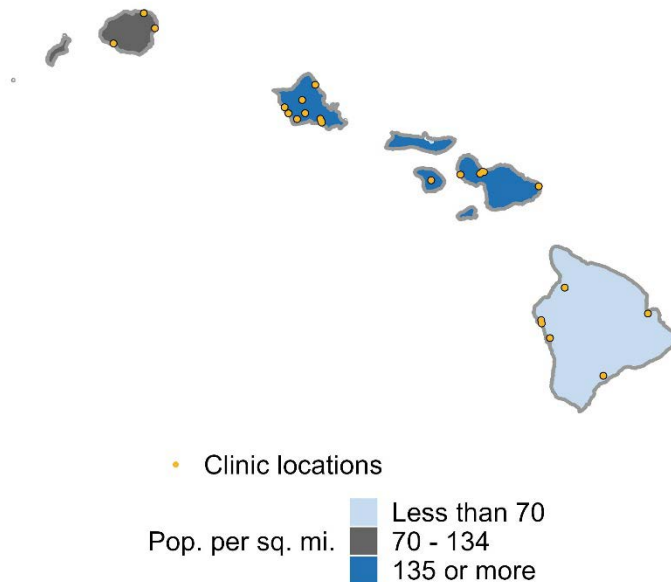


Essential Access Health

Essential Access Health (Essential Access) is a non-profit organization that has been delivering Title X services in California for over 50 years. In 2022, Essential Access received funding to deliver the Title X program in Hawai'i. The program delivers services to approximately 26,000 persons annually through subrecipients, comprised of 14 agencies, including federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), a university health center, Planned Parenthood clinics and others, operating in 33 clinics across five of the seven inhabited Hawaiian Islands.¹







Stats at a Glance²

- ▶ Number of family planning (FP) encounters – 8,512
- ▶ FP users with incomes below 100% Federal Poverty Level (FPL) – 1,824 (32%); all FP users with incomes below 250% of FPL – 2,432 (43%)
- ▶ Number of tests performed for gonorrhea – 2,264, syphilis – 448, and HIV – 524
- ▶ Number of female users who received a chlamydia test – 1,926 or a Pap test – 1,036

Overview of Services Offered

As a Title X recipient, Essential Access 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 within the Essential Access network. The data shown below are not specific to any particular site but rather 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 webpage](#) for more information on the requirements and regulations guiding Title X projects.

Equity in Practice



Essential Access is translating key materials in English to Asian and other Pacific Islander languages spoken throughout the islands of Hawai'i. Through providing materials in clients' preferred language, translating the person-centered contraceptive counseling measure, and hiring staff who can speak the languages of the communities they serve, Essential Access is able to provide services to the uninsured and persons with low incomes who have been medically underserved in Hawai'i.

Innovations in Practice



Essential Access recognizes the importance of telehealth to increase access to services among rural communities and youth in Hawai'i. To ensure sites and clinicians receive the guidance needed to provide care via telehealth, Essential Access launched an online hub called Telehealth Essentials for Sexual and Reproductive Health. This hub provides sites and clinicians with training, clinical guidelines, quick guides, toolkits, and state and federal telehealth guidance needed to ensure that sites receive the training needed to provide high-quality telehealth care for clients who prefer to receive care remotely or have difficulty traveling to sites.

Did You Know?



Before starting work in Hawai'i, Essential Access conducted listening sessions with subrecipients and their communities to get direct feedback about training and technical assistance needs and to learn the culture and practice of providing services in Hawai'i. As a result, Essential Access developed a statewide information and education (I&E) review committee that meets twice a year to discuss best practices in community health education, address education needs, and to review health education materials and resources. The committee involves the subrecipients' communities so outreach plans center the communities they serve. Continuing to review and revise education materials and asking for community feedback is especially important in Hawai'i given the cultural differences encountered in communicating with and providing services to the local community.



Essential Access developed a web-based centralized data system that was first used in California to provide subrecipients with customized graphs and data reports on key performance metrics. When Essential Access began overseeing Title X Services in Hawai'i, it was able to implement the same system. Subrecipients and Essential Access use the data system to collaborate to identify issues and improve service delivery in Hawai'i. Subrecipients can also review their data any time and compare it with previous data, and complete self-assessments of their performance at their own convenience.



Through a partnership with the Hawai'i Department of Education, Essential Access is planning to create and distribute business cards that provide a link to a website where youth can find out where to access contraceptives in their community. By distributing the business cards, Essential Access will help direct youth to access care that is not covered in the state's sexual health curriculum.

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), within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). For more information, please refer to OPA's [website](#).

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