

# CURRENT AFFAIRS



## 

**CURRENT AFFAIRS GOALS AND PROJECTS**

**Overall Goal:** To promote a better awareness and understanding of Local, National, and International topics.

**Local Division**:

**Goal**: To promote an awareness of local history, safety issues and women's concerns.

**Project Ideas:**

A. Safety Issues

* Promote proper use of seat belts and car seats.
* Sponsor a bike safety/ rodeo/ helmet program in your community.
* Sponsor a school bus safety drill program for your local schools.
* C.H.A.D. “Child Has An Identity” Program – to ensure rapid identification of children in emergencies

B. Poison Control

* Write to and obtain information about the Poison Control Center.
  + Distribute information to community.
* Promote safety by sponsoring programs in community.

C. Fire & Police Safety

* Sponsor a fire or crime prevention program for your community.
* Buy and install smoke detectors for needy citizens.
* Support Fire Prevention Week with community activities.
* Pass out emergency phone stickers to community.
* Establish a 'Neighborhood Watch’ program.
* Support the police department in fingerprinting or videotaping children.
* Sponsor or present a self-defense program for your community.
* Sponsor a house numbering program in your community.

D. Legal and Financial Issues

* Sponsor a program on the Importance of long term Planning and making a will.
* Sponsor a program on establishing Individual credit ratings and protecting credit history.

E. Women's Issues

* Contribute needed items to battered women's shelters.
* Promote public awareness of the need for support for battered women.
* Promote public awareness of resources available for battered women.

F. History Issues

* Sponsor a speaker on local or Connecticut history for your community.
* Work on a project to restore a historical landmark.
* Support your local Historical Society.

G. Political Issues

* Sponsor a Meet the Candidate night in your community.
* Sponsor a trip to the State Capital or organize a town hall tour for a group from your community.

H. Disaster Relief

* Collect items to donate to Disaster Relief programs for the state of Connecticut
* Make monetary donations to Disaster Relief programs for the state of Connecticut.

**National Division:**

**Goal:** To promote the "Red,White & Blue."

**Project Ideas:**

A. Political Issues

* Sponsor a speaker to inform the public about national election issues.
* Encourage participation of your community in statewide and national elections.
* Sponsor or participate in a statewide/national “Meet the Candidates” program.

B. Patriotism and History

* Sponsor a program on proper flag etiquette.
* Encourage the displaying of the American flag in your community.
* Sponsor a program on American or State history
* Distribute historical information to your community.
* Support a national or statewide Historical Restoration project.
* Sponsor a program celebrating a national or statewide holiday.

C. Veteran Issues

* 1. Sponsor activities at VA centers: bingo night, holiday parties, monthly refreshments, remember veterans on their birthdays, Adopt-a-Vet program
* 2. Support Veteran Day activities in your community.
* 3. Volunteer to assist live-at-home veterans.
* D. Disaster Relief
* 1. Collect items or make a monetary donation to a Disaster Relief program for an area within the United States.

**International Division**

**Goal:** To promote cultural diversity and a better understanding of other cultures and the plight of those who are less fortunate in the world.

**Project Ideas:**

A. Aid

* Make a monetary donation to an international agency.
* Sponsor or participate in the UNICEF collection in your community.
* Support the International Olympics.
* Donate to a foreign student exchange program.
* Donate directly to a foreign exchange student.

B. Education

* Sponsor a community trip to the World Affairs Center or United Nations.
* Sponsor a program about the United Nations in your community.
* Host a speaker or program about a foreign country for your community.
* Create an international display in your community.
* Sponsor a program observing international customs in your community.
* Distribute information to your community about worldwide relief programs.

C. Hospitality

* Host a foreign exchange student and include them in club activities.
* Sponsor a social for an international family visiting your community.
* Sponsor an international pen pal program for school children.

**In-Club Division**

**Goal:** To educate members about local, national and international issues.

**Project Ideas:**

A. Safety Issues

* Conduct a fire and safety program for members.
* Encourage members to install smoke detectors, CO2 detectors and fire extinguishers.
* Promote frequent battery checks.
* Conduct a surprise seat belt safety check.
* Hold a medicine chest clean out contest.

B. Legal and Financial Issues

* Sponsor a speaker on financial planning for members.
* Distribute information on financial planning, living wills and credit ratings to members.

C. Patriotism, History and Election Issues

* Encourage all members to register and vote.
* Display the American flag and recite the Pledge of Allegiance at all functions.
* Host a speaker or share information in newsletter on local historical facts.

D. International

* Say the “7 Word Prayer” at each meeting: “God grant us peace among all nations.”
* Hold a dinner with an international theme.
* Educate members about the customs of other countries.
* Learn about the cultural background of your members.
* Have an international cookie swap, using recipes for international cookies.
* Have an international craft or display night.

**CURRENT AFFAIRS RESOURCES**

**RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS**

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| Americares Foundation 88 Hamilton Street  Stamford, CT 06902  1-800-486-4357 (HELP)  [www.americares.org](http://www.americares.org) | National Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-SAFE (7233)  [www.ndvh.org](http://www.ndvh.org) |
| American Red Cross 209 Farmington Ave., 3rd Floor  Farmington, CT 06032  860-678-2700  [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) | Preventing Poisonings in the Home American Association of Poison Control  Emergency # 1-800-222-1222  [www.aapcc.org](http://www.aapcc.org) |
| Amnesty International 5 Penn Plaza 14th Floor  New York, NY 10001  212-807-8400  [www.amnesty.org](http://www.amnesty.org) | Plan International/Childreach International [www.plan-international.org](http://www.plan-international.org)  [www.worldvision.org](http://www.worldvision.org) |
| CARE 32nd West 39th Street, 3rd Floor  Neew York, NY 10018  Main # 1-800-521-2273 (CARE)  212-686-1088  [www.care.org](http://www.care.org) |  |

## **CHILDREN’S ORGANIZATIONS**

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| Children’s Wish Foundation International 8615 Roswell Road  Atlanta, GA 30350  800-323-9474 (WISH)  [www.childrenswish.org](http://www.childrenswish.org) | Be Fire Smart  [www.befiresmart.com](http://www.befiresmart.com) |
| UNICEF 333 East 38th Street  New York, NY 10016  212-686-5522  ww.unicef.org | Save the Children Foundation 54 Wilton Road  Westport, CT 06881  1-800-SAVE THE CHILDREN  [www.savethechildren.org](http://www.savethechildren.org) |

SELF HELP ORGANIZATIONS

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| Church World Services CROP Sanseer Mill  282 Main Street, Ext.  Middletown, CT 06457  1-800-CWS-CROP  1-800-297-2767  860-347-7821  www.cwcrop.org/tristate | Heifer Project International 1 World Avenue  Little Rock, AR 72202  1-800-442-0474  [www.heifor.org](http://www.heifor.org) |

#### OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

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| United States Olympics Olympic Plaza  Colorado Springs, CO 80909  719-632-5551  [www.usoc.org](http://www.usoc.org) | United Nations First Avenue, 46th Street  New York, NY 10017  212-936-8687 Tours  [www.un.org](http://www.un.org) |
| National Council of International Visitors 1420 K Street N.W., Suite 800  Washington, DC 20005  202-842-1414  [www.nciv.org](http://www.nciv.org) | World Affairs Council 66 Forest Street  Hartford, CT 06103  860-241-6118  [www.ctwac.org](http://www.ctwac.org) Connecticut  [www.world-affairs.org](http://www.world-affairs.org) National |
| Radio Free Europe 1201 Connecticut Avenue #1100  Washington, DC 20036  202-457-6900  www.rferl.org | World Vision 34834 Weyerhaeuser Way  Federal Way, WA 98063  1-800-423-4200  1-888-511-6548  www.worldvision.org |
| Youth for Understanding 6400 Goldsboro Road, St.100  Bethesda, MD 20817  1-800-TEENAGE  [www.yfu.org](http://www.yfu.org) |  |

**CJW CURRENT AFFAIRS JOB DESCRIPTION**

GOAL: To provide clubs with project ideas to promote an awareness of local and safety issues and women's concerns; to promote patriotism including veteran issues; and to promote aid, education and hospitality for international cultures.

Job Responsibilities:

1. Submit monthly newsletter articles for the CJW Junior Bulletin.

2. Prepare an email handout for CJW Conferences & statewide meetings.

3. Organize a department workshop to be given at a CJW statewide Meeting. This workshop can

contain project ideas, discussion of club projects, hands-on training or review of past successes. This workshop should include a handout of workshop contents.

4. Assist clubs by answering their inquiries regarding this department, if you are unable to answer a question contact the CJW Director for help.

5. Attend events hosted by clubs that pertain to this department if available.

6. Refer to RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CJW BOARD OF DIRECTORS in the General information section for more information.