

Title X, the Nation's Family Planning Program is Critical for Patients in California

The positive impact of birth control on the U.S. economy is one reason why the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention named family planning, including access to modern contraception, one of the 10 great public health achievements of the 20th century. Since 1970, the Title X Family Planning Program has been a key component of our nation's health care system and an essential program to provide vital health care to people who might not otherwise receive care. This national program serves 4 million people each year, and Title X programs in California serve nearly 25% of the Title X patients nationwide.

In California, over one million patients receive care through the Title X program, nearly 70% of whom receive care in a Planned Parenthood health center. Unfortunately, the Title X program is being threatened due to ideological efforts to upend the intent of the program, which will result in less access to family planning services across the country. As the primary beneficiary of Title X, this is an attack on Planned Parenthood and the 2,000 providers and 700,000 patients.

Title X provides lifesaving, preventive care to millions of people especially women of color.

- In 2015 alone, Title X health centers provided more than 760,000 Pap tests, breast exams to one million women, and almost five million tests for sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including 1.1 million HIV tests.
- The Title X program also provides millions of people with access to birth control, helping to prevent 822,000 unintended pregnancies each year. Access to birth control and family planning is one of the biggest drivers of women's economic gains - leading to more education and higher wages.
- The Title X program offers preventive health care services to those most in need. Nearly ninety percent of Title X recipients have incomes below 200 percent of the federal poverty level, and 48 percent are uninsured.
- A majority of people who access health care services through Title X are women of color due to health care and economic barriers caused by centuries of racism., providing critical health care services to populations that face significant reproductive health disparities. Twenty-one percent of Title X patients identify as Black and 32 percent identify as Hispanic or Latino.
- For every public dollar invested in family planning, \$7.09 is saved in Medicaid-related costs. That's savings to both federal and state governments and taxpayers.

Planned Parenthood plays a critical role in the Title X family planning program, alongside other family planning providers that includes community health centers and federally qualified health centers.

- Planned Parenthood health centers provide preventive care to approximately 1.6 million people served by the Title X family planning program — 41% of the people served by the program.
- Blocking Planned Parenthood health centers from participating in the program would result in decreased access to preventive health care services for women, especially people of color.

Access to contraception in particular, would drop dramatically since Planned Parenthood serves far more patients than any other ‘safety-net’ provider for contraception.

- Other Title X providers have said they simply cannot provide more access if Planned Parenthood were to be blocked from participating in the program.

Efforts to block Planned Parenthood from the Title X program are dangerous and unpopular.

- Despite data showing that the removal of Planned Parenthood from the Title X family planning program would cause significant and disastrous outcomes, anti-women’s health members of Congress and the Trump-Pence Administration are trying to specifically cut out Planned Parenthood from the program.
- The recent Funding Opportunity Announcement from HHS prioritizes less effective methods of contraception and abstinence-only until marriage. This effort to reverse the positive trends of family planning services is dangerous and a major departure from the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Office of Population Affairs’ Quality Family Planning Guidelines (QFP), nationally recognized clinical standards for family planning services.
- The attempt to cut Planned Parenthood and other abortion providers from serving as Title X health centers is for political gain since the program cannot be used for abortion services already. Cuts to the program are deeply unpopular with 77 percent of American voters supporting the efforts of the Title X family planning program.

Title X has a proven track record for success in delivering comprehensive family planning services. It provides millions of people with lifesaving care that in turn allows women, men, and young people to have better health, educational, and economic opportunities. This program must continue to be funded and not shifted to prioritizing abstinence-only until marriage or less effective forms of contraception.

Adequately funding and implementing Title X is necessary for the millions of people who rely on it. Without it, providers will be unable to meet the demand for family planning services resulting in negative health outcomes and less access for communities who are already facing barriers to health care. Planned Parenthood is committed to ethical patient care, making it impossible for Planned Parenthood to continue participating in the Title X program.