Washington State Department of Health

The Washington Department of Health (DOH) Sexual and Reproductive Health Program (SRHP) oversees the Title X network in Washington. DOH has been a statewide Title X grant recipient since the 1970s, delivering services to approximately 80,000 clients annually through numerous subrecipient partners. The subrecipients include local public health organizations, Planned Parenthood affiliates, independent sexual and reproductive health agencies, and federally qualified health centers.¹

Stats at a Glance²

- Number of family planning (FP) encounters 118,956
- FP users with incomes below 100% Federal Poverty Level (FPL) - 39,178 (46%); all FP users with incomes below 250% of FPL - 63,593 (75%)
- Number of tests performed for gonorrhea 52,474, syphilis - 11,460, and HIV - 17,123
- Number of female users who received a chlamydia test - 38,274 or a Pap test - 10,331

Overview of Services Offered

As a Title X recipient, SRHP 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 SRHP 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.

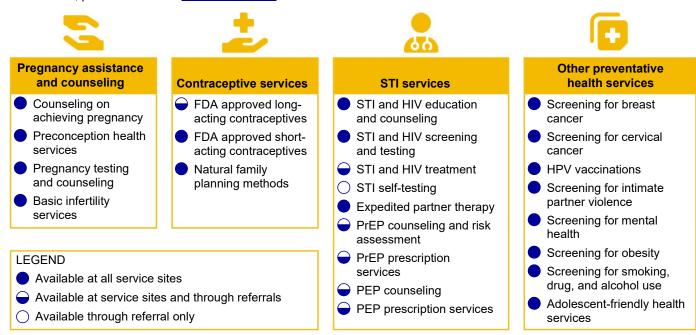
Clinic locations

Pop. per sq. mi.

Less than 20

75 or more

20 - 74



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 <u>Title X Service Grants web page</u> for more information on the requirements and regulations guiding Title X projects.

Innovations in Practice



Washington DOH is focused on innovative ways to expand telehealth for sexual and reproductive health services across its network to reach clients who may otherwise have barriers to accessing care. Through an information gathering effort with clinics across the network, DOH identified barriers to telehealth usage, including the need to educate clients on how to use telemedicine and link providers to existing training resources. To address these barriers, DOH launched a new telehealth web page in English and Spanish to ease clients' fears about telehealth use and connect them to available services in the state. For example, the web page includes general information on what telehealth is, what to expect in appointments, which sexual and reproductive health services are available via telehealth, and how client privacy is protected. The grantee engaged stakeholders to review the website and ensure it was linguistically and culturally appropriate. In addition to the web page, SRHP is using its Title X Telehealth Infrastructure Enhancement and Expansion Grant to fund special project grants to eight subrecipients with the goal of building capacity within the network for telehealth services and increasing the quality of the services it delivers.

Did You Know?



The Title X program staff consult with their newly established Office of Public Affairs and Equity to build staff capacity in equity through training and to create culturally relevant materials for external dissemination. For example, the equity team reviewed the Title X program web page to ensure culturally relevant language and helped them design outreach materials geared towards local tribal organizations. They are also striving to reach more populations through a datadriven funding formula for subrecipients. The allocation formula incorporates calculations of potential women in need from community assessments instead of national data, aiming to reach more adolescents and people living in poverty by using more accurate data. Looking ahead, the staff hope to have the health equity department review the funding allocation process and suggest other metrics to help distribute funding more equitably across the network.



The Title X program collaborates with the DOH Teens and Young Adults Program by asking its youth advisory council to review web pages and public-facing documents to increase the quality of disseminated communications and integrate community engagement in the work. These efforts can help improve access to services for adolescents.



The Title X program partners with the Office of Infectious Disease for network-wide consultation and dissemination of STI-related information. Through this collaboration, the partnership conducted virtual monitoring of syphilis testing and treatment to support expanding testing among people of reproductive age. The goal was to decrease the rising rates of congenital syphilis. The program disseminated data, sharing county-specific rates with subrecipients. This resulted in SRHP strengthening the technical assistance for providers to improve syphilis screening. DOH also has a collaborative partnership with the University of Washington, which provides trainings related to STI services to clinics in the state to improve the quality of STI-related care. These trainings are advertised in the SRHP newsletter.

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 <u>website</u>.

Grant number: FPHPA006495

Website: https://doh.wa.gov/you-and-your-family/sexual-and-reproductive-health



Office of Population Affairs