

Massachusetts Family Planning Association (MFPA)

Comprehensive Family Planning = Protection, Planning, and Prevention

The Numbers: MFPA in FY07

9 MFPA agencies at
80 sites statewide

98,000 clients, more than
144,000 visits

94% of clients earned less
than 150% of the federal
poverty level;

61% earned less than
100% of the poverty level

More than 28% of clients
are teens

MFPA Provided

More than 140,000
prescriptions for birth
control pills

More than 1.5 million free
condoms

Nearly 17,000 emergency
contraception prescrip-
tions

More than 40,000 tests
for sexually transmitted
diseases and HIV

Nearly 60,000 cancer
screening tests

Community Outreach and
education to more than
20,000 people

FY09 Budget Request - DPH Line Item 4513-1000

An increase of \$620,000 to bring the funding for family planning to \$6,220,000 for comprehensive family planning services for low-income, un-insured and underinsured residents of the Commonwealth with the following line item language:

“provided further, that not less than \$6,220,000 shall be provided for comprehensive family planning services, including HIV counseling and testing, community-based health education and outreach services, provided by agencies certified as comprehensive family planning agencies.”

Investing in Comprehensive Family Planning for Important Life Decisions

Comprehensive Family Planning, including birth control, is a basic health care necessity, which must be readily accessible to low-income women/men and teens so that they may reach their full potential in achieving educational and professional goals

Comprehensive Family Planning **protects** against sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, and helps to prevent cervical cancer through the HPV vaccine; assists women in **planning** the birth and spacing of their children, resulting in improved maternal and infant health; and **prevents** unintended pregnancies and abortions as well as late stage breast and cervical cancers through medical services and health education and outreach.

Comprehensive Family planning is cost-effective, as every public dollar spent on CFP saves Medicaid \$3.80 in prenatal and newborn care costs, alone.

Insufficient DPH funding runs out before year's end, leaving providers to care for an average 27% of eligible clients without reimbursement. Massachusetts ranks 32nd in public funding for these services.

Comprehensive Family Planning is Successful

- Publicly Funded Comprehensive Family Planning services avert more than 32,000 unintended pregnancies in Massachusetts each year.
- Access to emergency contraception can be attributed to approximately 43% of the decline in abortions between 1994-2000.
- Access to pap smears has reduced cervical cancer by 75% over the past 50 years.

Comprehensive Family Planning is Needed

- In Massachusetts, more than 333,000 low income women and teens require publicly supported Comprehensive Family Planning.
- Currently 42% of eligible women and 29% of teens are receiving services.
- Since 1994, unintended pregnancy rates among low-income women have increased by 29% while decreasing among higher-income women.

COMPREHENSIVE FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES

Reproductive Health Care

- Comprehensive gynecological and testicular exams
- Birth Control – counseling and provision of all methods, including emergency contraception
- Free condoms
- STD diagnosis, treatment, and counseling
- HIV Counseling and testing
- HPV Vaccinations
- Pregnancy testing and counseling
- Screenings and follow-up for breast and cervical cancer
- Screenings and follow-up for hypertension, diabetes, cholesterol, and reproductive conditions
- Risk assessment for domestic violence, unhealthy lifestyle behaviors

Community Health Education and Outreach

MFPA agencies are recognized by parents, adolescents, adults, health providers, and community leaders as trusted sources of up-to-date and accurate information on reproductive and sexual health. The MFPA's comprehensive sexuality education recognizes that women/men and teens need access and information to be responsible and services emphasize prevention in assisting individuals to make healthy decisions about sexual behavior.

MFPA agencies partner with an extensive network of individuals, institutions, and organizations serving low-income and uninsured or underinsured women, men and young people of all races and ethnicities to ensure that they know how to access MFPA's affordable, confidential services when – or even before – they need them.

For more information visit: www.massfamilyplanning.org

Member Organizations

ABCD/Boston
Family Planning

www.bostonabcd.org

Cambridge Health
Alliance Family Planning

www.challiance.org

CEOC/Cambridge
Family Planning

www.ceoccambridge.org

Citizens for Citizens/
Family Planning

Fall River and Taughton

www.cfcinc.org

Health Awareness
Services of Central Mass

www.hascm.org

Health Care of
Southeastern Mass./
Reproductive Health
Services, *SE Mass, Cape
Cod and the Islands*

www.hcsm.org

Health Quarters
North Shore and
Merrimack Valley

www.healthq.org

Montachusett Opportunity
Council/ProHealth,

Northern Worcester County

www.mocinc.org

Tapestry Health
Berkshire, Franklin,
Hampden, and
Hampshire Counties

www.tapestryhealth.org

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