.
- Sponsor a Book Festival with local authors, a book character parade for children with prizes and library inspired activities for all ages.

ENVIRONMENT

COMMUNITY CONNECTION INITIATIVE:

COMMUNITY GARDENS - SPARKLING SEEDS, BRILLIANT BUTTERFLIES, GLAMOROUS GARDEN GLOVES!

Community gardens provide green spaces in urban areas, give growers without land of their own a place to work and promote a real sense of community. Enrich your community by partnering with local businesses, other community groups, and/or schools to plan, develop, and grow a community garden. Look toward local gardening companies to help sponsor or donate. Enlist the help of master gardeners, landscape architects, or garden clubs to assist with designing the best garden for your community using native plants, including the needs of pollinators, and providing water and shelter.

Use your community garden as an outdoor garden learning center and teach students about the benefits of gardening. Work with local nursing homes and assisted living facilities to bring some sunshine into the lives of our more experienced generations.

Gardens can be as large or as small as your space allows. Don those gloves to help your seeds sprout into a community garden that brings benefits to many. Check out the Community Garden Fundraising link in Resources.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

COMMUNITY CONNECTION INITIATIVE:

PHYSICAL FITNESS OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL AGES

Regular physical activity – aerobic, muscle strengthening, and balance training - is one of the most important things you can do for your health. Regardless of age, abilities, ethnicity, shape, or size everyone can experience the benefits of physical activity.

Considering the facts provided, GFWC clubs are encouraged to plan a year-long project that will promote physical activity for any age group.

- Partner with a home improvement store and other service organizations such as a Lions Club or Boy Scouts to purchase and build playground equipment for a shelter or special needs facility.
- Partner with a sports store to provide fitness apparatus for a senior center or nursing home and sponsor classes in their use.
- Plan a fitness trail in your community.
- Partner with a shopping mall to sponsor walking clubs which include weekly or monthly physical fitness and nutrition presentations.
- Work with local schools to implement the Presidential Youth Fitness Program in their curriculum.

So, let's **Get Fit Within** our **Communities**. Give and get that glimmer and glow that a physical fitness activity will add to life