

SPR

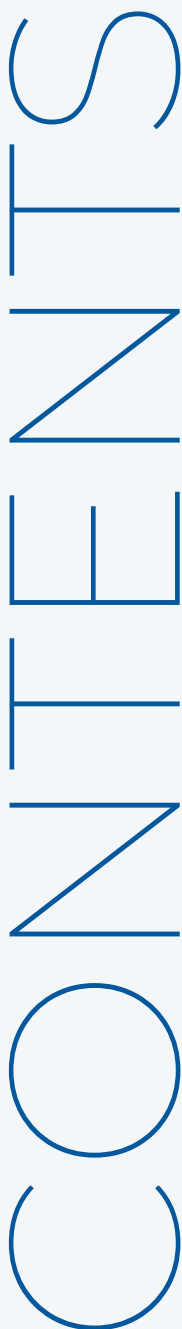
2  
0  
2  
3



# NEXT GENERATION LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE REPORT

Prepared By:  
Giovanteey Bishop,  
Director of Programs & Training

# Table of Contents



01.

Title Page

02.

Table of Contents

03.

Impactful Campus  
Initiatives

04.

Safe Sex Kit Initiative

05.

Menstrual Equity Projects

06.

Spring 2023 Program  
Highlights

07.

Spring 2023 Program  
Highlights

08.

Notable Programmatic  
Wins

09.

Conclusion



## IMPACTFUL CAMPUS INITIATIVES

The Next Generation Leadership Institute fellows have come up with innovative ideas and solutions to tackle some of the most pressing Reproductive Justice issues facing their campus communities. During the semester, fellows have undertaken impactful projects that uplifted sexual and reproductive health.

The two issue areas at the forefront of the Next Generation Leadership Institute's work this spring semester have been eradicating period poverty and expanding access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care through peer-to-peer safe sex kit distribution projects.

Fellows harnessed their power throughout the semester by inspiring positive change and advancing Reproductive Justice at their HBCUs. These student leaders have demonstrated exemplary leadership skills by providing comprehensive educational resources, access to services, and advocating for progressive policies that advance Reproductive Justice. The Next Generation Leadership Institute fellows are making a significant impact on campus and within their broader communities.

# SAFE SEX KITS

Fellows are leading from the frontlines to expand access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care at HBCUs. After the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*, the Institute was determined to lead the charge on providing students with the tools they need to make healthy and informed decisions regarding their sexual and reproductive health. With over one-third of the HBCUs across the nation being located in states with strict abortion restrictions and bans, it was critical to ensure that students had easy access to the resources they would need to practice safe sex. In *Our Own Voice: National Black Women's Reproductive Justice Agenda* led the activation of fellows by training these student leaders to effectively distribute safe sex kits that contain emergency contraception, dental dam, condoms, lube, and safe sex fact sheets to their peers this spring semester.

Throughout the semester, fellows were able to pass out 177 safe sex kits that contained over 600 contraceptives. By providing students with the safe sex kits, the Next Generation Leadership Institute is empowering young people with the information and resources they need to make informed decisions about their sexual health. These efforts can help to reduce the stigma and shame surrounding sexual health and promote a culture of openness and support around these critical issues.

## **Next Generation Leadership Institute Safe Sex Kit Distribution Breakdown by Campus:**

- **Dillard University-25 safe sex kits**
- **Howard University-25 safe sex kits**
- **NCA&T University-25 safe sex kits**
- **Xavier University-102 safe sex kits**



# MENSTRUAL EQUITY

Positive periods should be a reality for all menstruators, but many people across the United States battle to access the period products they need. Combating period poverty is at the forefront of the Next Generation Leadership Institute's work. Fellows are rising to the occasion to reduce period stigmas while addressing the need for menstruation products on their campuses. This semester fellows were able to request funds for their menstrual equity projects through the Next Generation Leadership Institute Period Poverty Grant. This grant provides funding to fellows to eradicate period poverty at HBCUs across the nation.

The Next Generation Leadership Institute is specifically targeting HBCUs as these institutions serve a significant population of students who face unique challenges when it comes to accessing period products. Reducing period stigmas is also an important aspect of this work. The shame and embarrassment surrounding menstruation can prevent people from seeking the products they need or speaking out about their experiences. By addressing these stigmas, we can create a more supportive and understanding environment for everyone who menstruates.

Overall, the Next Generation Leadership Institute's work to combat period poverty and promote menstrual equity is a positive step towards ensuring that everyone has the resources they need to manage their periods with dignity and ease.

## **Next Generation Leadership Institute Menstrual Product Breakdown by Campus:**

- **Howard University-1,750**
- **NCA&T University-1,500**
- **Xavier University-1,350**

# SPRING 2023 PROGRAMS

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) play an essential role in advancing social justice, including Reproductive Justice. Here are a few of our Next Generation Leadership Institute campus events and activities that were held this semester that promoted Reproductive Justice:



## Let it Flow

Youma Diabira fellow at Xavier University, hosted a two-part event where she educated her peers on eradicating period poverty and the pink tax. Xavier students gathered to package period kits for local women's shelter while earning volunteer hours. Youma distributed the 150 kits that contained period products to women in need at New Orleans Women's and Children's shelter.

## Period Pact

Howard University fellows hosted "Period Pact," where they educated their peers on uplifting menstrual equity on campus and packaged period kits for local middle-school girls. Fellows distributed the kits to girls at Higher Achievement Middle School and conducted a training to help students dismantle myths surrounding menstrual care.



## Community Baby Shower

NCA&T fellow Khelsei Dorsett-Wilson launched a community-wide initiative to raise awareness on Black women's maternal health concerns. Khelsei hosted a Community Baby Shower to support mothers in Greensboro North Carolina. Her goal was to address the barriers that complicate postpartum recovery for Black women. Khelsei collaborated with the YWCA of Greensboro's Healthy Moms Healthy Babies Program to provide 15 mothers in need with postpartum care packages.

# SPRING 2023 PROGRAMS

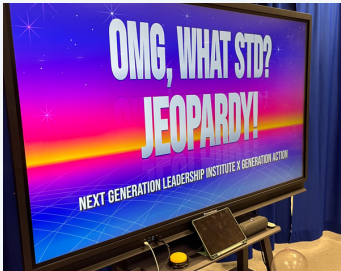


## Contraception 101

Dillard University fellow Akilah Northern hosted "Contraception 101" to educate her peers on the different methods of contraception available and how to use them effectively. She will also distributed 25 Safe Sex kits to students who attend the event.

## Safe Sex Luau

Howard University fellows hosted an event entitled "Safe Sex Luau" to educate their fellow Bisons on safe and healthy sex practices. Fellows showcased their creativity through engaging their peers in fun and interactive games that dispelled myths about sex, consent, and reproductive health.



## OMG, What STD?

Hampton University fellows hosted "OMG, What STD?" to promote reproductive health education and advocate for safe sex practices. By providing accurate information and addressing common misconceptions about STDs/STIs, the program empowered students to make informed decisions about their sexual health and reduce the spread of sexually transmitted infections on campus.

## Exploring Eve's Garden

Spelman College fellow's hosted "*Exploring Eve's Garden*" a panel discussion that explored the intersections of Christianity and Reproductive Justice. Panelist discussed the ways in which Christianity and Reproductive Justice intersect is through the concept of human dignity.

The rich and impactful conversation highlighted how a faith-based perspective on Reproductive Justice, aims to ensure that all individuals, regardless of their gender identity, sexual orientation, race, or socioeconomic status, are able to make autonomous decisions about their reproductive health and live with dignity and respect.



These programs demonstrate the commitment of the Next Generation Leadership Institute fellows to promoting Reproductive Justice and addressing their campus's unique needs by providing comprehensive education, access to services, and advocating for policies advancing reproductive rights.

# NOTABLE PROGRAMMATIC WINS

One way that the Next Generation Leadership Institute measures progress is by shifting campus culture around Reproductive Justice through incremental change. Each of our campus teams is working diligently to amplify the core tenants of the Reproductive Justice framework at their HBCUs. A notable programmatic win has been the efforts of our Xavier University fellow.

This past fall semester Youma Diarbira led the charge on initiating the first student-led condom distribution at Xavier University. It takes courage, initiative, and tactful leadership skills to bring about change in a conservative environment. Youma Diarbira's efforts to promote safe sex practices and empower her peers with the necessary resources to protect their health is a valuable contribution to the student community at Xavier.

Youma Diarbira continued her efforts to promote sexual health and safety by launching an emergency contraception distribution project. By distributing emergency contraception, Youma is helping empower her peers to take control of their reproductive health. This initiative is vital in a university setting, where young adults may be exploring their sexuality and may not have access to regular healthcare services.

By undertaking the emergency contraception distribution project, Youma Diarbira has set an excellent example for other students and made history at Xavier University.





Special thanks to the 2022-2024 class of Next Generation Leadership Institute fellows for your dedication, passion, and hard work to uplift the core tenants of the Reproductive Justice framework.

I am impressed by your commitment to social justice and your willingness to tackle challenging issues related to reproductive health, rights, and justice. Your work this semester has inspired me, and I do not doubt that you will continue to advance Reproductive Justice.

Once again, thank you for your hard work, dedication, and commitment to promoting Reproductive Justice on our campus and within your broader communities. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed.

-Giovanteey Bishop, Director of Programs & Training

Dillard University

- Akilah Northern

Hampton University

- Madison Grant
- Shavonne Hines-Foster

Howard University

- Kyra Patterson
- Gabrielle Studevan
- Ryane Jones
- Alana Latin

North Carolina A&T

- Khelsei Doresett-Wilson

Spelman College

- Anayla McClendon
- Aniyah Wilkerson

Xavier University

- Youma Diabira