

# Oklahoma 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.**

**Oklahoma** 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:** 2006

**Current Funding:** \$3,000,000

## Funneling Dollars Away From Care:

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

States are investing in anti-abortion propaganda when money could be going to programs that address the multiple crises in our communities.

Anti-abortion centers are often poor stewards of money. An examination of the Oklahoma program shows a failure to provide the services it claimed it would.

Instead of funding programs that spend more on propaganda than support, reallocating funds to programs that directly support low-income families could be more impactful.



## Lack of Oversight:

**Anti-abortion centers face next to no oversight when it comes to medical privacy.**

Many AACs collect people's information including STIs, past pregnancies, and number of partners. As most AACs are not health care providers and therefore, not bound by medical privacy laws, there is real concern about how this information may be used against people.

## 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.

In Oklahoma:

- 53.2% of counties are maternity care deserts.
- 26% of counties have low or moderate, not full, access.
- Black women are two and a half times more likely to die than white women during pregnancy or shortly after giving birth.
- Black babies die at more than double the rate of white babies.

## 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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