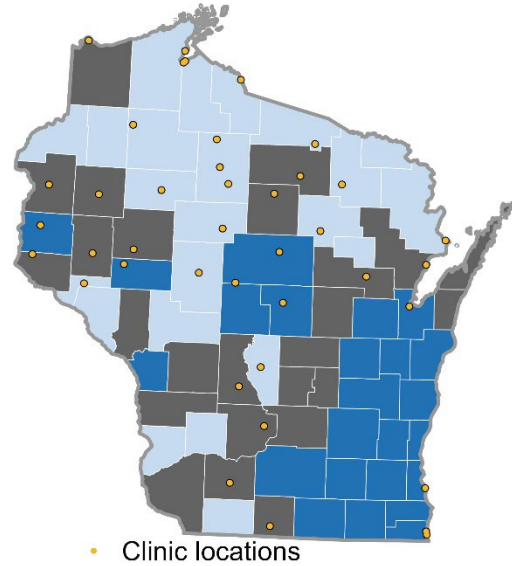


Wisconsin Department of Health Services

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) is a state health department that has been a statewide Title X grant recipient since 2018. It delivers services to approximately 9,000 clients through a network of subrecipients, including local and county health departments and freestanding family planning clinics.¹







Stats at a Glance²

- ▶ Number of family planning (FP) encounters – 17,124
- ▶ FP users with incomes below 100% Federal Poverty Level (FPL) – 3,685 (49%); all FP users with incomes below 250% of FPL – 5,360 (71%)
- ▶ Number of tests performed for gonorrhea – 5,795, syphilis – 570, and HIV – 272
- ▶ Number of female users who received a chlamydia test – 2,644 or a Pap test – 1,422

Overview of Services Offered

As a Title X recipient, DHS 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 DHS 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	 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 issues ● 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



Healthfirst, a clinic in DHS's Title X network, provides services to J-1 Visa holders in Wisconsin Dells, a city that is home to the largest concentration of water parks on earth. Colloquially known as the Waterpark Capital of the World, Wisconsin Dells draws a large foreign student population to work in the parks during the busy summer season. Healthfirst specifically gears services toward these students, who are especially vulnerable to human trafficking and may have difficulty accessing culturally appropriate family planning and reproductive health services.

Innovations in Practice



As Title X clinics in Wisconsin face challenges recruiting and retaining qualified providers of reproductive health and family planning services, the Eau Claire City-County Health Department created a consortium to work in the western region of the state to share an advanced practice provider and expand access to services for that region. The consortium started with one nurse practitioner who consistently rotates among five agencies. It has since grown to two NPs who rotate among eight different agencies. This innovative staff sharing model has been a success and an example for other regions of the state.

Did You Know?



DHS primarily serves rural clients. Given ongoing staffing shortages, the grantee updated its standing policies to allow more types of clinical staff, such as RNs, to provide services without a mid-level practitioner present. This allows DHS and its subrecipients to fill gaps in access and make services available to more people. DHS made this change as part of its work to develop an in-depth policy and procedure manual. After learning that some subrecipients needed support developing and revising their own policies, DHS drafted a universal set of policies composed of best practices and the latest guidance. Subrecipients can use this manual as a starting point and adapt it to meet their specific needs and context, thereby saving time and ensuring quality services for all clients.



DHS has promoted telehealth throughout the Wisconsin Title X network by providing additional funds and technical assistance. Doing so has helped expand the reach of the service area to remote populations and to those who cannot easily access health care. Telehealth allows providers to more easily cover for more than one clinic site. Telehealth is currently offered in 15 of 38 service sites and continues to expand.



Providing quality, appropriate care to sexual assault survivors is a focal area for DHS. To this end, the grantee has partnered with the Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault (WCASA) survivors' group to share resources and cross-train staff in both organizations. The WCASA survivors group continues to provide guidance to DHS subrecipients on client-centered care and prioritizing the needs of sexual assault survivors when providing care. In response to Wisconsin hospitals laying off nurse examiners who focus on sexual assault victims—a critical service for survivors—DHS sites have begun recruiting and hiring these specially trained staff to fill this gap in care.

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://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/>