



# 2019 Impact Report



Dear Supporters of Femme Aid Collaborative,

We can't believe it's been a year since that fateful trip to the Aldi grocery store when we witnessed firsthand how period poverty was impacting people monthly. It would set four best friends on a journey to start and establish Femme Aid Collaborative.



To date, together we have collected and distributed over **325,000 period pieces** to local nonprofits in our community. We are a movement of activated Daytonians fighting to end period poverty and period stigma through service, education and advocacy. We could have never imagined how great the need was in our community and how quickly people would rally to support the mission, but here we are fighting to provide a steady stream of menstrual hygiene products to local nonprofits so they can focus on serving our community's most vulnerable citizens.

**NONE** of these efforts would have been possible without the help of a loving supportive network! To the local business partners that gave of their time and talent to help us organize our thoughts around Femme Aid Collaborative strategy and mission -- THANK YOU! To **EACH AND EVERY ONE** of our donors who got behind us hosting drives and educational workshops, donating money and sending notes of encouragement -- **THANK YOU!** To our families who never doubted our capabilities and have continued to be our sounding boards and biggest fans -- **THANK YOU!**

This is what #DoingSomething in Dayton looks like! Thank you for being a part of this movement. We the following pages we look forward to showing you what starting a movement looked like for us in 2019 and what incredible opportunities it's providing Femme Aid Collaborative to serve and advocate **MORE** for in 2020.

Our Very Best,

Ryann Mescher, Dana Clark, Zoe Waller

## OUR MISSION

Our mission is to provide monthly menstrual hygiene products to those in need.

### **Service**

With the support of generous donors, Femme Aid Collaborative ambassadors and community partners, we supply local nonprofits with menstrual hygiene products.

### **Education**

We elevate the discussion to bring awareness to the issue of period poverty and period stigma in our community and safe spaces to openly discuss these issues.

### **Advocacy**

We will continue to create change and rally for the repeal of the tampon tax in all 50 states and lobby for menstrual products in schools, public places and jails.



## Community Impact Report

Est. March 2019



**320,907**  
Period Products  
Collected and Distributed



**18**  
Local Nonprofits  
Supported



**8**  
Community  
Partners



**22**  
Outreach and  
Education Events



**148,110**  
Tampons



**166,745**  
Pads

Donations:  
Online at [femmeaid.com](http://femmeaid.com)  
Or mailed to Dayton Foundation  
1401 S. Main St.  
Suite 100  
Dayton, OH 45409  
Femme Aid Fund #8298

 Follow Us:  
 On Facebook & Instagram  
@femmeaidcollaborative

## SERVICE

321,888

### Period Products Collected and Distributed



Femme Aid Collaborative's 2019 goal was to support three local nonprofits with menstrual hygiene products for the year. We were going to collect and distribute 100,000 period pieces through menstrual hygiene drives and a benefit breakfast in April. Femme Aid Collaborative has far exceeded our initial goal and currently supports 18 local nonprofit partners and have collected and distributed over 320,000 period pieces since our March 2019 launch. We accomplished this through the hard work and dedication of our founders, the Femme Aid Ambassadors and our generous community.

## Community Nonprofit Partners Supported

Femme Aid Collaborative relies on our nonprofit partners throughout the Dayton region to educate and inform us on the challenges they face filling the menstrual product need of those they serve. Femme Aid's goal is to provide these nonprofit organizations with a steady supply of menstrual products. If you know of a charity that would benefit from receiving menstrual hygiene products, please email us at [FemmeAid19@gmail.com](mailto:FemmeAid19@gmail.com)

### Nonprofit Partners Femme Aid Collaborative currently serves:

1. The Food Bank Dayton, leading the charge to relieve hunger in our Community ([www.thefoodbankdayton.org](http://www.thefoodbankdayton.org))
2. PATH Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness ([www.mvho.net](http://www.mvho.net))
3. Linda Vista Inc., a Clear Vision to the Future ([www.lindavistaproject.org](http://www.lindavistaproject.org))
4. Daybreak Dayton, Changing Lives, Creating Futures ([www.daybreakdayton.org](http://www.daybreakdayton.org))
5. The YWCA Dayton, Eliminating Racism and Empowering Women ([www.ywcadayton.org](http://www.ywcadayton.org))
6. Oasis House Dayton, Offers Hope and Support to Women Survivors ([www.oasisforwomen.org](http://www.oasisforwomen.org))
7. Artemis Center of Dayton, Domestic Violence Resource Center ([www.artemiscenter.org](http://www.artemiscenter.org))
8. Wesley Community Center, Community Resource Center ([www.wesleycenterdayton.org](http://www.wesleycenterdayton.org))
9. YWCA Dayton, Eliminating racism. Empowering women. ([www.ywcadayton.org](http://www.ywcadayton.org))
10. St. Vincent de Paul, Helping with Homelessness ([www.stvincentdayton.org](http://www.stvincentdayton.org))
11. House of Bread, Community kitchen assisting with Food Insecurities ([www.houseofbread.org](http://www.houseofbread.org) )
12. Levitt Pavilion Dayton, Community through Music ([www.levittdayton.org](http://www.levittdayton.org))
13. Good Neighbor House, Food Pantry Services, ([www.goodneighborhouse.org](http://www.goodneighborhouse.org))
14. Brigid's Path, Compassion, Love and Guidance for babies and mothers impacted by addiction ([www.brigidspath.org](http://www.brigidspath.org))
15. City Day School, Community School for Grades K-8 ([www.cityday.org](http://www.cityday.org))
16. St. Benedict the Moor Catholic School, School building bridges between east and west Dayton ([stbenedictthemoorcatholicsschool.org](http://stbenedictthemoorcatholicsschool.org))

## Community Nonprofit Partners



"We are absolutely thrilled by this wonderful donation we received from Femme Aid Collaborative! This will allow us to keep feminine hygiene products in our restrooms for clients to take as needed. For some, it is embarrassing to ask and this will reduce the barrier of having to ask. Now, they will be able to help themselves as needed. It will also allow our clients to spend their money on other important needs such as food, medicine, gas money, etc. We are honored to be a part of this incredible project! "

Jane Keiffer MSW, LISW-S  
Executive Director  
Artemis Center



"Femme Aid Collaborative is providing us with resources we formerly were not able to provide to our female clients as they needed them. We often had to provide a few items when the women really needed boxes of items. Since our relationship with Femme Aid Collaborative began, this has changed! We are very grateful to them for their donations."

Andrea McGriff  
Program Services Director  
Miami Valley Housing Opportunities



As the Corporate & Community Relations manager, I am personally involved in work with Femme Aid Collaborative. Our first contact with the young founders was established through their willingness to stand up not only for period poverty but also for their peers at the shelter. Their skills as change agents and commitment was confirmed to us through the large in-kind donations of feminine products that have continued since last month. The enthusiasm and energy that they give through speaking engagements was well accepted by our youth and partners.

We are impressed with their ability to point out the most not talked about problematic issues and be the face of change within their community. Our relationship is still developing and they will be directly involved in bringing awareness to youth homelessness."

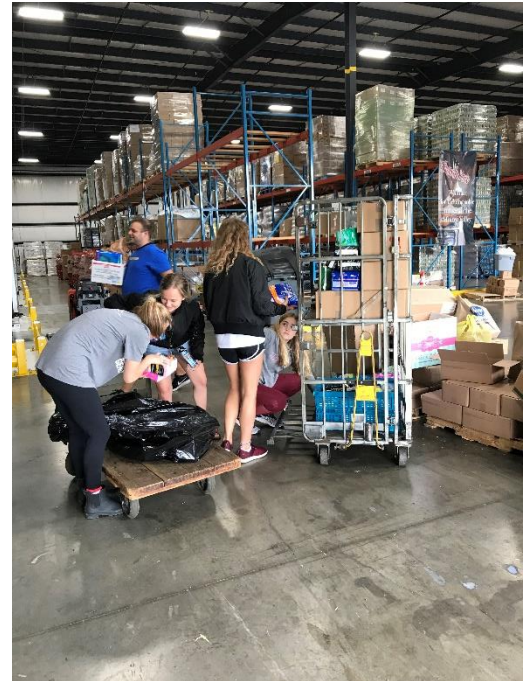
Marilyn Gadd  
Corporate & Community Relations  
Daybreak Dayton

# EDUCATION

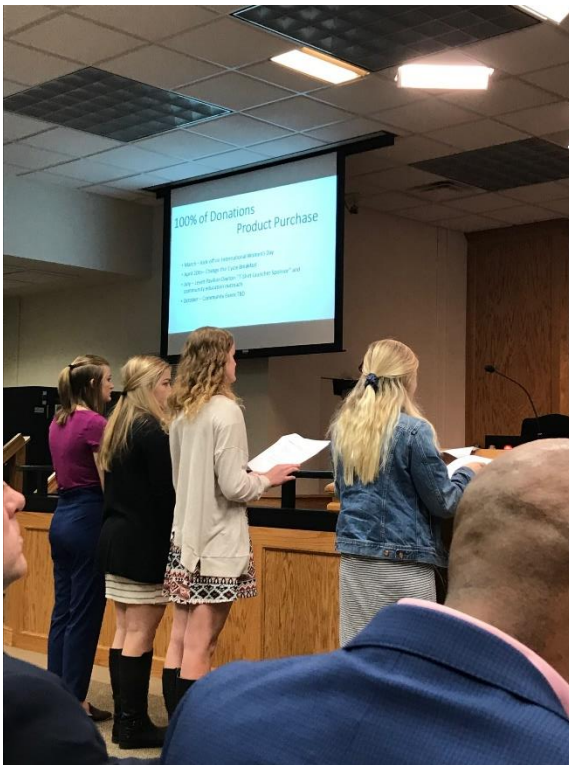
## Participated in 22 Outreach and Education Events



**UpDayton Incubator**



**Working at the Food Bank assisting with tornado relief efforts**



**Presenting to City of Dayton Commission**

- Some highlights of our year included:**
- Presenting to the City of Dayton Commission
  - Assisting in tornado relief with 2 semi-trucks full of period products delivered to Ryann’s house
  - Participating in the inaugural UpDayton Incubator program and presenting at its Summit
  - Providing education outreach at the Levitt Pavilion Dayton and getting to shoot our Femme Aid t-shirt’s out of their cannon
  - Speaking with countless groups to raise awareness about period poverty and period stigma in our community.



## JOINED FORCES WITH AMAZING PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Local and National Organizations Femme Aid Collaborative Joined Forces with in 2019.



Without The Dayton Foundation we couldn't have launched and mobilized as quickly as we did. Their guidance and support has helped shape the well-run volunteer organization we are becoming.



Alliance for Period Supplies is a national organization working to ensure that individuals in need have access to essential period products required to participate fully in daily life.

Founding sponsor U by Kotex. Femme Aid Collaborative attended the National Period Summit this year to learn and be inspired by others who are fighting period poverty and period stigma in their communities.



We participated in the pilot program for UpDayton project Incubator program and shared our message to 300 people in September at Summit. The UpDayton Incubator Program helps launch specifically designed for entrepreneur projects or programs that help Greater Dayton become a better place to live, work and play.



PERIOD. The Menstrual Movement's mission is to eliminate period poverty and stigma. We are certified through Period. to purchase and educate individuals on the benefits of menstrual cups and will be holding educational workshops and health fairs at local nonprofits.



## ADVOCACY

Femme Aid Collaborative went to Columbus, Ohio, to rally in support of House Bill 19 sponsored by Ohio House Representatives Niraj Antani, District 42, and Brigid Kelly, District 31, to end the taxation on menstrual hygiene products in Ohio. We joined forces with other supporters and are happy to report that Senate Bill 26 passed on November 6, 2019.



November 6, 2019 State Rep. Brigid Kelly (D-Cincinnati) announced Governor DeWine signed Senate Bill (SB) 26, which include a provision she sponsored to eliminate Ohio sales taxes on feminine hygiene products, commonly known as the Pink Tax, into law. “I am appreciative of the Governor for signing this bill making medically necessary products more equitably accessible to women and girls in our state,” said Brigid Kelly. “This is an important step towards ensuring that everyone who has a period is able to lead a healthful life and fully participate in their communities as they choose.”



## 2019 EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

### Change the Cycle Breakfast

Our first benefit breakfast was made possible by the generosity of Coco and Karen Gagnut-Wick and Coco's Bistro's staff. The SOLD-OUT event was held in April and brought together 80+ Femme Aid Collaborative supporters for a delicious breakfast and enlightening discussion about periods and fighting period poverty in our community.



### Old Scratch Pizza Take-Over



Femme Aid Collaborative was fortunate enough to be selected by Old Scratch Pizza for its "Cones for a Cause" in August and enabled us to have a restaurant "Take-Over" at the end of the month. We packed the restaurant with our friends, family, Oakwood High School cheer squads, several football players and our community. The event raised awareness and enough money to support the following month's donation.

### Jamboree Game, Car Wash and a Principal Who Gets It!



Our founders' high school got behind the mission in a big way this year! They selected Femme Aid Collaborative for their charity football game, car wash and teacher jean day donations. It was a great way to continue the dialogue around period stigma when the entire student section is chanting "TAMPONS" during a football game. It makes having the conversation around period poverty easier with the stigma gone. Additionally, due to the work and awareness around period poverty and the need for menstruators to have access to products, Oakwood High School announced that during the 2019/2020 school year, period products would be available in bathrooms **FREE** of charge.

## Awards and Recognition 2019

### “MAKING A DIFFERENCE” Award

What an inspirational evening! Femme Aid Collaborative was honored at the Cox Media, *Making a Difference* dinner. It was an evening filled with people of all ages doing amazing things in our community to help others! Thank you to James Brown for hosting and featuring the co-founders. It was a night with our mothers we will never forget.



### “OUTSTANDING YOUTH in PHILANTHROPY” Award

We are so incredibly humbled to have received the National Philanthropy Day “Outstanding Youth in Philanthropy” award presented by the Association Of Fundraising Professionals Greater Dayton Region. To be surrounded by some of the **BEST** people in Dayton, Ohio, who are doing so much of the heavy lifting supporting our community was such an honor! Thank you to Kelly Nordstrom Sexton and Jane Keiffer of Artemis Center Dayton for nominating us and for all you to do to support our community. We are so inspired and honored to serve your organization.

## **2020 Vision**

For 2020, our vision remains focused on becoming the centralized collection and funding agency in our community providing area nonprofits with the menstrual hygiene products they need. To be able to accomplish this and serve more people, we need to continue to educate and motivate our community to build on the momentum of 2019.

## **Service**

Our service goal is to continue to gain support from menstrual hygiene brands and corporate sponsors. We need to grow our digital presence and dialogue around period poverty and period stigma, while continuing to serve as many people as possible.

## **Education**

Our educational goal is to add workshops on menstrual cups for nonprofits that host health and wellness days and continue to do outreach through speaking engagements, donor drives or hosted events.

## **Advocacy**

We will take the fight against period poverty in our schools to keep students in the classroom during their cycle. We will raise awareness about period poverty at the superintendent and school board levels and mobilize ambassadors through a unified effort.

We are gearing up for an exciting year of evolution! We are passionate about Femme Aid Collaborative and will continue to work to end period poverty and period stigma in our community. We can't wait to see what 2020 holds for our volunteer-run organization and look forward to having you join in the fight!

## 2020 Leadership Team

Ryann Mescher, Director of Strategic Partnerships

Dana Clark, Director of Corporate and Community Outreach

Zoe Waller, Director of Marketing

April Mescher, Executive Director

Pam Clark, Associate Director

Maddie Weiler, Community Events Director

Jen Cadieux, Media Relations and PR Director

### **CONTACT**

Femme Aid Collaborative  
PO Box 161  
Dayton, Ohio 45409

**DONATIONS** made by check or online  
The Dayton Foundation  
1401 S. Main Street, Suite 100  
Dayton, Ohio 45409

Femme Aid Fund #8298

[www.daytonfoundation.org](http://www.daytonfoundation.org)

### **EMAIL**

General Inquiries  
[FemmeAid19@gmail.com](mailto:FemmeAid19@gmail.com)

Community and Charity Partnerships  
[amescher1@gmail.com](mailto:amescher1@gmail.com)