Ma'i Movement Hawai'i officially launched on October 11, 2020 by sisters Brandy-Lee Yee, Nikki-Ann Yee and Jamie-Lee Kapana. As women who were born and raised in Hawai'i, and of native Hawaiian descent, we created this local grassroots organization dedicated to ending period poverty in Hawai'i one pad at a time.

We believe it is our kuleana, or responsibility, that all individuals of menstruation age have the right to access period products, safe and hygienic places to use them, and the right to manage their bodies without shame or stigma.

Ma'i (pronounced ma-ee) means sick, ill or menstruating in Hawaiian. Amongst locals, ma'i is used more as a slang synonymous with period, like rags, Aunty Flo, time of the month, shark week or the blob.

MAHALO NUI LOA
Brandy & Nikki & Jamie

1 According to Aloha United Way’s ALICE in Hawai’i: A Financial Hardship study, 2020
2 Based on our preliminary findings. 31% of recipients identify as Native Hawaiian descent and 11% identify as other Pacific Islander