




AAUW Annual Report : Sept 2019 – May 2020

**Name of Initiative:** Days for Girls Poughkeepsie NY Team

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**Project Goals:**

1. Make 100 feminine hygiene kits to be distributed by different groups Internationally and locally
2. Staff our group with the needed skills (Recruit 4 volunteers to use the Serger and 4 to sew )
3. Present 4 Days for Girls community presentations to different community groups

**Mission:**

We make sustainable feminine hygiene kits for girls living in developing countries, refugee camps and shelters in the United States .Through our efforts we are providing young women the opportunity to attend school, receive an education & reach their potential which has been denied to them due to a wide variety of social, economic and cultural circumstances .Our program advances the equity of women and girls in education and leads to improving economic stability which supports the overall mission of AAUW.

**Target Audience:**

Girls miss 5-7 days of school each month both locally and in developing countries because of the lack of feminine hygiene supplies .Our Program helps to supply girls with feminine hygiene kits which is sustainable for 3 -5 years .Our program offers volunteer opportunities for the members of the community to think global and act local and engage in meaningful and constructive use of there time in trying to meet a global need.

**Participants:**

18 AAUW members have attended our work sessions in the 2019- 2020 year, some more consistently than others. We also had 18 non AAUW members attend our sessions. *Thirteen* of them have been attending regularly. *We have updated our email list and now have 39 volunteers* on our email list ( both AAUW volunteers and members of the community). We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month at The Poughkeepsie Meeting of Friends House (Quaker Church), 249 Hooker Ave, Poughkeepsie NY, from 1:30pm -4:30 pm. Some of our members take *work home* that they complete and bring to our next session. We have completed 1 community presentation at Dominican College this year and participated in the AAUW & DCC LYD Girls conference activism and activities session in Nov 2019.

## **Sustainability:**

Our group continues to grow, and our product continues to meet gold standards. We now have 2 more volunteers who are serging liners at home as well as at our work sessions. We have a total of 4 folks who serge consistently. We have 6 volunteers who make shields consistently.

We are actively seeking volunteers who have skills to meet gold standards and also those who can complete equally vital non sewing tasks. *This is an* ongoing challenge of our team to increase the commitment of our volunteers to attend sessions regularly.

## **Benchmarks:**

Thus far we have distributed a total of 192 kits Internationally and 6 kits and 5 pods locally. For the Sept 2019 – May 2020 calendar year, we have sent out 71 international kits and we have made enough shield and liners supplies for 45 additional kits. We exceeded our goal ( 100 kits ) by 16 kits for the year. Our team contributed 50 kits to the DfG international Refugee project in September of 2019.

During the pandemic, our team has cancelled our monthly work sessions and signed up to participate in Days for Girls Masks 4 Million project . Together with support from the members at ASG we donated 200 surgical cloth masks to a local nursing home. Some team members continue to work on making masks at home and in this way we will be able to fulfill requests in the future for masks .

## **Community Partners**

### Community Partners :

American Sewing Guild

GS troop 10354

Poughkeepsie Meeting of Friends 2018- current ( Venue)

Vassar – Haiti Project

Vassar Project Period

### In- Kind Donors / Monetary Donations

AAUW Members

*American Sewing Guild*

First Dutchess Quilters

Hyde Park Rotary Club

Panhellenic Group ( 2018)

Grants :AAUW NYS

We would like to thank the board and members of AAUW Poughkeepsie NY for supporting our initiative for the 2019- 2020 calendar year. Due to the pandemic we have cancelled our monthly work sessions and our volunteers are encouraged to work at home to make masks and complete homework tasks already assigned. We hope to return to our sessions once it is safe to do so for all our volunteers

Thank you for Giving Girls 5-7 days of



school. Period!