

TEXAS WOMEN'S HEALTHCARE COALITION

Legislative Priorities for the 86th Texas Legislature

1. ENSURE FUNDING FOR WOMEN'S PREVENTIVE HEALTHCARE AMONG LOW-INCOME, UNINSURED WOMEN.

Access to preventive and preconception care – including health screenings and contraception – means healthy, planned pregnancies, and reducing the risk of maternal and infant complications.



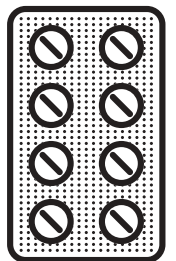
2. IDENTIFY AREAS WITH A SHORTAGE OF QUALIFIED FAMILY PLANNING PROVIDERS AND DEVELOP STRATEGIES TO INCREASE PROVIDER PARTICIPATION IN THE STATE'S WOMEN'S HEALTH PROGRAMS.

Texas needs more providers to deliver preventive care to women. The women's healthcare safety-net is still recovering from cuts to family planning programs in 2011 and the exclusion of some of the state's largest providers.



3. ENSURE WOMEN HAVE ACCESS TO THE FULL RANGE OF FDA-APPROVED CONTRACEPTIVES.

All FDA-approved birth control methods should be accessible, including the implant and IUDs, which are twenty times more effective than other methods and considered a first-line choice for women by medical organizations. Women should be counseled on the effectiveness of all FDA-approved available contraceptives.



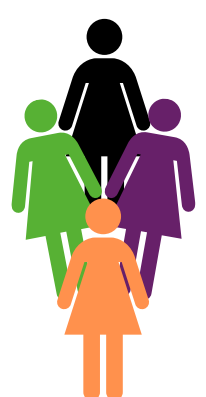
4. INCREASE CONTINUITY OF CARE FOR WOMEN.

Gaps in healthcare coverage increase women's risk for negative health outcomes and unintended pregnancy. Continuous healthcare coverage improves health outcomes and reduces costs to the state.



5. MAXIMIZE THE ABILITY OF THE WOMEN'S HEALTHCARE SAFETY-NET TO REACH MORE WOMEN AND SAVE TEXAS TAXPAYER DOLLARS.

Fifty-four percent of the state's unplanned births are publicly funded, and unintended pregnancies in Texas cost taxpayers \$2.9 billion (\$842.6 million of it paid for by the state). Taxpayers see a return of \$7.09 for every dollar invested in contraception.



Texas Women's Healthcare Coalition

Steering Committee Members

Texas Medical Association
District XI (Texas) American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
Texas Academy of Family Physicians
Texas Association of Community Health Centers
Methodist Healthcare Ministries
Teaching Hospitals of Texas
Women's Health and Family Planning Association of Texas
Texans Care for Children
Center for Public Policy Priorities
Healthy Futures of Texas - Chair

General Membership

- Access Esperanza Clinics Inc.
- Amistad Community Health Center
- Austin Advanced Practice Nurses
- Austin Physicians for Social Responsibility
- AWHONN Texas
- Brazos Valley Community Action Agency, Inc.
- Brazos Valley Nurse Practitioner Association
- Cardea
- Center for Community Health, UNTHSC
- Centering Health Institute
- Central Texas Nurse Practitioners
- Children's Hospital Association of Texas
- Coalition for Nurses in Advanced Practice
- Coastal Bend Advanced Practice Nurses
- Coastal Bend Wellness Foundation
- Community Healthcare Center
- Consortium of Texas Certified Nurse Midwives
- Department of Ob/Gyn of UNTHSC and the ForHER Institute
- El Buen Samaritano
- El Centro de Corazón
- El Paso Area Advanced Practice Nurse Association
- Food Bank of the Rio Grande Valley
- Fort Worth Region Nurse Practitioners
- Haven Health
- Hill Country Advanced Practice Nurses & Physicians Assistants Association
- Houston Area Chapter of NAPNAP
- Houston Area Nurse Practitioners
- League of Women Voters of Texas
- Legacy Community Health Services
- Lone Star Family Health Center
- March of Dimes – Texas
- Mental Health America of Greater Houston
- National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health
- National Council of Jewish Women—Texas State Policy Advocacy Network
- National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health
- North Harris Montgomery Advanced Practice Nurse Society
- North Texas Alliance to Reduce Teen Pregnancy
- North Texas Nurse Practitioners
- Panhandle Nurse Practitioner Association
- Pasadena Health Center
- People's Community Clinic
- Port Arthur Housing Authority
- Pregnancy and Postpartum Health Alliance of Texas
- SALVERE (Striving to Achieve Literacy via Education, Research, and Engagement)
- San Antonio Metropolitan Health District
- San Antonio Nurses in Advanced Practice
- Schneider Communications
- South Plains Nurse Practitioner Association
- South Texas Family Planning & Health Corp.
- Southeast Texas Nurse Practitioner Associates
- Special Health Resources
- St. David's Foundation
- Susan Wolfe and Associates, LLC
- Texas Association of Community Health Plans
- Texas Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
- Texas Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy
- Texas Council on Family Violence
- Texas Health Institute
- Texas Hospital Association
- Texas Medical Association Alliance
- Texas Nurse Practitioners
- Texas Nurses Association
- Texas Oral Health Coalition
- Texas Pediatric Society
- Texas Unitarian Universalist Justice Ministry
- The Contraceptive Initiative
- The SAFE Alliance
- The Women's Fund for Health Education and Resiliency
- United Methodist Women
- University Health System
- Valley AIDS Council
- Women's & Men's Health Services of the Coastal Bend, Inc.
- Young Invincibles South

