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Title X in Nebraska

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services is the Title X grantee in Nebraska. In 2017, the US Department of Health and Human Services’ Office of Population Affairs (OPA) granted $2,107,000 to support 40 service sites across the state. Despite the significant public health benefits for communities, this provider network is threatened by funding cuts to the Title X program.

Title X helps ensure high-quality preventive health care services to poor, low-income, and uninsured individuals who may otherwise lack access to care. Everyone deserves affordable, quality family planning and sexual health care from the provider of their choice, regardless of their economic or insurance status.

- Of the 27,954 people served in Nebraska in 2016, 80% had incomes below 250% of the federal poverty line (FPL). Furthermore, 55% of patients had incomes at or below the line ($11,880 for an individual that year).¹

- Nationwide, Congress appropriated just $286.5 million in fiscal year (FY) 2017 versus $317.5 million in FY 2010.² These cuts have had a real impact on service providers’ capacity to meet demand for family planning and sexual health services – Title X providers in Nebraska saw 4% fewer patients in 2010 than in 2016.

Title X Saves Federal and State Money

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

In 2010, services provided at Title X health centers in Nebraska saved the state and federal government $43,138,000. These savings came from preventing unintended pregnancies, sexually transmitted diseases (including HIV), and cases of cervical cancer. At a national level, savings from Title X services totaled $7 billion that year.³
Title X: Essential to Improving Public Health and Saving Taxpayer Dollars in Nebraska

Family planning care helps patients prevent sexually transmitted diseases and plan the timing of their pregnancies, which helps them meet their educational and economic goals. These, in turn, are linked to better health outcomes for young people, women, men, and families. Unfortunately, far too many Nebraska residents are not able to meet their family planning and sexual health needs now due to lack of access. What’s more, cuts to funding for family planning services will lead to more unintended pregnancies and higher health care costs.

- In 2010, 41 of every 1,000 Nebraska women ages 15 – 44 had an unintended pregnancy. Title X provides the sexuality education and contraceptive services and supplies that can help lower this rate.
- In 2016, there were 8,197 newly diagnosed chlamydia cases, 2,156 newly diagnosed gonorrhea cases, and 67 newly diagnosed syphilis cases in Nebraska. In 2014, 2,014 Nebraska residents were living with HIV. Title X service sites provide critical education, testing, and outreach services to prevent the spread of these infections.
- Seven percent of people in Nebraska are uninsured, 13% are enrolled in Medicaid, and 10% have incomes below the federal poverty line. Title X providers are often some of only a few family planning providers to accept Medicaid.

Nebraska’s Title X-funded health centers offer:

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

Additional cuts to Title X or restrictions on the Title X provider network would harm tens of thousands of poor and low-income people and families throughout Nebraska, in turn costing, not saving, the government money.

6. Estimated Rates (per 100,000) of Adults and Adolescents Living with an HIV Diagnosis. Kaiser Family Foundation (2017).