



Preterm 2019

Impact Report

Dear Friends,

Reflecting on the past year—and the past decade—it's clear that we've been fighting for our patients' and all Ohioans' access to abortion care for far too long. But if I've learned anything in these past 10 years, especially in 2019, it's that Preterm and our allies are resilient and deeply committed to preserving and increasing access to respectful, nonjudgmental abortion and sexual healthcare for everyone.

When Gov. DeWine signed a law banning abortion as early as 6 weeks of pregnancy last April, Preterm was ready. We sued the state, and we won. But we didn't just fight in court. We knew that this law, even if it wasn't in effect, would scare and confuse pregnant Ohioans in search of abortion care. Together with allied organizations across the state, we launched a public awareness campaign.

The unprecedented challenge posed by this law and the incremental restrictions that got us here have not stopped us. In addition to fighting back, we spent 2019 digging deep into our mission and values to look toward the future with hope. I'm so proud to share that our staff and board have come together to define our organizational commitment and values, which you'll see detailed in this report.

At the core of our work is our patients. Every day at Preterm, pregnant women, transgender, and nonbinary people, and their loved ones walk through our doors needing respect, empathy, support, and safe, affordable abortion care. They come to us because they know they will be cared for as whole people, without judgment or shame.

Our patients have and always will be the center of all we do, regardless of what the future holds. Thank you for being at our side, in the trenches, doing what's right for our community for the last 45 years, and for carrying on this difficult, good work into the next decade.

In Gratitude,


EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

what we do.

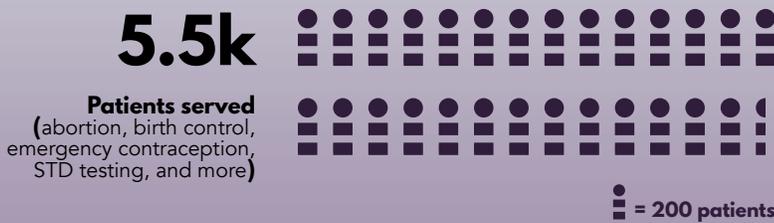


11.2K
Total clinic visits

189
Resident physicians
and medical
students trained.

336
Total sexual health visits
(birth control, STD testing &
treatment, wellness, etc.)

who we serve.



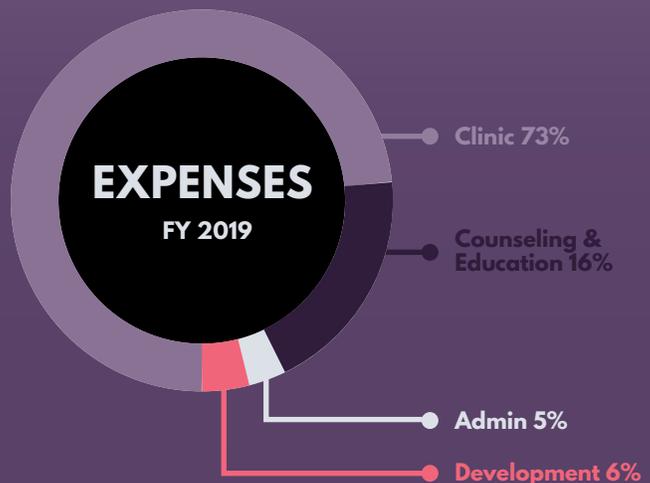
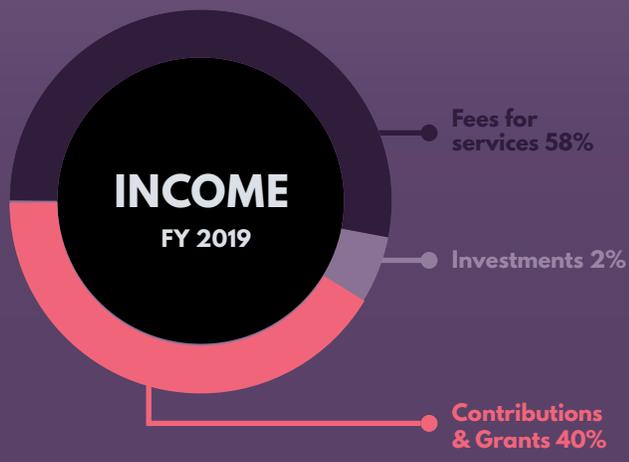
\$963,425
Total financial
assistance provided

\$205
Average financial
assistance



how we do it.

In fiscal year 2019, over 1,700 individuals, foundations, abortion funds, community groups, and businesses supported Preterm's work through financial contributions. Combined with patient fees and investments, our income was \$4.5 million.



Our Mission

To advance reproductive health and justice by providing safe, respectful, and accessible abortion and sexual healthcare.

Our Commitment

Abortion is essential to bodily autonomy and gender equity for all people. Providing abortions is a deeply caring and revolutionary act that is part of dismantling oppression and stigma. These are the values that guide Preterm's commitment to abortion care.

Our Values

Respect

Treating and honoring patients, staff and community with regard for their feelings and experiences.

Autonomy

Honoring people's ability to make decisions and take action as the experts in their own lives.

Empathy

Creating space for connection and recognizing and affirming one another's experiences. Assuming best intentions while acknowledging implicit bias.

Feminism & Intersectionality

Committing to awareness, analysis, action and accountability to disrupt the interlocking systems of oppression that impact women and people who are most marginalized in society.

Excellence with Integrity

Evolving to create an environment that fosters best practices for patient-centered care, clinical innovation and staff support.

Intentional Stewardship

Accountability to our patients, communities, staff, women and other marginalized people and the earth.

Keep Repeating This: Abortion is Legal in Ohio

At Preterm, we have taken the State of Ohio to court time and time again to fight for our patients. 2019 was no different. As soon as Gov. Mike DeWine signed a 6-week abortion ban into law last April, Preterm's phones started ringing. Each caller had the same question: is abortion still legal in Ohio?

We challenged that 6-week abortion ban in court, and a judge blocked the law from going into effect. But confusion about the status of abortion access and legality is still rampant across Ohio, so we spearheaded the launch of www.abortionislegalinohio.com.

Just a few days after the website launched, we learned of a woman who discovered she was pregnant around the same time the 6-week abortion ban was signed. She assumed the law was in effect and abortion was no longer an option. Time passed, and she eventually heard from a friend that abortion was still legal in Ohio. She called Preterm to find out for sure and learn more about her options.

Unfortunately, her time to access her abortion care within the legal limit was quickly running short. She needed to get to Preterm, wait through the forced 24-hour delay before her procedure, receive state-mandated counseling, and work with our staff to determine her need for financial aid.

At Preterm, we serve some of the most vulnerable people in the country. Many Northeast Ohioans are struggling: poverty rates are high; opioid addiction is rampant; maternal and fetal mortality rates—particularly for black women and babies—are some of the highest in the country; and immigrants, LGBTQ people, and people living at the intersections of these and other marginalized identities live under constant threats. Anti-abortion legislation is just one more attack on peoples' ability to thrive.

Preterm is proud to be the lead plaintiff on the lawsuit challenging many of Ohio's dangerous and unconstitutional abortion bans. And Ohio's coalition of reproductive health, rights, and justice organizations and allies are more aligned and stronger than ever.

**We're here. We're open.
We're providing care and
fighting back. Abortion
is still legal in Ohio.
Thank you for being at
our side at this critical
moment in the history of
abortion access!**



Keep Repeating This: Abortion is Legal in Ohio

“I feel safe. I feel calm. I feel confident and more prepared if I become pregnant, I would be ready to continue with a pregnancy.”

To learn more about Preterm and make a contribution to support our patients, visit www.preterm.org.

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