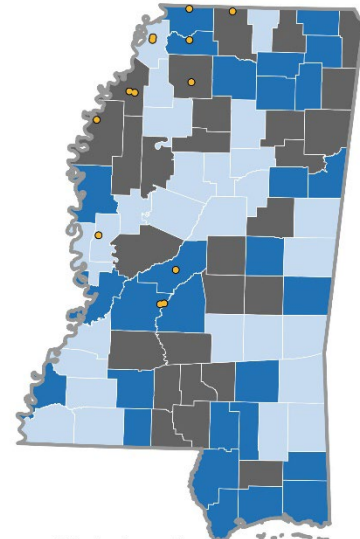


# Converge, Inc.

Converge is a Mississippi-based nonprofit organization that has been a statewide Title X grant recipient since 2022. As a new grantee, Converge estimates it will serve approximately 30,000 clients per year through subrecipients made up of federally qualified health centers, school-based centers, mobile clinics, and a college campus, all across the state of Mississippi.<sup>1</sup>

## Stats at a Glance<sup>2</sup>

- ▶ Number of family planning (FP) encounters – 5,407
- ▶ FP users with incomes below 100% Federal Poverty Level (FPL) – 2,103 (60%); all FP users with incomes below 250% of FPL – 2,789 (80%)
- ▶ Number of tests performed for gonorrhea – 1,419, syphilis – 303, and HIV – 448
- ▶ Number of female users who received a chlamydia test – 676 or a Pap test – 634



• Clinic locations

Pop. per sq. mi. ■ Less than 25 ■ 25 - 49 ■ 50 or more

## Overview of Services Offered

As a Title X recipient, Converge 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.<sup>3</sup> The infographic below is an Overview of Services Offered within the Converge network. The data shown below 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

- Counseling on achieving pregnancy
- Preconception health services
- Pregnancy testing and counseling
- Basic infertility services



### Contraceptive services

- FDA approved long-acting contraceptives
- FDA approved short-acting contraceptives
- Natural family planning methods



### STI services

- 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



### Other preventative health services

- 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

#### LEGEND

- Available at all service sites
- Available at service sites and through referrals
- Available through referral only

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

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

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

## Equity in Practice



Converge seeks to provide FP care that is centered on equity and recognizes the need to provide quality, person-centered care to meet the needs, desires, and preferences of communities and individuals across the state. With a goal of integrating person-centered care as a core tenet of the program, Converge dedicated time and resources to train staff and subrecipients on the delivery and measurement of quality person-centered care to measure the impacts of these efforts. Converge also developed a patient experience council (PXC) made up of people with lived experience as Title X clients. The PXC has helped Converge improve and tailor the sexual and reproductive health care education and services provided by subrecipients. PXC members also advise the grantee on strategies to increase awareness of Title X services and help promote the program throughout their personal and online networks.

## Innovations in Practice



To improve access to reproductive health products for Mississippians, Converge partnered with Twentyeight Health, a discrete delivery service specializing in FP products, to produce reproductive health kits. Each kit contains menstrual products, lubricant, condoms, emergency contraception (EC), a pregnancy test, and dental dams, and is available free to anyone in Mississippi older than 15. The kits are shipped in unlabeled packaging to protect recipients' privacy. Developed with input from the PXC as a response to the need for access to contraceptive methods—including EC—prompted by increased restrictions on reproductive health services in the state, these kits help provide access to quality reproductive health products for Mississippians who face challenges to accessing in-person care.

## Did You Know?



Converge is a new Title X grantee. In this early phase of its work, Converge has focused on getting to know providers and clinics, building trust, cultivating partnerships, and enlisting health care facilities to join the Title X network. To accomplish this, Converge is making in-person visits to potential service delivery sites to offer training and support for Title X, and investing in a broad-reaching social media campaign to engage with Mississippians and provide information about where to go to obtain inexpensive FP services. Converge is also working to build trust among clients, many of whom do not have faith in the health care system.



To improve the quality and availability of FP services, Converge is building its training infrastructure through Converge Connect, a program that offers training courses to health providers, advocates, and anyone else interested in improving contraceptive care. Though developed with funding from other partners, Converge Connect benefits Title X subrecipients and providers, who can use the platform to access courses on a variety of topics, including person-centered contraceptive care and mandatory reporting of child abuse. Recently, Converge Connect hosted a Nexplanon training to increase the number of certified providers across the state of Mississippi and address travel barriers clients face when providers are not conveniently located. Converge plans to continue to offer clinical trainings so that services can be provided on site and without referral, thereby increasing access and availability to all.



Converge has developed a dedicated social media strategy to spread awareness and engage Mississippians on the topic of sexual and reproductive health. The grantee has been successful reaching young people through social media ads with graphics and images that are designed to appeal to younger populations. These campaigns are designed with input from Converge's PXC and focus on using inclusive images and language that reflect the populations Converge seeks to serve. The social media campaign has been well received and has increased the total number of reproductive health kits that have been ordered to date.

## 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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Website: <https://convergeaccess.org>