



State and Local Leaders Must Act Now for Abortion Justice *State and Municipal Funding for Abortion*

March 2023

Abortion has been severely restricted after the anti-abortion majority on the U.S. Supreme Court issued a decision that overturned *Roe v. Wade* and took away our fundamental right to abortion in June 2022. **Abortion is currently banned and/or unavailable in at least twenty states.** Amidst this national abortion care crisis, anti-abortion extremists continue to try to push care further out of reach – with their latest attack targeting access to medication abortion care.

For decades, people seeking abortion care have chosen medication abortion with mifepristone, a Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved medication with a 23-year track record of safety and effectiveness for ending an early pregnancy. Despite this, several anti-abortion groups filed *Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine et. al v. U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) et. al* in an effort to ban mifepristone nationwide. The case is before Judge Matthew Kacsmaryk, who has a track record of issuing anti-immigrant, anti-LGBTQ+, and anti-birth control decisions. When someone has made the decision to end their pregnancy, they should be able to get the best method of care for their circumstances, including mifepristone. But if there is a national ban on mifepristone, people who want this option may no longer have access, even in states where abortion is legal. **We can't allow anti-abortion politicians or judges to interfere with our freedom to make decisions about our health and lives.**

Everyone who needs abortion care should be able to get it without being shamed, punished, or going broke — unfortunately, that is not the reality for far too many people, especially women of color, people working to make ends meet, immigrants, young people, and LGBTQIA+ people.

THE OPPORTUNITY

State and local officials must fight for our communities and push for bold solutions that address the realities of getting an abortion and ensure abortion is available, affordable, and accessible for anyone who needs it. Leaders can make an immediate impact by providing funding for abortion care. **Abortion justice can't wait.**

When leaders allocate funding for abortion and other reproductive health care they help:

- * Ensure people in their community, and those who must leave restrictive states for abortion care, can get the essential and time-sensitive care they need.
- * Alleviate the harm of federal and state abortion restrictions which impose financial and logistical barriers and force people to pay for care out-of-pocket, take time off work, arrange for childcare, and find transportation.
- * Change inequitable systems by modeling transformation.
- * Build upon and invest in the existing infrastructure of trusted community-led abortion funds and other service providers who are in urgent need of funding.

Cities and states across the country are already leading the way to ensure abortion is available without barriers based on who we are, where we're from, or how much we earn. All* Above All and *State and Local Leaders Must Act Now for Abortion Justice*



National Institute for Reproductive Health have partnered with state and local advocates to share [Best Practices in Municipal Abortion Funding](#) and launch, win, and implement campaigns to fund abortion. Localities have taken a variety of creative approaches to funding abortion care, including the allocation of funds in annual budgets, one-time donations moved via ordinances, and the use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) emergency funds.

In 2022, 16 localities & six states allocated funding for abortion. In total, local elected leaders pledged **\$8,950,000** to cover both direct and practical support for abortion, doula services, gender-affirming care, and family planning services, with amounts ranging from \$25,000 to \$1.75M.

Locality	Funding Amount Pledged
Atlanta, GA	\$300,000
Baltimore, MD	\$300,000
Bloomington, IN	\$100,000
Chicago, IL	\$500,000
Nashville & Davidson County, TN	\$500,000
Columbus, OH	\$1 million
Cuyahoga County, OH	\$475,000
Fresno, CA	\$1 million
Hennepin County, MN	\$500,000
King County, WA	\$500,000
Los Angeles County, CA	\$25,000
New York, NY	\$1 million
Philadelphia, PA	\$500,000
San Francisco, CA	\$250,000
Seattle, WA	\$250,000
St. Louis, MO	\$1.75 million

Please contact **Jenny Dodson Mistry** at jmistry@nirhealth.org to learn more about state and municipal funding for abortion, get connected with advocates in your community, access messaging guidance on how to talk about abortion and avoid perpetuating abortion stigma, and learn how the [National Institute for Reproductive Health](#) can support you in your work.