AAUW Annual Report : Sept 2018 – May 2019

Name of Initiative:  Days for Girls

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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:
25 AAUW members have attended our work sessions in the 2018-2019 year, some more consistently than others. We have 61 volunteers on our email list (both AAUW volunteers and members of the community). We meet on the 3rd Saturday of each month at The Poughkeepsie Meeting of Friends House (Quaker Church), 249 Hooker Ave, Poughkeepsie NY, from 1:30pm to 4:30 pm. Some of our members take homework that they complete and bring to our next session. We have completed 2 community presentations this year and participated in the LYD Girls conference in Nov 2018

Sustainability:
We have very passionate co leaders and we noticed an increase in participation and attendance from AAUW members and members of the community. We were able to recruit 6 ladies who are now consistently working
on making shields. We acquired the Accucut in 2018 which cuts out the pattern for shield and T and T liners so the quality of our product has definitely improved. We are actively seeking volunteers by being involved in other community groups example Duchess Quilters and American Sewing Guild and posting on social media.

**Benchmarks:**

Thus far we have sent a total of 115 kits Internationally and 6 kits and 5 pods locally. For the Sept 2018 – May 2019 calendar year, we have sent out 85 international kits and 6 domestic kits We also sent 23 pounds of supplies to the Days for Girls Rincon, Puerto Ricco Team who are low on supplies to make kits for girls in Puerto Ricco due to the impact of Hurricane Maria.

**Community Partners**

Community Partners:
- American Sewing Guild
- DfG Pine Plains Team (Pine Plains Methodist Church)
- GS troop 10354
- Marist Femme Club
- Marist Young African Leaders (YAL)
- Poughkeepsie Meeting of Friends 2018- current (Venue)
- Vassar – Haiti Project
- Vassar Project Period

**In-Kind Donors / Monetary Donations**

- AAUW Members
- First Dutchess Quilters
- GS Troop 10354
- Hyde Park Rotary Club
- Marist Femme Club
- Marist YAL
- Panhellenic Group (2018)
- Poughkeepsie Meeting of friends members

**Grants:**

- AAUW NYS

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 2019-2020.

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

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**Days for Girls**

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