

Arcadia University Knights Necessities Vending Machine

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Background/Need

Arcadia University Student Health Services conducted a campus-wide survey (n=305). Results identified key barriers to sexual and reproductive health products, including lack of awareness (24.3%), limited clinic hours (22.6%), embarrassment accessing products in clinical spaces (14.4%), and cost (8.9%).

Purpose

- Improve access to essential health products
- Provide confidential, low-cost options
- Promote student well-being and health equity

Theoretical Framework

- Health equity framework
- Harm reduction model
- Focus on reducing structural barriers

Implementation

- Launched November 2024
- Campus-wide rollout (event, flyers, social media)
- Student worker supports restocking
- Ongoing marketing (Instagram, “Toilet Talk” Newsletters)



A campus vending machine model increased confidential access to essential health products and reduced barriers related to stigma, cost, and clinic hours.

Program Design

The Knights Necessities vending machine was developed using a data-informed approach based on student survey findings. The program includes:

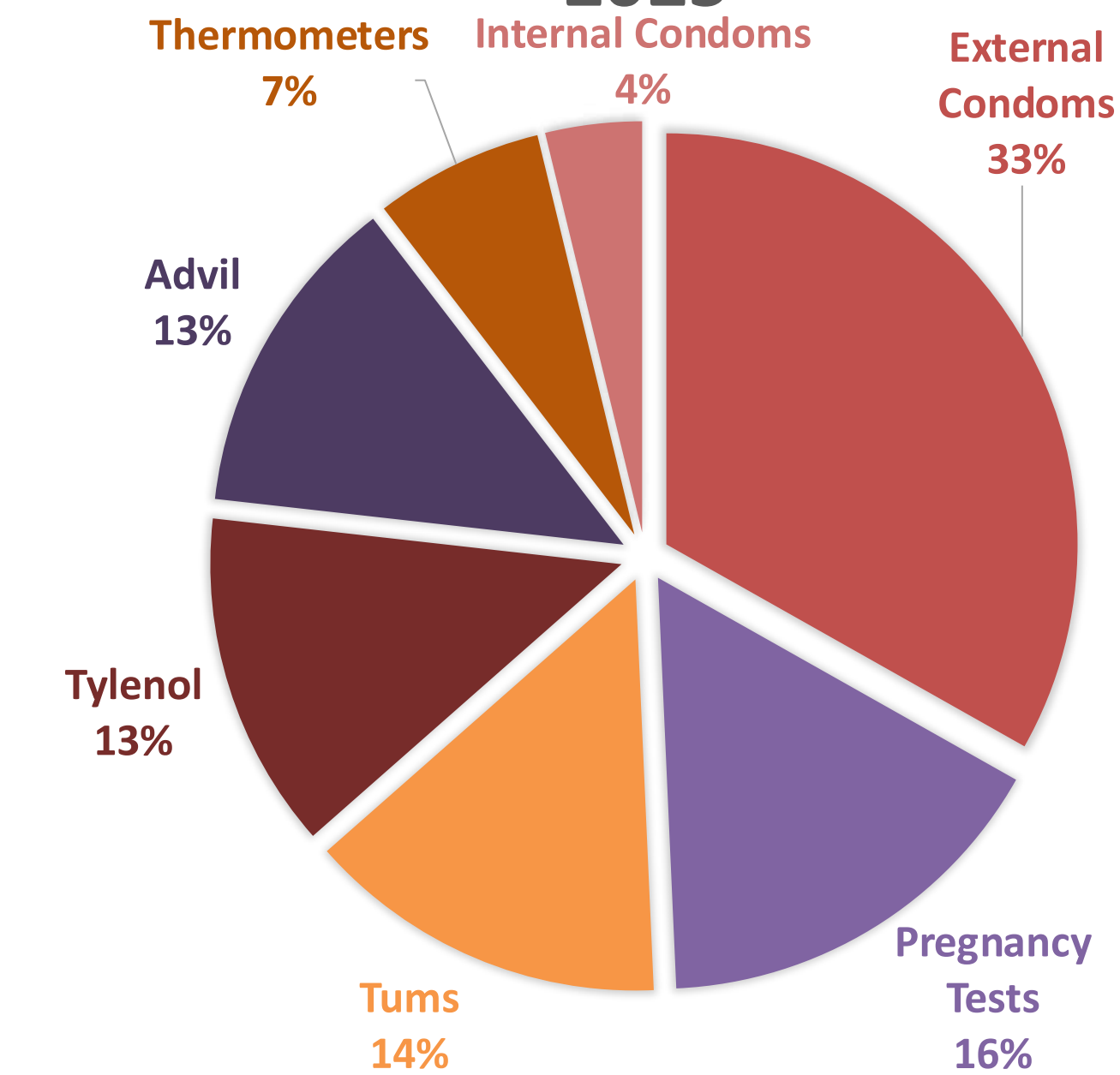
- Central campus location (Kuch Center)
- Essential health products (e.g., condoms, OTC medications, menstrual products) at free or low cost
- Community partnerships for supplies
- Integration of QR codes for product education
- Accessible daily from 6:00 a.m. to midnight, ensuring availability beyond clinic hours.

Equity and Access Impact

- Provides confidential, stigma-free access
- Reduced financial barriers with free or reduced cost
- Extended hours of access beyond clinic hours
- Supports underserved students

Evaluation Results

ITEMS DISPENSED IN 2024-2025



Qualitative data reveal positive reflections regarding convenience and confidentiality

Program Implications

- Scalable, sustainable model for campus health
- Expands access to essential health resources
- Supports student autonomy and preventive care

Future Steps

- Expand outreach to underrepresented student populations
- Strengthen partnerships with campus and community organizations
- Improve inventory tracking and forecasting
- Integrate health education programming alongside product access
- Continue evaluation to assess long-term health outcomes