





AAUW Annual Report : Sept 2021 – May 2022

Name of Initiative: Days for Girls

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Project Goals:

1. Make 75 feminine hygiene kits to be distributed by different groups internationally and locally
2. Continue our monthly Workshop sessions and having members do work at home.
3. Recruit at least 5 new members to join our group, with 2 being sewists.

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 are 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 their time in trying to meet a global need.

Participants:

After not having our monthly in-person workshops since March 2020, but doing our work piece-meal at home, we restarted our monthly workshop at our new location, the Zion Episcopal Church, in September and welcomed 16 of our members. Our new facility works well for us and allows us to accomplish varied tasks as we continue to make kits for distribution.

Twenty-three individuals have contributed to the work, with 16 being regular attendees at our workshops. Thirteen members do work at home, with 15 of the 23 having AAUW membership. Five new individuals have joined our group this past year. We have 43 volunteers on our email list (both AAUW volunteers and members of the community).

Sustainability:

We have extremely passionate co-leaders and dedicated core members and have been able to successfully transition back to our workshop setting. The new location of our workshop is very well suited to our needs and provides us a great working space for our varied tasks. We have trained individuals in various tasks so that we have the needed flexibility to assign tasks which are needed to accomplish our work well and efficiently at the workshops. Because we have a good and dedicated core group which make our workshops very productive and accomplish needed tasks at home, we feel most comfortable about our continued success.

Benchmarks:

The total number of kits, International and domestic, distributed thus far is 388.

We provided 35 kits to The Jordan Humanitarian Response Project.

Our team collected 8468 disposable pads in 1 week to donate to the Ukraine refugee project.

Our current inventory is: 85 shields, 547 liners, 89 outer bags, 30 transport bags. These items will become kits and sent onto areas in need as DfGs International determines the next such location. Because of the limited travel possible, kit distribution is slowed.

Community Partners

Zion Episcopal Church in Wappingers Falls

Vassar Haiti Project

In- Kind Donors / Monetary Donations

AAUW Members

Hudson Valley NY Chapter - American Sewing Guild

Student Occupational Therapy Association of Dominican College

We would like to thank the board and members of AAUW Poughkeepsie NY for supporting our initiative and we look forward to a very productive 2022-2023.

Thank you for Giving Girls 5-7 days of school. Period!

