

# EQUITY FORWARD

July 26, 2019

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## What We're Following

### A Troubling Trend... Public \$\$\$ Wasted on Anti-Abortion Centers:

For the first time since the federal government began funding family planning programs for low-income women [in the 1970s](#), the government is contracting with ideological driven organizations that won't provide proven forms of family planning — like birth control.

At the state level, ideologues are wasting taxpayer dollars on programs that are not only ineffective — they're doing harm to those they should be serving.

#### *In Michigan...*

The state continues to fund Real Alternatives, an anti-abortion organization that manages anti-abortion pregnancy centers in several states. A recent audit in Pennsylvania found that the group misused taxpayer funds.

In a [Detroit News](#) column on the funding fight, “a spokesman for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, says the Legislature-created program has been of ‘questionable benefit to families, and it's been difficult for us to get data on the program to gauge its effectiveness.’”

#### *In Texas...*

The Texas Tribune recently reported that a state program [based on the Real Alternatives model](#) is poised to receive millions in public funding.

#### *In Ohio...*

The state has also recently [added](#) \$5 million toward anti-abortion centers.

#### *In North Carolina...*

A state anti-abortion contractor [misspent \\$50,000](#) on religious content in violation of federal law. Despite a budget shortfall, lawmakers may spend as much as \$2.64 million to support these ineffective anti-abortion centers.

For more on the groups behind this troubling trend, check out our extensive library of research at [Pro-Lies.org](http://Pro-Lies.org).

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## More From Equity Forward

### [As Admin Slashes Food Assistance, Watchdog Highlights HHS Officials with Fringe Views](#)

Ideologues across Trump administration continue to bypass Congress to implement its harmful agenda. “The Trump administration is circumventing Congress so it can move forward with this dangerous policy,” said Michelle Kuppersmith, Director of Equity Forward, referring to a policy that would eliminate food stamps for three million people.

### [HHS Manufactures Title X Chaos](#)

Ideologically-driven, unnecessary policy changes at HHS are leading to confusion and hindering programs. “The complete lack of transparency about when and how HHS plans to enforce its harmful Title X gag rule is meant to hinder clinics’ ability to operate and encourage health care providers to drop out of the grant program,” Michelle Kuppersmith, director of Equity Forward, said.

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## What We’re Reading

[Rewire](#) // HHS Awards Nearly \$1.5 Million In Teen Pregnancy Prevention Funding To Anti-Choice Organizations

[The Hill](#) // Faith-Based Health Clinics Spurn Contraceptives Under Trump Rule

[The Progressive Pulse](#) // State Budget Includes Money For Crisis Pregnancy Centers Despite Previous Misuse Of Funding

[Stat](#) // Pharma Contributions To Politicians Who Support Restricting Abortions Could Reverberate

[Politico Pro](#) // Family Planning Clinics Mired In Confusion As HHS Floats 'Gag Rule' Delay

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