

PRESS RELEASE

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Pasco County Tax Collector's Office Raises \$791 for American Heart Association's Wear Red Day for Women

Pasco Tax Collector Mike Fasano announces that in honor of the American Heart Association's *Wear Red Day for Women* (February 5, 2015), the staff of the Pasco County Tax Collector's Office donated \$791 to help fight heart disease in women. All donations came from employees of the five Pasco tax collector offices (West Pasco Government Center – New Port Richey, Gulf Harbors – U.S. 19, New Port Richey, Central Pasco Government Center – Land O' Lakes, East Pasco Government Center - Dade City and Wesley Chapel).

“Heart disease is the No. 1 killer of Americans and the leading cause of death in women,” states **Tricia Davidson**, Event Specialist for *Go Red for Women*. “Each year, 1 in 3 women die of heart disease and stroke, yet 80 percent of cardiac events can be prevented. Since *Go Red For Women* began in 2004, more than 275 women's lives have been saved each day. While the American Heart Association has made incredible progress, the fight is far from over. Through support and donations like this one from the Pasco County Tax Collector's Office, the American Heart Association can continue to educate people about their risk for heart disease and stroke, encourage them to share their knowledge with loved ones, and work together with community partners to save lives.”

“I am proud of our employees who stepped up and donated to this worthy cause,” states **Pasco Tax Collector Mike Fasano**. “We support many fine organizations throughout the year, but few are as respected as the American Heart Association. The *Wear Red Day for Women* program in

particular shines a spotlight on the importance of heart health for women. Over one million women have been saved since the inception of *Go Red for Women*. It was an honor and a privilege for the Pasco County Tax Collector's office to take part and support the fine efforts of the American Heart Association. We look forward to working with the American Heart Association again in the future."

[PHOTO – FROM LEFT TO RIGHT – **Mikala Ballard**, Customer Service Representative for Pasco Tax Collector, **Tax Collector Mike Fasano**; **Tricia Davidson**, Event Specialist for American Heart Association's *Go Red for Women*; and **Billy Villalva**, Customer Service Representative for Pasco County Tax Collector]