

CNHP Combatting Period Poverty

Gabby Sisselberger and Sydney Wessner



College of
Nursing and
Health Professions

Background

P.E.E.P. was founded by Dyana Marshall and Mysha Harrell of the Westphal College. It was then adopted and brought into the College of Nursing and Health Professions by Drexel University Student Nurses' Association Co Presidents Gabby Sisselberger and Sydney Wessner.

The Period Equity and Equality Project or P.E.E.P, alongside of the College of Nursing and Health Professions, supports the idea that students should not have to choose between their education and their ability to access essential menstrual products. By providing free menstrual supplies, P.E.E.P. aims to eliminate the financial barriers that can impede students' wellbeing, allowing them the freedom to prioritize their academic success without the added stress of period poverty.

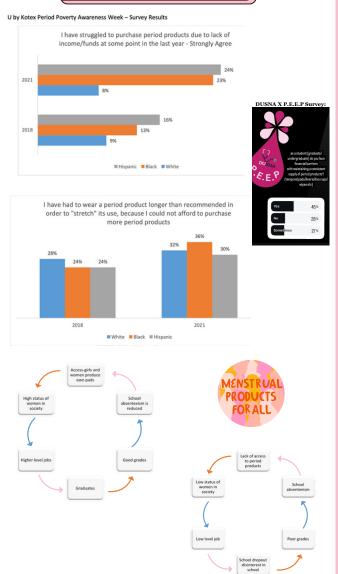
Aim

This experiment works to create a supportive and equitable environment for all students, minimizing unwarranted psychosocial and financial barriers in the Drexel community.

Methods

- We distributed an initial batch of menstrual products across CNHP facilities and maintained weekly data tracking through an excel spreadsheet
- Product stocking par levels were adjusted on a week-to-week basis to ensure consistent availability and optimal supply
- Signage was provided to indicate product placement, supply, and menstrual cycle education in all restrooms regardless of gender
- Students had access to request a gallon-sized bag of period products for greater personal need via an anonymous google form and drop off system
- This approach allowed us to respond to demand in a timely and efficient manner

Results



Key Findings

- Over 60% of products were consistently removed for use from the women's, men's and single use restrooms
- In an Instagram poll conducted by DrexelSNA 45% of students reported facing financial barriers with maintaining a consistent supply of period products
- Students reported a decreased stress level due to reduced instances facing period product inequities

Conclusions

- Students show consistent need for menstrual products to be provided
- Students will wear products longer than recommended, threatening their health both socially and physically, when products are not easily accessible. (Michel et al., 2022) (U by Kotex Period Poverty Awareness Week – survey results)

References

Michel, J., Mettler, A., Schönenberger, S., & Gunz, D. (2022, February 22). Period poverty: Why it should be everybody's business: Published in Journal of Global Health Reports. Journal of Global Health Reports. https://www.joghr.org/article/32436-period-poverty-why-it-should-be-everybody-s-business

U by Kotex Period Poverty Awareness Week – survey results. (n.d.-a). https://allianceforperiodsupplies.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/U by Kotex Period Poverty - PPAW Data Set.pdf

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