

Looking Ahead: What's Next for Women's Preventive Healthcare in Texas

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TEXAS
Women's Healthcare
COALITION



T E X A S

Women's Healthcare
COALITION

65 healthcare, advocacy, faith organizations

*Access to preventive healthcare,
including contraception, for ALL Texas
women*

www.TexasWHC.org

Unintended (Unplanned) Pregnancy

- Late prenatal care
- Closely spaced pregnancies
- Higher risk of low birth weight, prematurity

“Births resulting from unintended or closely spaced pregnancies are associated with adverse maternal and child health outcomes, such as delayed prenatal care, premature birth, and negative physical and mental health effects for children.”

<https://www.guttmacher.org/fact-sheet/unintended-pregnancy-united-states>

Benefits of Family Planning (Contraception)

- Healthier babies
- Healthier mothers
- Stronger families
- Fiscal savings



Now More than Ever: Zika



“Because of the potential for Zika virus to affect pregnant women and their fetuses, strategies to prevent unintended pregnancy are a critical part of current efforts to prevent Zika-related health effects.”

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “CDC Issues Updated Zika Recommendations: Timing of Pregnancy after Zika Exposure, Prevention of Sexual Transmission, Considerations for Reducing Unintended Pregnancy in Areas with Zika Transmission,” March 2016.

Now More than Ever: Maternal Mortality

Selected Recommendations from the TX Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Task Force:

- The Texas maternal mortality rate doubled between 2011 and 2012¹
- Though only 11.4% of all 2011/2012 births in Texas were to black women, they accounted for 28.8% of all maternal deaths²

1. Increase access to health services during the year after delivery & during the inter-conception period to improve continuity of care, enable effective care transitions, promote safe birth spacing, reduce maternal morbidity, and reduce the cost of care in the Medicaid program.
2. Increase provider and community awareness of health inequities and implement programs that increase the ability of women to self-advocate.
3. Increase screening for and referral to behavioral health services.

1. MacDorman et al., "Recent Increases in the U.S. Maternal Mortality Rate: Disentangling Trends from Measurement Issues." *Obstetrics & Gynecology*. 128(3). September 2016.

2. Texas Department of State Health Services. "Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Task Force and Department of State Health Services Joint Biennial Report." July 2016.

Women's Preventive Healthcare Services

- Well-woman exams
- Screenings
- Contraceptive counseling, methods, and supplies
- Additional services

Not Abortion



Healthy Texas Women

New!

Client Eligibility:

- Women ages 15-44 (Ages 15-17 with parental consent)
- 200% Federal Poverty Level
- Citizen/Eligible Immigrant
- Not pregnant
- 5,342 providers

Eligibility Determinations:

- Client eligibility is determined by HHSC
- Clients may apply through a paper application or online
- Services delivered on a fee-for-service basis

Covered Services

- Pelvic examinations
- Contraceptive Services
- Pap tests
- Screening for hypertension, diabetes, cholesterol
- Sexually transmitted infection (STI) services
- Sterilizations
- Breast and Cervical Cancer Screenings and Diagnostic Services
- Immunizations
- Cervical Dysplasia treatment
- Other preventative services

Auto-Enrollment after a Medicaid Delivery



Family Planning Program

New!

Eligibility

- Women and Men
- Age 64 or younger
- 250% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)
- Texas residents
- Must not be eligible for any similar program, including the HTW Fee-For-Service program
- Eligibility is determined at the point of service by family planning contractors
- Since implementation we have seen a steady increase in providers

Covered Services

- Pelvic exam
- Contraceptive Services
- Pap tests
- Screening for hypertension, diabetes, cholesterol
- Sexually transmitted infection (STI) services
- Sterilizations
- Breast and cervical cancer screening and diagnostic services
- Immunizations
- **Prenatal Services**

2013

Women's Healthcare Policy Achievements

- Increased funding for family planning
- Bipartisan support for prevention, including contraception

2015

Additional \$46.5 million for women's health services

3 programs consolidated into 2 under Women's Health Services at HHSC

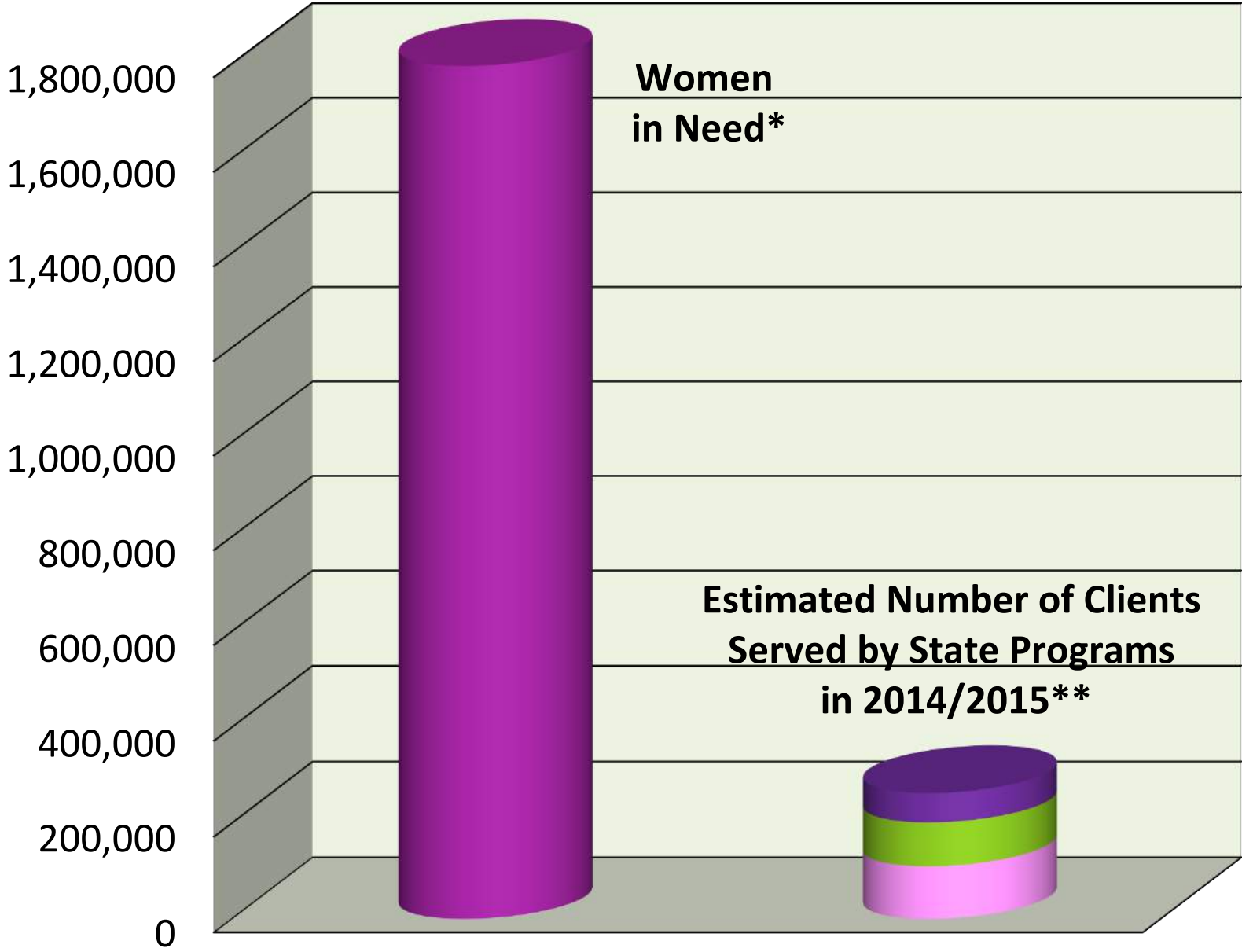
HHSC Strategy	Family Planning	Expanded Primary Health Care	Texas Women's Health Program	"Women's Health Services"	Total
FY 2016-17 (\$Millions/Biennium)	\$41.6	\$100.0	\$69.3	\$50.0	\$260.9
2014-15 (\$Millions/Biennium)	\$43.2	\$100.0	\$71.3	-	\$214.5

2015

Women's Healthcare Policy Achievements

- Establishment of Women's Health Advisory Committee
- Long Acting/Highly Effective Contraceptives:
 - increase access
 - provider education and training

Need vs. Supply - 2014

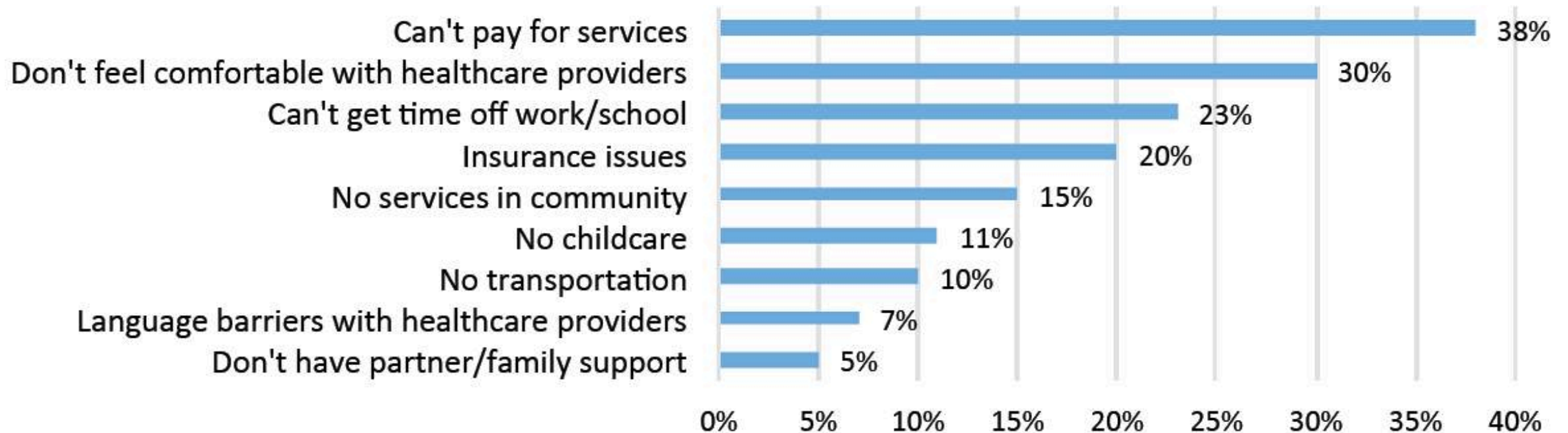


- Number of women in need
- Family Planning
- Expanded Primary Health Care
- Texas Women's Health Program

*Frost JJ, et al. "Contraceptive Needs and Services, 2014 Update," New York: Guttmacher Institute, 2016.
**French, Lesley, "Presentation to the Senate Health and Human Services Committee: Healthy Texas Women and Family Planning Programs," September 13, 2016.

Barriers to Reproductive Health Care in Texas

Roughly 1.8 million Texas women are in need of publicly funded preventive health services.*



Source: Texas Population Research Project, Barriers to Family Planning Access in Texas: Evidence from a Statewide Representative Survey, May 2015

*Frost et al., "Contraceptive Needs and Services, 2014 Update," New York: Guttmacher Institute, 2016.

Policy Priorities for the 85th Legislature

1.

Ensure funding for women's preventive healthcare, including contraception, can fully meet the growing need among low-income uninsured women

- Provide funding to reach the 1.8 million women in need of publicly funded preventive services
- Ensure funding for women's health programs meets the need for services within each program

Policy Priorities for the 85th Legislature

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

- Identify areas of greatest need
- Increase provider outreach and enrollment
- Increase provider capacity in rural/underserved areas
- Increase payment rates for providers

Policy Priorities for the 85th Legislature

3.

Ensure women have access to the full range of FDA-approved contraceptives of their choice, including the most effective forms of contraception – implants and intrauterine devices (IUDs)

- Increase access to the most effective forms of contraception
- Regularly adjust payments and ensure adequate reimbursement
- Ensure adequate quality family planning provider training

Policy Priorities for the 85th Legislature

4.

Increase continuity of care for women by eliminating barriers to preventive healthcare access

- Ensure eligible clients can enroll in Healthy Texas Women
- Ensure women receive effective referral services
- Enable 12-month supply of birth control
- Automatically enroll 19-year-olds in CHIP into Healthy Texas Women

Policy Priorities for the 85th Legislature

5.

Maximize the ability of the women's healthcare safety net to reach more women and save Texas taxpayer dollars

- Save Texas taxpayer money by investing in prevention
- Develop a workable solution for the coverage gap

Looking Ahead: The 85th Legislature

- The Health and Human Services Commission's Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR) Released in September
 - Requests \$4.9 million more for 2018/2019 biennium than 2016/2017
 - \$191.3 million for Healthy Texas Women; \$74.4 million for Family Planning Program
 - Exceptional Item Request for additional \$20 million for Family Planning Program

Thank You!

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