**Draft letter to the editor
Suggested headline: Urgent Funding is Needed to Save Family Planning Programs**

The continuing pattern of underfunding the nation’s family planning program, known as Title X (ten), is having a devastating impact on providers’ ability to meet the health care needs of people with low incomes across our city/state. This safety-net health care program has been flat-funded by Congress for eight years in a row, and providers are desperate for emergency funding to keep our clinic doors open.

For more than X years, essential funding made possible by the program has allowed frontline health care workers to deliver high-quality, confidential reproductive health care, including breast and cervical cancer screening, STI testing and treatment, and contraception to people who might otherwise lack access to care. In light of perpetual funding shortages, we’ve already been forced to do X and will soon have to reduce our clinic hours, lay off staff, and even close clinics. We are deeply concerned that this will result in fewer people receiving the preventive care they need, fueling an uptick in STIs, cancer rates, and more.

Providers nationwide are echoing the same call for urgent funding as we grapple with the work needed rebuild the provider network following the Trump administration’s program restrictions and unprecedented threats from COVID. We cannot keep pace with the costs of doing business in X unless Congress takes real, swift action to make it right for Title X. Additional funding for Title X is critical to our organization's sustainability and the long-term health outcomes of the patients we serve.