

News Release



For Immediate Release
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Junior League of New Orleans Partnership with New Orleans Public Library *Launch of Free Period Supply Program for the Greater New Orleans Community*

NEW ORLEANS, LA - The Junior League of New Orleans (JLNO) and the New Orleans Public Library are celebrating **National Period Action Day** on October 9, 2022 with the launch of a program to distribute free period supplies at the Rosa F. Keller Library & Community Center, located in the Broadmoor neighborhood.

Free period supplies, such as pads and tampons, will be made available in the library's first floor women's bathroom. Additionally, Library guests can complete a three-question form with their first name, age, and zip code at the front desk to receive a kit with one month's worth of period supplies.

A 2021 study conducted by U by Kotex®, found that two in five people have struggled to purchase period products, a 35% increase from the brand's initial research in 2018. Menstrual hygiene is fundamental to a person's dignity and wellbeing, and it is an important part of basic hygiene, sanitation, and reproductive health services. Many individuals do not have access to materials for managing their periods in a safe and hygienic manner. Increased public awareness of this "period poverty" has been the galvanizing force behind this collaborative call to action.

"One in four people struggle to purchase period supplies due to lack of income," said Holly Paczak, President of JLNO. "No one should miss school, work, or daily life because they are unable to access period supplies."

"Period poverty is a public health issue," said Emily Painton, Executive Director of the New Orleans Public Library. "This partnership with the Junior League reinforces our commitment to provide access for people who need these supplies."

The Junior League of New Orleans works in partnership with the Alliance for Period Supplies to distribute to those who are experiencing period poverty and advocate to end period poverty. Further information about this initiative can be found at jlno.org/community/periodsupplies/.

ABOUT THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF NEW ORLEANS

The Junior League of New Orleans is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. More information on the organization can be found at jlno.org. Email: news@jlno.org. Phone: 504.891.5845

ABOUT THE NEW ORLEANS PUBLIC LIBRARY

With origins dating back to 1843, the New Orleans Public Library has grown from a single French Quarter house with a few volumes into a city-wide system serving all of Orleans Parish with 15 locations throughout the city. The library's mission is to transform lives, enrich neighborhoods, and preserve history.