

International Women's Day with Days for Girls International



UVU students assemble hygiene kits for women and girls in El Salvador during the International Women's Day

On March 5th, 2018 I had the great opportunity to participate in a service project the Days for Girls International NGO. This event was held prior to International Women's Day in Utah Valley University's Grande Ballroom and was filled with individuals from all over campus and from all walks of life.

Days for Girls International is an organization that began in 2008 when founder and CEO Celeste Mergens was working with an organization in Kenya when she realized there was a desperate need for practical solutions for female hygiene in struggling regions of the globe. Many of these girls and women were ostracized and quarantined every single month during their menstrual cycle, which in turn robbed them of work and education that otherwise their male peers often took for

granted. Days for Girls is an organization that produces menstrual pads for young women in over 116 countries across the globe, enabling young women to live their lives and regain their independence.

During this service project there were numerous men and women working at assembly stations located all around the ballroom in an effort to produce washable and reusable menstrual kits that can be distributed to women and girls. As a representative of the Sustainable Mountain Development Club I feel so honored to be able to participate in this project knowing that these kits would be making the lives better for countless women and girls enabling them to regain otherwise days lost.

Caitlin B. Tomly, member, Sustainable Mountain Development Club