

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Reproductive Health Coalition PO Box: 21161 2300 18th St NW Lbby Washington, DC 20009-9996

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Reproductive Health Coalition Statement on Title X Cuts

The **Reproductive Health Coalition (RHC)** urges the federal government to unfreeze \$35 million in Title X Family planning funds to allow residents in Alaska, California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Minnesota, Missouri, Mississippi, Montana, New Hampshire, Ohio, Pennsylvania South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, and Virginia. These actions will ensure the continued coverage of maternal, child, and women's health care for millions of Americans.

The Title X federal program provides comprehensive and confidential family planning, reproductive, and sexual health care services, which include the following:

- Contraceptive education, counseling, and medications;
- Preventative care, including breast and cervical cancer screenings;
- Testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections (STIs); and
- Pregnancy diagnosis, counseling and maternity care.

Title X is a key safety net and primary healthcare resource for many low-income individuals who would otherwise lack access to care. This care is administered through over 4,000 national clinical sites, which include public health departments and non-profit health centers. Title X clinics serve all people in need of care and those who live in rural or otherwise remote areas. The loss of Title X will create widespread healthcare deserts, causing millions of women, children, and families to lose access to necessary care. No longer will they have resources for pregnancy planning or disease prevention or treatment, compounding already catastrophic American maternal and infant morbidity and mortality figures. As healthcare leaders, legal experts, and advocates, the RHC encourages you to renew your faith in the American global stronghold of healthcare, research, and outreach. We call for you to renew your support for the continued provision of foundational care that supports the well-being of all people, beginning with our shared common denominators: as parents and children.

"Since its bipartisan enactment in 1970, Title X has provided vital sexual and reproductive healthcare services to millions of people. Attempts to defund Title X clinics to further an anti-equity political agenda will result in real and immediate harm as countless Americans lose

access to cost-effective contraception, STI prevention and treatment, cancer screenings, and other critical health care and family planning services." – Alyssa Morrison, Senior Staff Attorney for Reproductive Justice, Lawyers for Good Government

Preserving Title X funding is not just about protecting a program—it's about safeguarding access to essential, evidence-based reproductive healthcare for millions, especially those in underserved communities. It's a commitment to the health of the public, and is critical to ensuring healthy pregnancy and healthy babies." – Sophia Yen, MD, MPH co-founder of Pandiahealth.com and Clinical Associate Professor in Adolescent Medicine at a major academic institution

We can all choose to advocate for a better start for our nation's mothers and children, beginning with providing the care they need. If it takes a village, the village must come forward now." – Annie Won, MSc, MBS, Tufts MPH candidate

The RHC calls on the federal government to preserve Title X's critical services and restore the \$35 million in funding to ensure the continued coverage of maternal, child, and women's health care for millions of Americans.

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About the Reproductive Health Coalition

The Reproductive Health Coalition (RHC) is a wide-range of health professional associations and allied organizations who advocate with a *unified voice* to protect access to essential reproductive care. The tenets of this work include: a patient's right to dignity, autonomy, privacy, and the expectation of a trusted relationship with their clinician; protection of the clinician's ethical obligation to provide care, including their access to comprehensive training; and a commitment to an evidence-based approach to policy and practice. Over 130 organizations participate in the RHC, collectively representing more than 150 million members. Click here for more information.

The undersigned organizations in the RHC endorsing this statement are listed here:

American Medical Women's Association Doctors for America