

Iowa 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.

Iowa 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: 2022

Current Funding: \$500,000

Funneling Dollars Away From Care:

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

In Iowa, 1 in 7 households struggle to make ends meet. Yet the legislature funnels half a million dollars to AACs that only provide a sliver of support that families need.

Reallocating those funds to programs that directly support low-income families could be more impactful.

[Common Good Iowa]
[Radio Iowa]

Failing To Meet Maternity Care Needs:

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.

- 35.4% of Iowa counties are maternity care deserts meaning "counties in which access to maternity health care services is limited or absent."
 - Another 29.3% of counties have low or moderate, not full, access.
- Between 2009 and 2019, the state's infant mortality rate increased nearly 9%.
- Black mothers in Iowa are six times more likely to die than white mothers.

[March of Dimes]
[Iowa Public Radio, 01/31/23]

Supporting Deceptive Practices:

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

In Iowa, anti-abortion centers outnumber abortion clinics 43 to 6 but AACs are not a replacement for health care, nor are they able to support pregnant people or parents.

43:6

AACs are often not required to be transparent about who they are and what services they do and don't provide, leading to confusion and delays for people who are seeking abortion care or other health services.

AACs often use deceptive names such as:

Informed Choices Medical Clinics

1013 S Central Ave
Burlington, IA 52601

Women's Choice Center of the Quad Cities

2740 Happy Joe Dr, Ste 2 Bettendorf, IA 5272

Her Health Women's Center

5732 Sunnybrook Dr
Sioux City, IA 51106

[abortionfinder.org]
[crisispregnancycentermap.com]

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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