

## **FACT SHEET**

## **About Dignity Grows**

- <u>Dignity Grows</u> is a national nonprofit movement, founded in 2019 in Hartford, Connecticut, to address the hidden health crisis of Period Poverty in America through direct support, research, and social policy change.
- Dignity Grows ensures direct hygiene support for 56,000 women and girls each year through its signature "Hope in a Bag" and "Hope in a Backpack" programs.
- Dignity Grows hosts the biennial National Summit on Period Poverty, uniting cross-sector changemakers to build actionable solutions to Period Poverty. The 2025 Period Poverty Summit was held in Atlanta, GA, from October 27-28.
- In 2024, Dignity Grows launched the Period Poverty Institute of America to combat the period
  poverty crisis through data-driven systemic change, advocacy, and providing essential support to
  those in need.
- The '2025 Period Poverty in America: Evidence and Insights' Report is available at <u>DignityGrows.org/PeriodPovertyInAmerica</u>. Highlights from the report are included below.

## Period Poverty in America 2025 Report Highlights

- The U.S. economy loses at least \$60 million per year from hourly wage earners experiencing Period Poverty.
- 42% of women reported having experienced Period Poverty at some point in their lives, compared to 35% in 2023.
- 42% of women currently experiencing Period Poverty report that it impacted their ability to attend or perform at work.
- For women currently experiencing Period Poverty, school attendance was affected for 33% of respondents, 15% reported that grades were affected, and 36% reported that class participation was affected.
- Among women currently experiencing Period Poverty, work performance was affected for 56% of respondents, 18% reported that advancement at work was affected, and 45% reported that confidence at work was affected.
- 49% of women currently experiencing Period Poverty reported they experienced related health problems or medical complications, with 65% noting that the extent of those problems was moderately or extremely significant.
- Among women currently experiencing Period Poverty, when asked how their lives would be different with unlimited access to period products, 24% said they would explore different professional opportunities, 17% said they would explore different educational opportunities, 37% reported they would worry less about finances.