

TEXAS WOMEN'S HEALTHCARE COALITION

# Women's Preventive Healthcare

January 2019



# Our Staff



**Evelyn Delgado**  
*Chair, TWHC*  
*President, Healthy Futures of Texas*  
*EDelgado@TexasWHC.org*

**Leah Gonzalez, MSSW**  
*Policy & Advocacy Associate, TWHC*  
*LGonzalez@TexasWHC.org*



**Erika Ramirez, MPA**  
*Director of Policy & Advocacy, TWHC*  
*ERamirez@TexasWHC.org*

**Perdita Henry**  
*Communications Specialist, TWHC*  
*PHenry@TexasWHC.org*



# Texas Women's Healthcare Coalition



**Who We Are:**

**83 healthcare, advocacy, faith organizations**

**What We Do:**

***Strive towards access to preventive healthcare, including contraception,  
for ALL Texas women***

**[www.TexasWHC.org](http://www.TexasWHC.org)**



T E X A S

Women's Healthcare  
COALITION

# Background

# Women's Preventive Healthcare Services

- Well-woman exams
- Screenings
- Contraceptive services
  - counseling, methods, and supplies
- Additional services

Not Abortion

# Healthy Texas Women (HTW)

## Client Eligibility

- Women ages 15-44
  - 15-17 w/ parental consent
- 200% Federal Poverty Level
- Citizen/Eligible Immigrant
- Not pregnant

## Eligibility Determinations

- Client eligibility is determined by HHSC
- Apply online or paper application
- Fee-For-Service (with a few contracts)

## Covered Services

- Well woman visit
- Contraceptive services
- Breast and Cervical Cancer
  - Screenings & Diagnostic Services, Cervical dysplasia treatment
- Screening, limited treatment for
  - Hypertension, diabetes, cholesterol, postpartum depression
- STD screening and treatment
- Sterilizations
- Immunizations
- Other preventive services

# Family Planning Program (FPP)

## Eligibility:

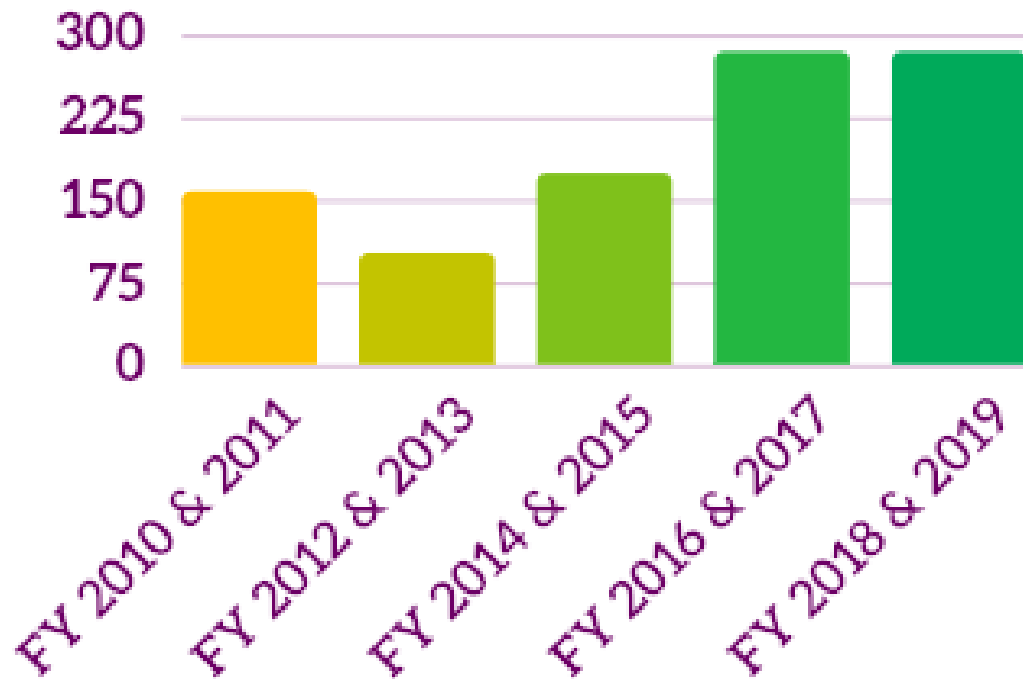
- Women and Men
- Age 64 or younger
- 250% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)
- Texas residents
- Not be eligible for any similar program, including HTW
- Eligibility is determined at the point of service by family planning contractors

## Covered Services:

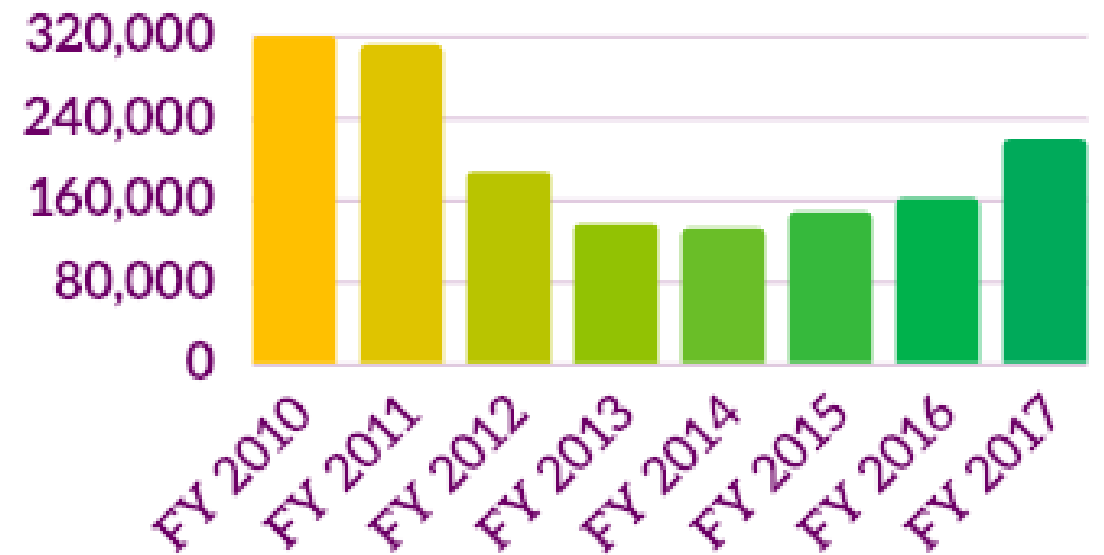
- Well woman visit
- Contraceptive services
- Breast and cervical cancer screening & diagnostic services
- Screening for
  - Hypertension, diabetes, cholesterol
- STD screening and treatment
- Sterilizations
- Immunizations
- Prenatal Services

# Women's Health Program Budget & Clients Served

### Women's Health Programs Budget (\$millions)



### Number of Clients Served





# Maternal Mortality

The Texas maternal mortality rate saw a sharp increase in 2012. New data analysis show the increase was not as sharp as originally reported, but is still worse than other states. Significant disparities still exist, as Black women are at the highest risk for maternal death.



# Selected Recommendations from the TX Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Task Force

1. Increase access to health services during the year after pregnancy & throughout the inter-conception period
2. Enhance screening and appropriate referral for maternal risk conditions.
3. Improve postpartum care management and discharge education for patients and families
4. Increase maternal health programming to target high-risk populations, especially Black women.

# Benefits of Family Planning



↓ Reduces unintended pregnancies & allows healthy birth spacing

↓ Reduces maternal & infant complication risks

↑ Results in better maternal & infant health outcomes

Provides a critical entry point into healthcare services:

- Helps prevent, detect, and manage chronic conditions before pregnancy
- Increases access to postpartum and inter-conception health care
- Improves continuity of care



T E X A S

Women's Healthcare  
COALITION

# Women's Preventive Healthcare and the 86<sup>th</sup> Legislature

# TWHC Policy Priorities



- 1.** Ensure funding for women's preventive healthcare, including contraception.
- 2.** Identify areas with a shortage of qualified family planning providers, develop strategies to increase provider participation in the state's women's health programs.
- 3.** Ensure women have access to the full range of FDA-approved contraceptives of their choice, including LARC.
- 4.** Increase continuity of care for women by eliminating barriers to preventive healthcare access.
- 5.** Maximize the ability of the women's healthcare safety net to reach more women and save Texas taxpayer dollars.

# Relevant Legislation



## Related to TWHC Priority #1:

- HB 1 & SB 1

Proposed State Budget (both budget proposals assume 1115 Waiver approval)

## Related to TWHC Priority #3:

- HB 30 (Hinojosa)

Relating to the transfer of unused long-acting reversible contraceptive products under Medicaid and the Healthy Texas Women program.

## Related to TWHC Priority #4:

- SB 189 (Miles)

Relating to the automatic enrollment of certain women in the Healthy Texas Women program. *Companion by Thierry (HB 606)*

# Relevant Legislation



## Related to TWHC Priority #4:

- HB 60 (Ortega)

Relating to a requirement that public institutions of higher education provide certain information regarding certain women's health programs to students.

*Companion by Rodriguez (SB 256)*

## Related to TWHC Priority #5:

- HB 241 (Farrar)

Relating to the Medicaid eligibility of certain women after a pregnancy.

*Companions by Thierry (HB 411), Walle (HB 610), Rodriguez (SB 147)*

- SB 308 (Watson)

Relating to the Medicaid eligibility of certain women after a pregnancy

# Texas Women's Healthcare Coalition



## Get Involved!

Sign up for our newsletter – [www.TexasWHC.org](http://www.TexasWHC.org)

Call in or attend a meeting in Austin

Reach out to TWHC with recommendations and concerns

Provide your expertise through legislative visits and testimony



# Thank You!



**Evelyn Delgado**  
*Chair, TWHC*  
*President, Healthy Futures of Texas*  
*EDelgado@TexasWHC.org*

**Leah Gonzalez, MSSW**  
*Policy & Advocacy Associate, TWHC*  
*LGonzalez@TexasWHC.org*



**Erika Ramirez, MPA**  
*Director of Policy & Advocacy, TWHC*  
*ERamirez@TexasWHC.org*

**Perdita Henry**  
*Communications Specialist, TWHC*  
*PHenry@TexasWHC.org*

