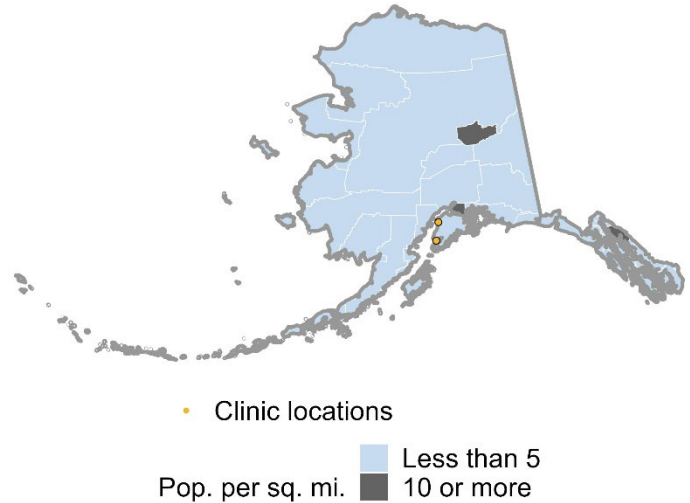


Alaska Department of Health

The State of Alaska Department of Health, Division of Public Health (DOH) is a state agency that has been a Title X grant recipient since the 1990s. The grantee delivers services in the Kenai Peninsula Borough of Southcentral Alaska to approximately 750 clients per year through clinic sites operated by a subrecipient agency.¹





Stats at a Glance²

- ▶ Number of family planning (FP) encounters – 791
- ▶ FP users with incomes below 100% Federal Poverty Level (FPL) – 193 (34%); all FP users with incomes below 250% of FPL – 460 (82%)
- ▶ Number of tests performed for gonorrhea – 438, syphilis – 87, and HIV – 187
- ▶ Number of female users who received a chlamydia test – 273 or a Pap test – 161



Overview of Services Offered

As a Title X recipient, Alaska DOH provides a broad range of FP services including pregnancy prevention and birth spacing, pregnancy testing and counseling, assistance to achieve pregnancy, basic infertility services, sexually transmitted infection (STI) services, and other preconception health services. The services are voluntary, confidential, and provided regardless of ability to pay.³ The infographic below is an Overview of Services Offered by subrecipient agencies. These data are not specific to any particular site but rather are representative of the broader grantee network. For information on services available at individual service sites, please refer to the [OPA clinic locator](#).

 Pregnancy assistance and counseling	 Contraceptive services	 STI services	 Other preventative health services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Counseling on achieving pregnancy ● Preconception health services ● Pregnancy testing and counseling ◐ Basic infertility services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◐ FDA approved long-acting contraceptives ◐ FDA approved short-acting contraceptives ◐ Natural family planning methods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● STI and HIV education and counseling ◐ STI and HIV screening and testing ◐ STI and HIV treatment ○ STI self-testing ◐ Expedited partner therapy ● PrEP counseling and risk assessment ◐ PrEP prescription services ○ PEP counseling ○ PEP prescription services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◐ Screening for breast cancer ◐ Screening for cervical cancer ○ HPV vaccinations ● Screening for intimate partner violence ● Screening for mental health ● Screening for obesity ● Screening for smoking, drug, and alcohol use ◐ Adolescent-friendly health services
<p>LEGEND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Available at all service sites ◐ Available at service sites and through referrals ○ Available through referral only 			

¹ Source: Data collected by Mathematica in 2023 for the Title X Implementation Study.

² Source: Family Planning Annual Report (FPAR): [2022 National Summary](#).

³ See the [Title X Service Grants web page](#) for more information on the requirements and regulations guiding Title X projects.

Equity in Practice



In 2022, DOH and its subrecipient Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic (KBFP) piloted pop-up sites to expand access to FP services in the Southern Kenai Peninsula. At a bimonthly pop-up site at a needle-and-syringe exchange in Homer, providers offer STI and HIV testing, PrEP services, contraceptives, and other health screening alongside harm reduction services. This strategy has increased access to FP and STI services for people who use injection drugs and resulted in an increased number of male clients and clients served overall. KBFP hopes to transition successful pop-up sites into permanent service delivery sites going forward.

Through subrecipient KBFP, the DOH is able to provide high-quality services to adolescents. KBFP has been recognized by the State of Alaska and the University of Michigan's Adolescent Health Initiative as a silver-level Adolescent Centered Environment. Their Resource and Education Center (REC Room) is a teen drop-in center that provides support, education, activities, and resources in an LGBTQIA+ positive and trauma-informed setting. KBFP peer educators provide comprehensive, evidence-informed, peer-led sexual health and wellness education in schools throughout the region. Though these programs are not directly funded by Title X, they facilitate friendly referrals to health services at the FP clinic, which reserves afternoon hours specifically for adolescents and strives to provide a safe and empowering space for young clients.

Innovations in Practice



To strengthen their outreach and project promotion, the DOH Title X project director and KBFP participated in a Project Promotion Technical Assistance Group hosted by the Reproductive Health National Training Center (RHNTC). Through this work, the subrecipient expanded its social media and print advertising and developed tailored outreach strategies to reach underserved groups. This includes mailing information to remote communities to alert individuals to the availability of Title X services and telehealth services, and let them know of upcoming visits by health education staff. In addition to providing telehealth services to these clients, the subrecipient is newly able to mail contraceptives to clients, decreasing the need for clients to make a long journey by boat or plane to access basic services.

Did You Know?



DOH serves many rural and remote communities with small populations. To help subrecipient agencies in these communities manage Title X grant requirements, grantee staff provide direct, tailored technical assistance such as helping subrecipients write protocols and policies. In addition, DOH has connected newer subrecipient agencies to an experienced subrecipient whose protocols and expertise provide a "gold standard" example.



In 2022, DOH subrecipient KBFP developed and implemented a new hypertension screening and control program to strengthen wrap-around services to clients seeking reproductive health services. Recognizing that many clients do not have a primary care provider and may not receive important hypertension screening elsewhere, KBFP engaged RHNTC in a six-month process of assessing its hypertension prevention and control efforts, developing improved protocols, and training staff to implement changes. KBFP is now better able to identify hypertension and provide appropriate referrals and follow-up to support clients.



The DOH's Title X Program benefits from its subrecipient's many community connections in the Southern Kenai Peninsula. KBFP staff participate in Mobilizing for Action Through Planning and Partnership, a health improvement coalition made up of 40 faith-based and secular organizations working to identify and address public health issues. Staff also serve on the Southern Kenai Peninsula Opioid Task Force and collaborate closely with the Homer Public Health Center. These relationships have helped position KBFP as a trusted community member and in turn increase community awareness of its services.

About the Title X Program

The Title X Family Planning Program, created in 1970 and authorized under Title X of the Public Health Service Act, is administered by the Office of Population Affairs (OPA) in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. For more information, please refer to OPA's [website](#).

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