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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 7, 2024**

## **Feminine Hygiene Drive Collecting Donations for Adolescents**

SHELBY, NC – Feminine hygiene items are essential, but are not always readily accessible to youth in Cleveland County. As a result, the Cleveland County Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coalition, in partnership with the Cleveland County Health Department, is sponsoring a Feminine Hygiene Drive to collect essential care items for students in Cleveland County.

Items needed include pads and tampons of any size.

Items can be dropped off at any of the following collection sites throughout Cleveland County: all Cleveland County YMCA branches, Cornerstone Dental Associates, All State Employee's Credit Unions in Cleveland County, Shelby Women's Care (all 3 locations), and Cleveland County Health Department.

This is the third year in a row that the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coalition and Cleveland County Health Department have sponsored this drive. Last year, the drive collected enough donations to put together 426 personal care kits that were provided to students attending Cleveland County Schools. The kits were distributed by school health nurses as needs were identified.

“Our female students shouldn't have to worry about their period and how to get needed supplies to take care of themselves while at school,” said Hallie Boggs, Community Health Educator, Cleveland County Health Department. “They should be able to focus on their education without this as a distraction. Menstrual cycle hygiene is important because not regularly changing tampons and pads can cause infections and other serious health complications. We hope to obtain enough feminine hygiene products to support our female students throughout the entire school year.”

The feminine hygiene drive is running now through July 31<sup>st</sup>. For additional information or to make a monetary donation, please contact 980-484-5128 or [Hallie.boggs@clevelandcountync.gov](mailto:Hallie.boggs@clevelandcountync.gov).

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