

Title X in Alaska Improving Public Health and Saving Taxpayer Dollars

**Between FY2010 - FY2013, funding for Title X was cut by \$39.2 million—
12.3% in three fiscal years.**

Title X Served 8,081 Alaska Residents in 2013

The State of Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, the Municipality of Anchorage DHHS Reproductive Health Clinic, and Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest are the Title X grantees in Alaska, supporting 6 Title X-funded health centers across the state.ⁱ The Title X network served 6,416 women and 1,665 men, for a total of 8,081 residents of Alaska in 2013.ⁱⁱ

Title X provides high-quality family planning services and other preventive health care to low-income and uninsured individuals who may otherwise lack access to health care.

- Of the 8,081 patients served, 62% had incomes at or below 100% of the federal poverty level (FPL), **meaning they earned \$14,350 a year or less.**ⁱⁱⁱ
- **Eighty-seven percent** of Title X patients in Alaska **earned less than \$35,875** a year (250% of the FPL).^{iv}

Title X Saves Alaska Residents' Taxpayer Dollars

Title X supports critical infrastructure needs that are not reimbursable under Medicaid or commercial insurance, such as staff salaries, individual patient education, community-level outreach, and public education about family planning, women's health, and sexual health issues. Without Title X, access to high-quality family planning services for low-income Alaska residents would not be possible.

- The average cost of a publicly-funded birth is \$12,613.^v In 2008, births resulting from unintended pregnancies cost Alaska's taxpayers \$ 71 million.^{vi}
- The Title X program helps alleviate these costs by preventing unintended pregnancy through contraception, counseling, and other services.^{vii}

Title X is Essential to Improving Public Health and Saving Taxpayer Dollars in Alaska

Cutting funding for family planning services will lead to more unintended pregnancies and higher health care costs in Alaska. Family planning helps women and families plan the timing and spacing of their pregnancies, which results in better educational attainment and economic security; these, in turn, are linked to better health outcomes for women and families.

- Family planning services at Alaska's Title X-funded health centers helped prevent 1,600 unintended pregnancies in 2012, which would likely have resulted in 800 unintended births and 500 abortions.^{viii}
- Without publicly funded family planning, the number of unintended pregnancies in Alaska would be 20% higher.^{ix}
- Title X-funded services produce significant cost savings to the federal and state governments; services provided at Title X-supported sites in Alaska accounted for \$14.4 million in such savings in 2010 alone.^x

Alaska's Title X-funded health centers provide a wide range of services:

- Pregnancy testing
- Contraceptive services
- Pelvic exams
- Screening for cervical and breast cancer
- Screening for high blood pressure, anemia, and diabetes
- Screening for STDs and HIV/AIDS
- Infertility services
- Health education
- Referrals for other health and social services

Additional cuts to Title X funding—especially in the current economy—would harm tens of thousands of low-income and poor families throughout Alaska, in turn costing, not saving, the federal government money.

ⁱ US Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Population Affairs, "Title X Family Planning Database," accessed February 28, 2014, <https://opa-fpclinicsdb.icfwebsites.com>.

ⁱⁱ Fowler, C. I., Gable, J., & Wang, J. (2014, November). Family Planning Annual Report: 2013 national summary. Research Triangle Park, NC: RTI International. Accessed January 16, 2015. <http://www.hhs.gov/opa/pdfs/fpar-2013-national-summary.pdf>

ⁱⁱⁱ *Ibid.*

^{iv} *Ibid.*

^v Guttmacher Institute, *Public Costs for Unplanned Pregnancy and the Role of Public Insurance plans in Paying for Pregnancy and Infant Care* (2008), accessed September 25, 2014.

^{vi} Guttmacher Institute, *State Facts About Title X and Family Planning: Alaska* (2012), accessed September 18, 2014, <http://www.guttmacher.org/statecenter/title-X/AK.html>.

^{vii} Guttmacher Institute, *Contraceptive Needs and Services, 2010*, accessed September 18, 2014, <http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/win/contraceptive-needs-2010.pdf>.

^{viii} Guttmacher Institute, *State Facts About Title X and Family Planning: Alaska*.

^{ix} *Ibid.*

^x *Ibid.*