

Florida Anti-Abortion Center Funding

EQUITY
FORWARD

When someone is making a decision about continuing or ending a pregnancy, they should be able to get accurate information about all their options so they can decide what is best for themselves.

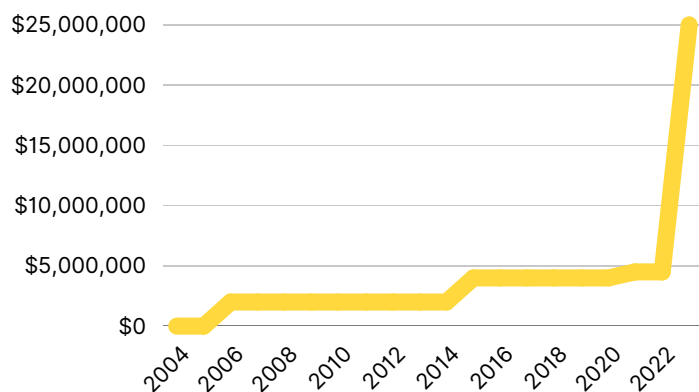
Anti-abortion centers (AACs) do not support pregnant people and families. Instead, they serve as a barrier to parental support and legitimate health care, including abortion access.

Florida is one of at least 18 states that fund AACs with taxpayer dollars; more than \$89 million dollars were allocated toward AACs in 2022 alone. In at least seven of these states, millions of federal Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funds, which are meant to support families working to make ends meet, instead get diverted to AACs.

State Funding Began: 2004

Current Funding: \$25,000,000

Funding Over Time:



[FL.senate.gov, Floridians for Reproductive Freedom, accessed 6/6/23, LegiScan, accessed 6/6/23, 2022 Florida Statutes, accessed 6/6/23]

Supporting Deceptive Practices:

Anti-abortion centers exist in order to delay or deter pregnant people from getting abortion care.

When searching “I need an abortion Florida,” Hope Women’s Centers, an AAC that received \$100,000 in tax-dollars, appeared among the Google results.



[Google Search for “I need an abortion Florida,” performed 6/6/23]

Funding Propaganda:

Anti-abortion centers spend tax dollars on marketing and propaganda.

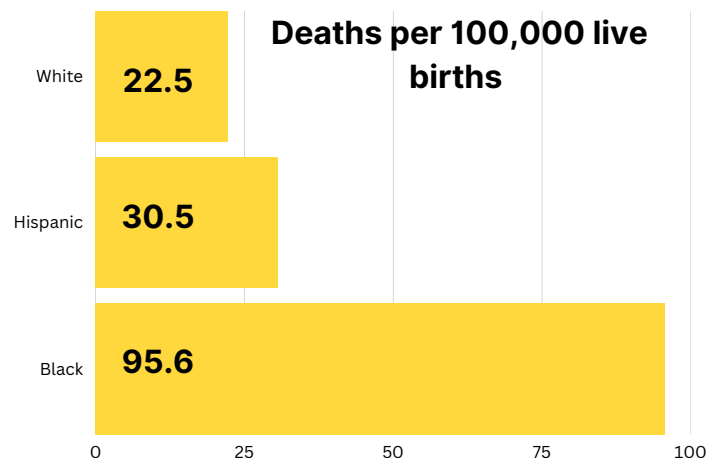
The anti-abortion movement has invested millions in SEO (search engine optimization) to serve people ads that look like legitimate abortion providers but are instead AACs. Florida Pregnancy Care Network spent a quarter of a million in tax dollars on SEO, paid advertising, and marketing strategy in its 2022-23 budget to target people with deceptive ads.

[Florida Accountability Contract Tracking System, accessed 6/6/23]

Failing To Meet Maternity Care Needs:

Anti-abortion centers funnel money away from programs that families need.

AACs don't contribute to ameliorating health inequities. States are investing in anti-abortion propaganda when money could be going to programs that address the multiple crises in our communities. The health care system is failing to support Black and Hispanic Floridians who face a maternal mortality rate up to 4x that of white residents.



[Florida Department of Health Division of Public Statistics and Performance Management, accessed 6/6/23; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, accessed 6/6/23]

Take Action - End Tax Dollars From Flowing To Anti-Abortion Centers

Funding AACs siphons money away from low-income individuals and those in need of quality health care, and instead places it in the hands of organizations that spread biased, false, and harmful information — and have been left unchecked far too long.

Reallocation:

Tax dollars should go to programs that provide the support parents and pregnant people need.

Instead of funneling money to programs that spend more on propaganda than services, states can fund people getting health care, accurate information, and access to all of their options, including abortion, adoption, and meaningful support for parents to raise children once they are born.

Regulation:

States must engage in greater scrutiny, investigation, and regulation of AACs, especially those that rely on taxpayer dollars. AACs should not be allowed to engage in unscrupulous tactics and should be required to be transparent about their use of funds and operations.

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2023 approved funding: \$25,000,000

The Florida legislature increased AAC funding by more than 5X in 2023.

The bill, SB 300, was signed by Governor Ron DeSantis and allocated \$25 million in recurring funds from the state's general revenue fund for Florida's A2A program. This was a substantial increase from the \$4.5 million that was approved in previous years.

The bill did not include additional oversight of funds and the legislature rejected an amendment to require privacy protections for people visiting these centers.

[Florida Chapter No. 2023-21]