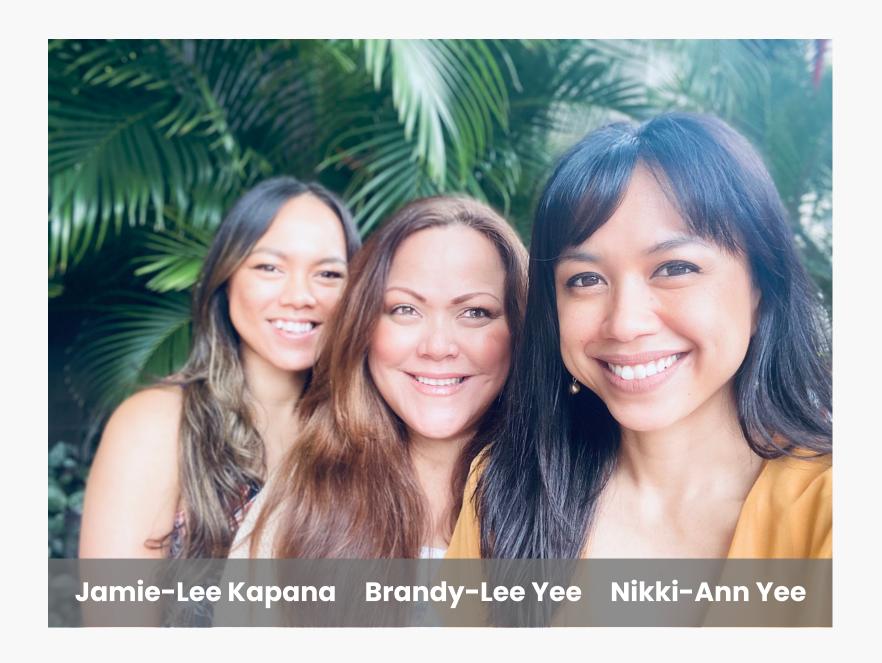
Welcome to

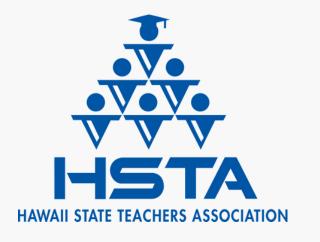
# BUILDING MENSTRUAL EQUITY IN SCHOOLS

2023 Teacher Institute Day HCR Workshop Session #1

# PRESENTED BY

## MA'I MOVEMENT HAWAI'I





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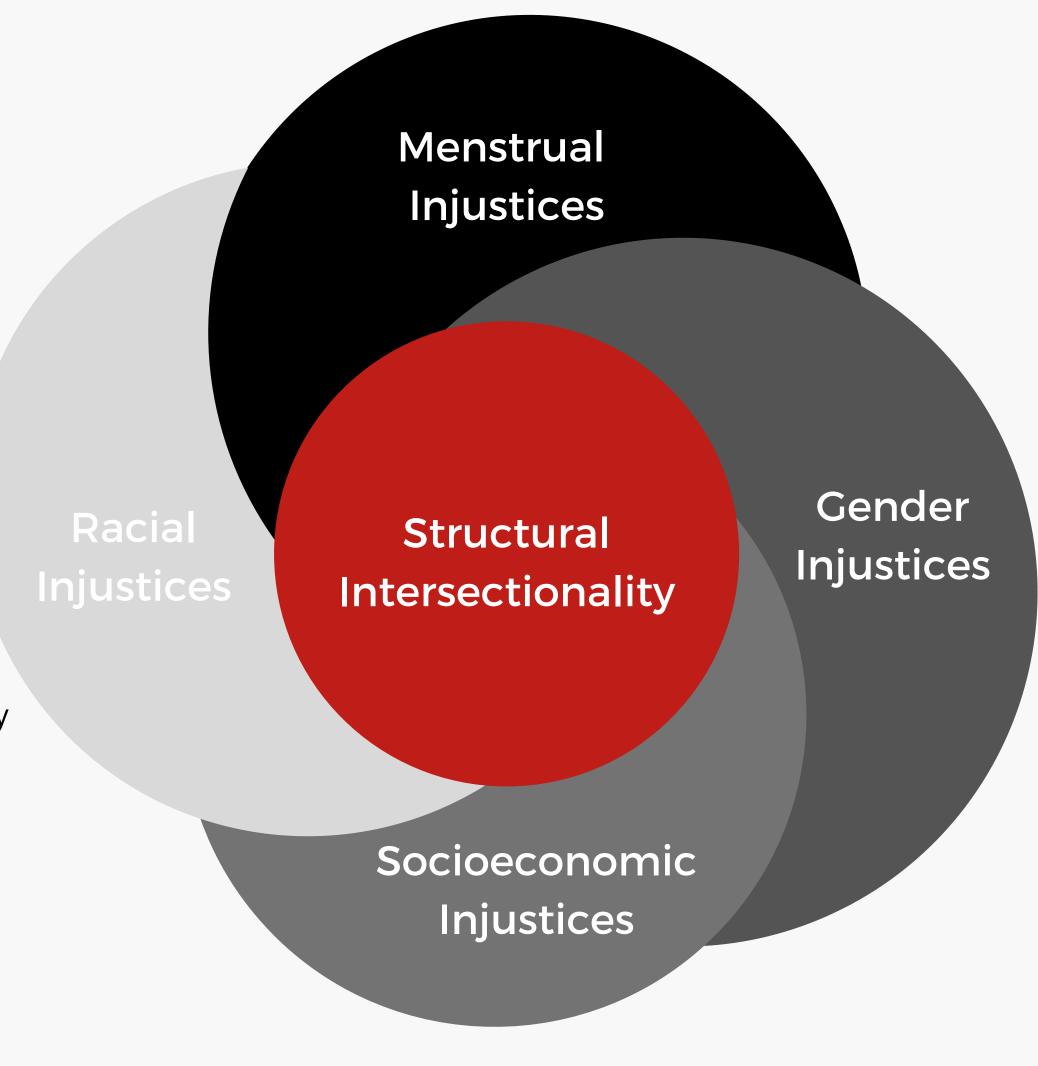
# period poverty

n.

limited or inadequate access to menstrual products or menstrual health education as a result of financial constraints, negative socio-cultural stigmas associated with menstruation, or inadequate access to period-friendly sanitation facilities and running water

state of menstrual inequity

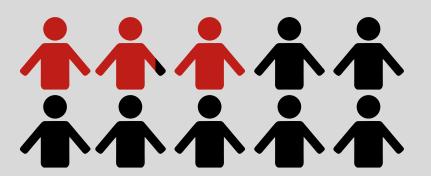
disproportionately affects low-income and houseless girls and women, māhū, trans men, gender non-conforming and non-binary people, and those that are incarcerated



# UNDERSTANDING PERIOD POVERTY IN HAWAI'I

MA'I MOVEMENT HAWAI'I-HAWAI'I STATE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (2021)

#### FINANCIAL IMPACT



29.5% EXPERIENCED DIFFICULTY OBTAINING PERIOD PRODUCTS

# MOST COMMON BARRIERS CITED

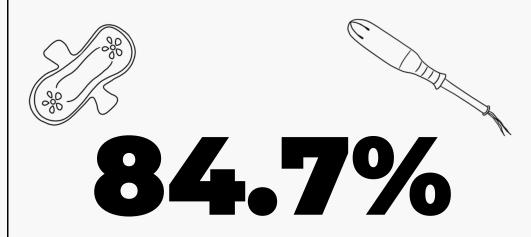
58% COST
30% KNOWLEDGE
30% ACCESSIBILITY
23% SHAME



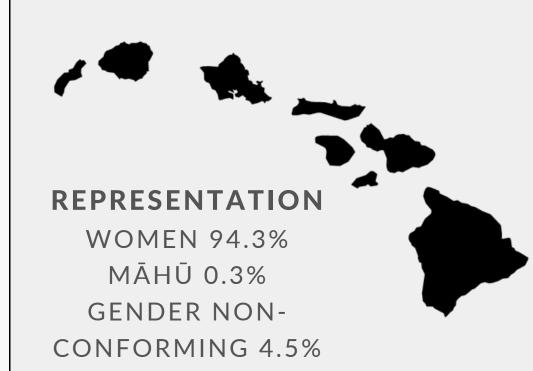
"Something is wrong when as a working woman and mother that I have to choose between buying medication, food, or period products.

That's what I always go through."

Desiree, Maui



BELIEVE MENSTRUAL EQUITY IS A REAL PROBLEM, LIKE FOOD AND HOUSING SECURITY



# THE HO'OHANOHANO INITIATIVE

OBJECTIVES & GOALS

Establish free period product program

• • •

Track product usage (SY2021-22)

• • •

Identify cost/student

• • •

Measure impact on students

Conduct pre/post surveys amongst students & teachers



# PRE- AND MID-PILOT HIGHLIGHTS (6 months)

IN OUR HAWAI'I PUBLIC AND CHARTER SCHOOLS

#### **PRE-PILOT**



1/4
FACULTY

SAY STUDENTS MISSED AT LEAST ONE SCHOOL DAY 1/2
FACULTY

SAY STUDENTS MISSED PART OF THE SCHOOL DAY

# WHEN STUDENTS LACKED PERIOD PRODUCTS THEY USED

NEWSPAPERS NAPKINS

DIAPERS SOCKS

LEAVES TOILET PAPER

FOLDER PAPER OLD RAGS

**MID-PILOT** 



STUDENTS REPORTED
MISSING FEWER CLASSES
AND SCHOOL DAYS WITH
ACCESS TO PRODUCTS

37%
FACULTY

17% DE LIMPROVEMENT

DECREASED BARRIERS
TO ACCESSING
PRODUCTS

"It was helpful because in one of my classes, I randomly got my period causing me to leak, plus I had no pads in my bag, but they brought me some from the bathroom and it was literally a lifesaver."

Middle Charter School Student, O'ahu

# PROVEN RESULTS, LASTING IMPACT

IN OUR HAWAI'I PUBLIC AND CHARTER SCHOOLS



98% STUDENTS

WERE ABLE TO GET PERIOD PRODUCTS WHEN THEY NEEDED IT

71%

**STUDENTS** 

WERE AWARE
PRODUCTS WERE FREE
AND AVAILABLE IN
MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

92%

**FACULTY** 

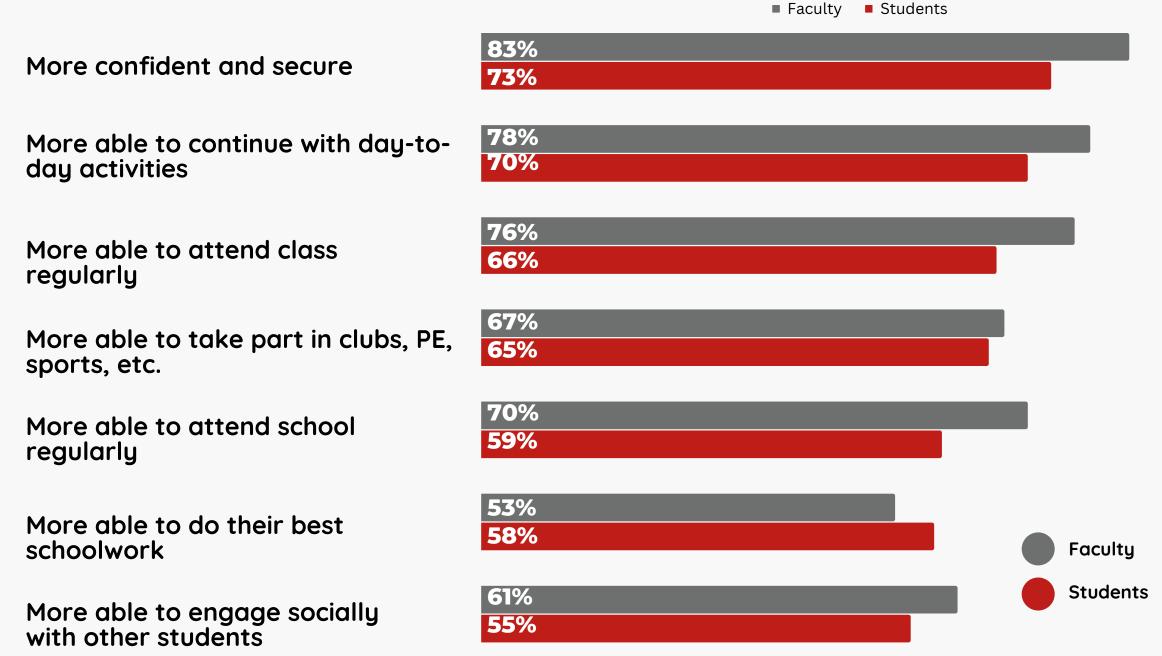
KNEW HOW THEIR SCHOOL WAS DISTRIBUTING PRODUCTS

**40%**FACULTY

FELT HAVING PERIOD PRODUCTS HELPED REDUCE ABSENTEEISM



# WHEN STUDENTS HAVE ACCESS TO FREE PERIOD PRODUCTS IN SCHOOLS, THEY ARE





# HAWAI'S MENSTRUAL EQUITY LAW

On June 20, 2022, Gov. David Ige signed SB2821 into law, effective July 1, 2022, requiring the Hawai'i State Department of Education to provide menstrual products to all students, free of charge, on all public school campuses, including public charter schools — and \$2 million was allocated for this fiscal year.

 $\bigcirc$ 

Learn more: https://bit.ly/3N6tS9n

# 3 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

#### CONVENIENCE

Products should be available in multiple locations throughout campus to ensure students can access products no matter where they are. Increased access points also reduce time spent out of class.

#### **EASY ACCESS**

Products should be placed in areas that students can access freely and easily without shame or stigma. Students of any gender, including non-menstruating students, should be allowed to take products without question as they may be assisting peers who are unable to get products themselves.

#### **BARRIER-FREE**

Students should not have to ask someone, such as a nurse, to access period products, which can add to shame, stigma, and time spent out of class.

# PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION OVERVIEW

#### STEP 1

- Identify lead for procurement (funding comes directly from the HIDOE and all HIDOE processes must be followed).
- Identify lead on implementation (nurse, health aid, teacher, administrator).

#### STEP 2

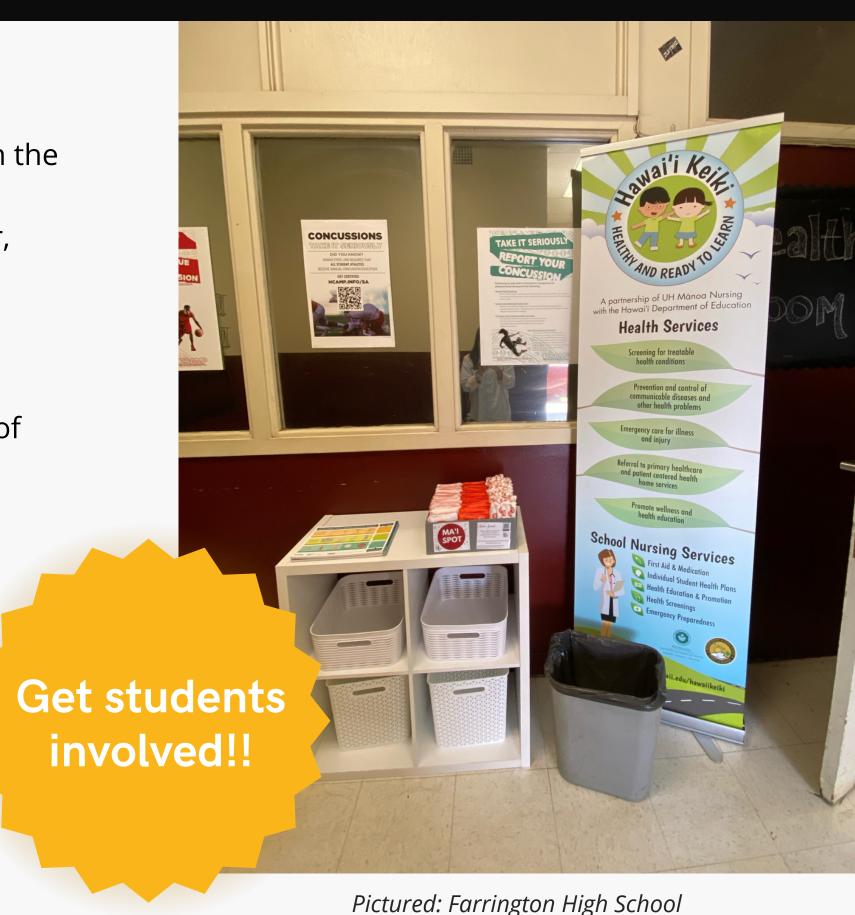
Identify locations for period product distribution and method of distribution.

### STEP 3

Based on locations, meet with stakeholders to create an implementation procedure at school (principal, custodial staff, faculty, etc).

#### STEP 4

Roll out informational materials across the school.



### DISTRIBUTION

#### **Bathrooms**

Provides a safe and private space.

Easily accessible & reduces time spent out of class to get products from another location.

2

#### **Bathroom Stalls**

Provides most direct and immediate access to period products.

NAIR SESSION

#### **Health Room**

Products in a location where students can access without the permission.

4

#### Classrooms

Like bathrooms, students can immediately get products and reduce time spent out of class to manage their period.

5

#### **Counselor's Office**

Provides a space all students access and frequently.

6

#### **Main Office**

Provides a location that is usually near a bathroom and opens earlier than classrooms. *ENTRANCE* 

#### **Athletics Offices, Locker Rooms**

Provides students an option to access products after school hours.
Allows students to fully participate in sports.

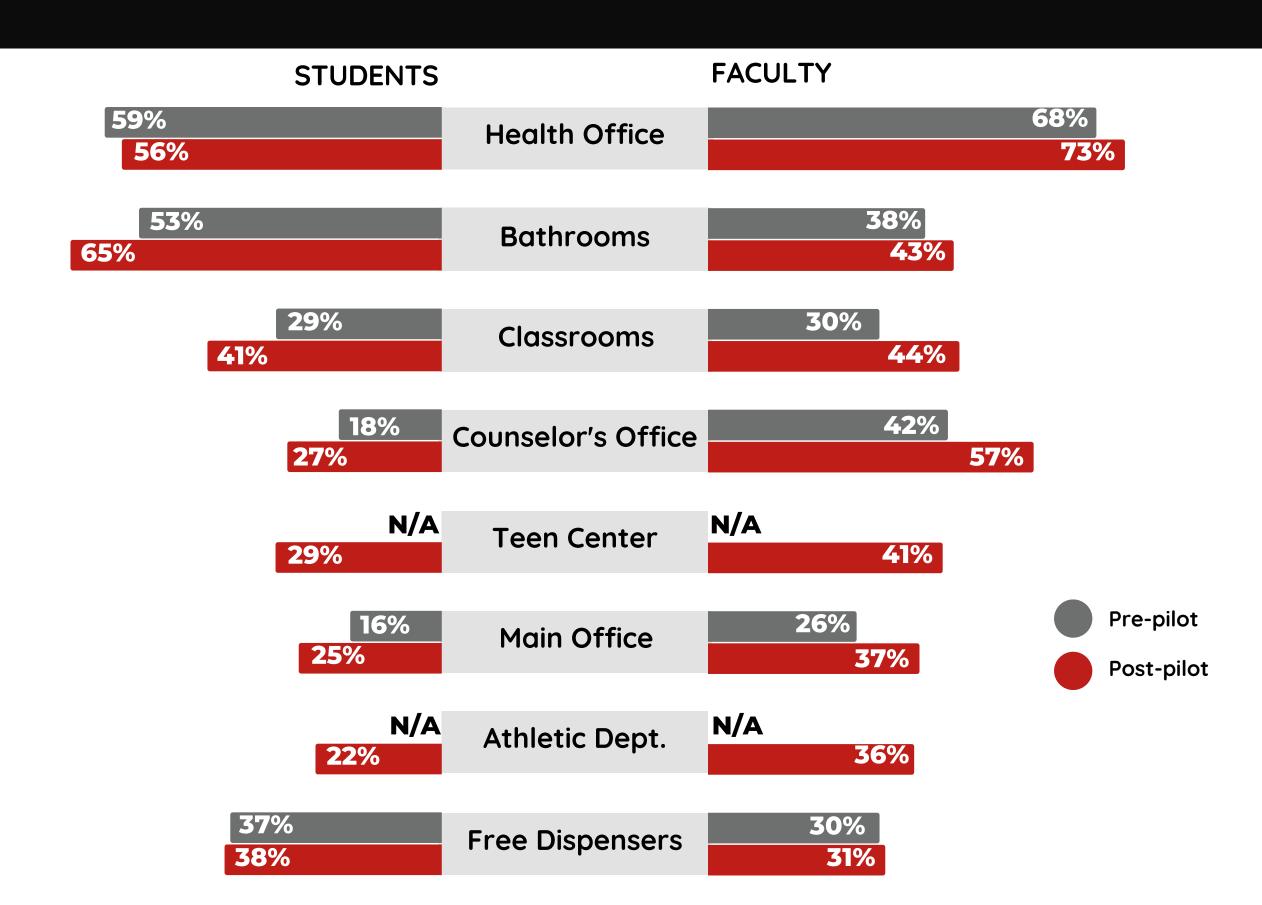
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#### **Teen Center (if available)**

This location is school dependent.

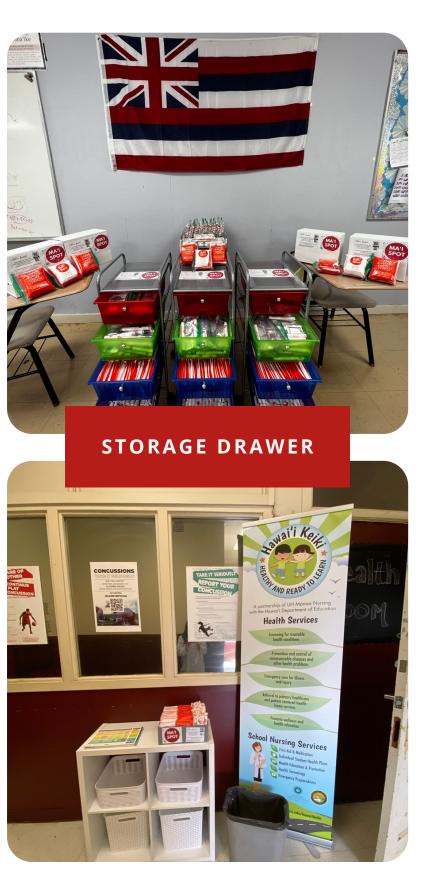
# THE HO'OHANOHANO INITIATIVE

LOCATION PREFERENCES

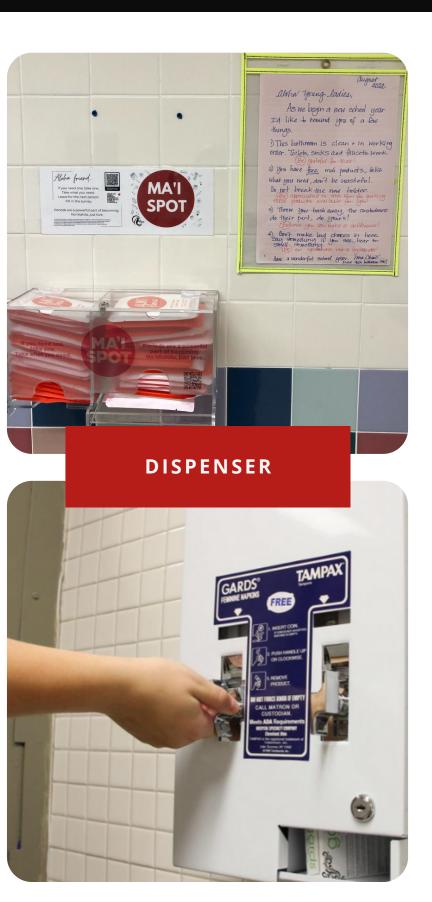


# EXAMPLES









# DISPENSERS & TRASH RECEPTACLES

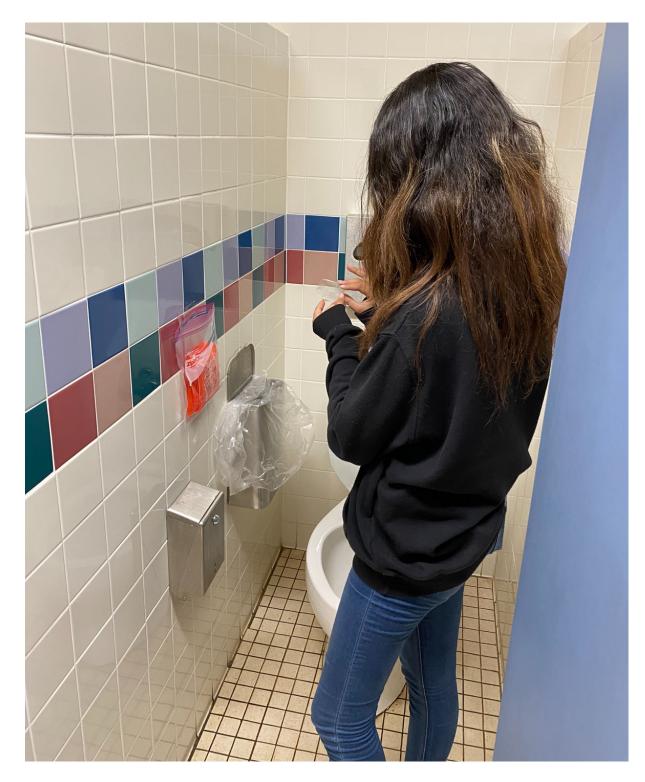
| Dispenser Type                                 | Pros   | Cons   |
|--|--|--|
| Container / Basket                             | Low cost, easy to place in multiple locations                                    | Easy to remove and damage  |
| Storage Drawer<br>(movable / fixed)            | Can hold a large<br>quantity and<br>variety of products                          | Restricted to certain locations due to size                                    |
| Resealable bag affixed<br>to wall or in stall  | Low cost, easy to replace, provides most direct and immediate access to students | Easy to remove and damage, cannot hold a large quantity or variety of products |
| Dispenser with or without mechanical turn knob | Affixed to wall to prevent tampering, may exist in bathrooms                     | Product-dependent,<br>costly installation, high<br>annual maintenance          |



#### TRASH RECEPTACLES

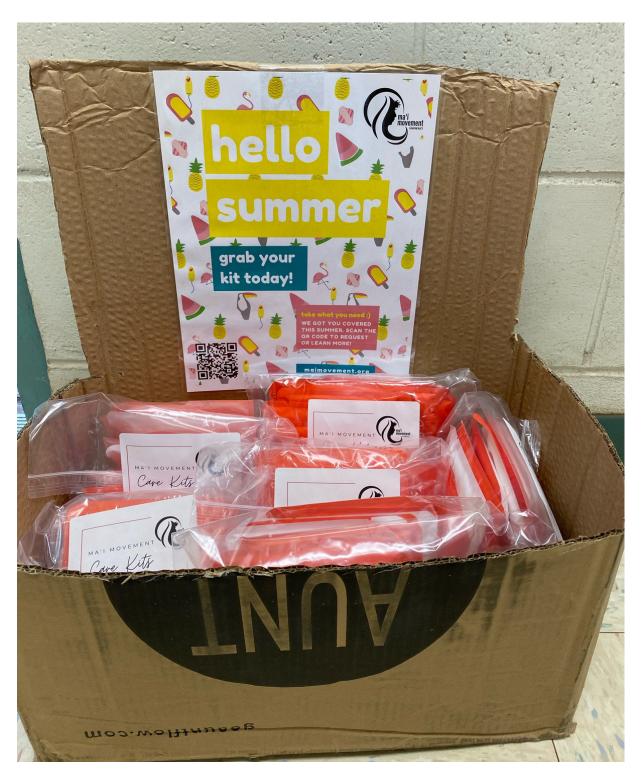
Trash receptacles are important to ensure proper disposable of used period products within student bathrooms. Place small trash receptacles in individual stalls and/or large receptacles in a communal area within the bathroom. Receptacles placed outside of student bathrooms can cause students to feel embarrassed and stigmatized.

# RECOMMENDATIONS









Get students involved

Make take home kits!

## TEACHABLE MOMENTS



#### **VANDALISM**

There were some instances of vandalism, but incidents were isolated and often the result of specific students.



#### **EXCESS USE**

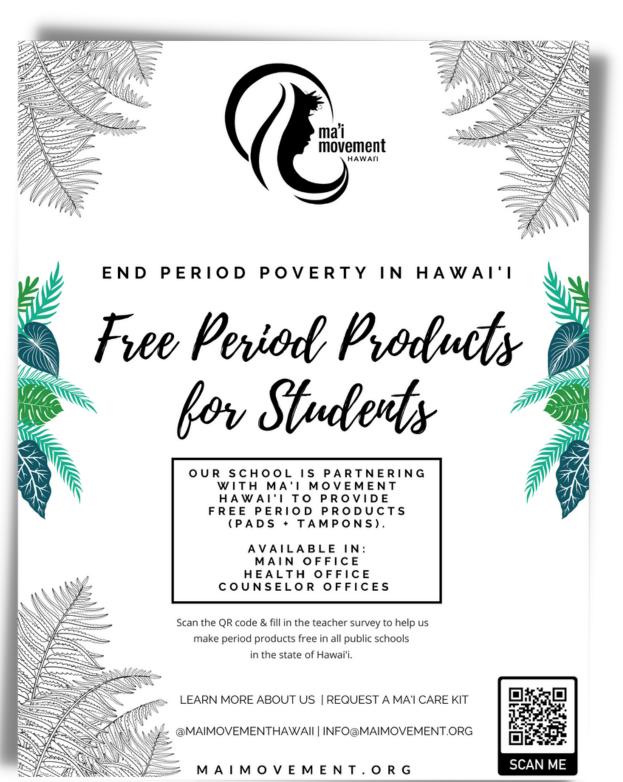
Students were encouraged to freely take the number of products they needed at school. There were no reported incidents of excessive use.



#### **MISUSE**

Education around product use available at maimovement.org/education.

# SPREAD THE WORD

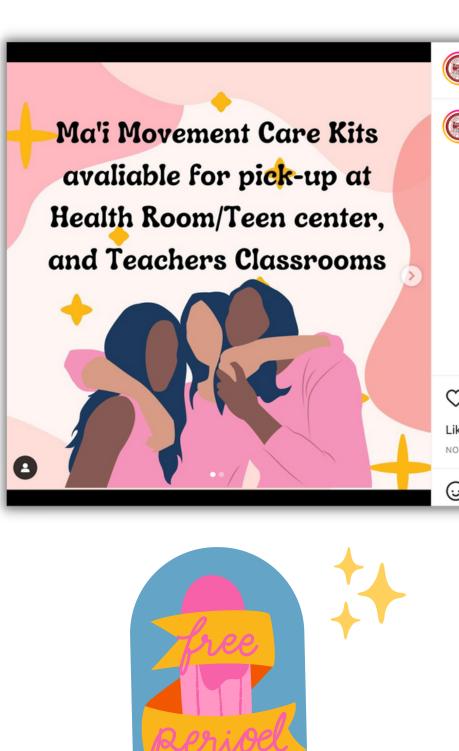






### SOCIAL MEDIA

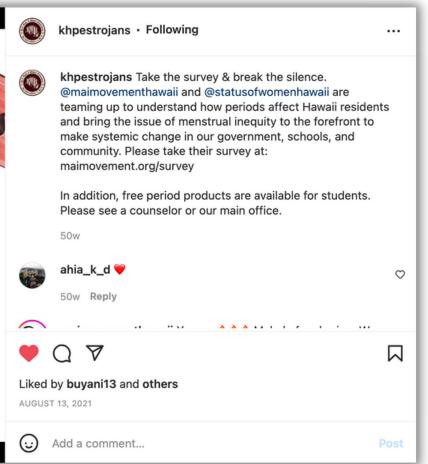












#### EDUCATION

# **Nationwide Study Highlights**

Reviewed each state's Department of Education website between September 2020 and November 2020.

Only three states — California, Michigan, and New Jersey — cover personal hygiene products related to menstruation.



# Hawai'i Education Requirements

Physiological changes of puberty Pregnancy prevention Abstinence STI prevention



# **Education Opportunities**

Managing menstruation
Personal hygiene during menstruation
Information about different period products and how to use them



Online Resources Health Education



## Sexual Health and Responsibility: Menstrual (Period) Care

#### **READ FIRST**

The following resources are provided to support health-promoting care during puberty and adolescence. This resource list provides supplementary resources that schools may consider for use with their students.

Visit the Hawai'i State Department of Education's (HIDOE) <u>Sexual Health Education webpage</u> for more information on sexual health education, including related policies, a list of recommended instructional materials, and the opt-out process. HIDOE schools are responsible for reviewing the HIDOE <u>memo</u> on sexual health education, dated 02/08/22, which includes guidance for selecting or reviewing instructional materials (HIDOE staff login required). Supplementary resources for sexual health education require approval by the principal prior to use with students.

#### **Online Resources**

| General<br>Information and | Puberty and You<br>Seattle Public Schools TV   |  |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| Resources                  | KidsHealth and TeensHealth Nemours Children's Health   |  |
|                            | Ma'i Movement Hawai'i's Educational Resources  |  |
|                            | Menstrual Cycle US Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Office on Women's Health  |  |
| Families                   | Amaze (Create a My Amaze account to set up your own playlist) Advocates for Youth, Answer, Youth Tech Health   |  |
|                            | KidsHealth: Talking to Your Child About Periods Nemours Children's Health  |  |
|                            | Talking About Periods, Period Product Options, Using a Pad, Using a Tampon, What is a Normal Period?, and Talking to Boys about Periods  For parents/guardians of children with intellectual disabilities and/or autism spectrum disorder; developed in Australia; some references may need clarification (e.g., in the "People with intellectual disability on having their first period" video, the speaker says "year 5 or 6" referring to grade levels, not ages.)  Planet Puberty |  |

= Local resource

Please note that this list is provided for informational purposes to support schools and families. The linked materials have not been vetted through an OCID state-level instructional materials review committee process.

Updated 10/14/2022 Page 1 of 3

## RESOURCES



#### **IMPLEMENTATION TOOLKIT**

Data, flier templates, best practices, etc. bit.ly/hoohanohanotoolkit

#### **PROCUREMENT CHEAT SHEET**

https://bit.ly/doecheatsheet



# NEEDHELP?

If you have questions about funding at your school, reach out to:

- 1. School administrator
- 2. School community council (SCC)
- 3. HSTA UniServ Director

Something getting in the way of your period products implementation? Contact Ma'i Movement Hawai'i.



