



Funding Opportunity for Repro and Data Privacy Policy Lab Advancing State and Local Legislation to Regulate Surveillance

The National Institute for Reproductive Health (NIRH) is requesting proposals from reproductive health, rights, and justice organizations and data privacy and anti-surveillance organizations interested in joining our Repro and Data Privacy Policy Lab. The Policy Lab's goal is to support cross-movement collaboration to advance state and/or local legislation protecting reproductive health data and combating harmful surveillance practice(s). This initiative aims to not only shift policy, but to seed long-term cultural change in how anti-surveillance work and data privacy are understood and practiced across movements.

Successful applicants will receive funding of up to \$40,000 each for two reproductive health, rights, and justice organizations or of up to \$20,000 each for two data privacy organizations. Completed applications are due on June 11, 2025. The Policy Lab will run from September 1, 2025 to August 31, 2026.

About NIRH

The National Institute for Reproductive Health (NIRH) drives state and local advocacy that defines the future of reproductive freedom. Through deep partnerships, strategic expertise, and values-based leadership, NIRH works to advance policies that protect and expand access to abortion, contraception, and birth justice in states and localities across the country. Working across geographies and political conditions, NIRH equips advocates and policymakers with the tools to lead—building lasting infrastructure, shifting culture, and translating public support into policy change. Our work has included building broad and inclusive coalitions, planning and launching campaigns, and creating opportunities to enact progressive policies that expand access to reproductive health care.

This work has never been more essential. Political attacks on reproductive freedom and bodily autonomy are unrelenting. Creating a pathway forward requires focus, resolve, and investment in leaders and campaigns that aren't just holding the line - but actively redrawing it.



NIRH's Partnership Strategy

For over 20 years, NIRH has worked hand-in-hand with partners in communities across the country to create a new future for reproductive rights and justice. This work is fueled by the development of bold policy solutions, including legislation, budgetary advocacy, regulatory change, and executive action. It requires wrap-around support through technical assistance; strategic guidance; and advocacy, policy, and communications support. NIRH's approach contributes to the sustainability of our movement by building state and local capacity and creating opportunities for community learning and knowledge sharing amongst partners. Since 2008, NIRH has advanced our mission in 43 states, including more than 80 localities, by working side-by-side with more than 200 organizational partners.

NIRH is committed to centering and working with those who face disproportionate barriers to accessible reproductive health care and who are most impacted by systemic racism. This includes Black and Brown people, immigrants, the LGBTQ+ community, people with disabilities, and people with low incomes. We prioritize partnering with organizations led by and deeply connected to these communities as we strive to build an equitable world where all people can determine their own futures and all families can thrive. We also recognize that reproductive freedom cannot be won in isolation. Across our partnerships, we encourage alignment with other movements—racial, economic, LGBTQ+, and democracy—recognizing that the same forces attacking reproductive autonomy are also threatening fundamental civil rights.

NIRH's Commitment to Racial Equity

NIRH staff have a deep commitment to racial equity, and have been engaged in an ongoing process to adopt and incorporate a racial equity lens across the organization. We are a reproductive health and rights organization that incorporates reproductive justice values into our work. We recognize the interconnectivity of identities, such as race, socio-economic status, immigration status, ability, sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity, and how they interact with systems of oppressions to shape and impact a person's freedom and ability to control their reproductive and sexual lives. This understanding is foundational to our partnership approach.

About the Repro and Data Privacy Policy Lab

The Repro and Data Privacy Policy Lab will support cross-movement collaboration between reproductive health, rights, and justice organizations and data privacy organizations to address the threat of reproductive health data misuse. Together, Policy Lab participants will co-develop and advance local or state legislation that protects health data and curbs surveillance, build mutual understanding of intersecting threats and policy solutions, enhance internal security practices, and contribute to a broader culture shift toward collective resistance to criminalization.

Reproductive health, rights, and justice organizations in the Policy Lab will lead on-the-ground policy engagement, grassroots lobbying, and narrative strategies in their states or municipalities. Data Privacy organizations will fill a technical advisory and capacity-building role, providing guidance, policy expertise, and digital security recommendations while gaining expertise in the reproductive health, rights, and justice movement. In addition to work towards policy wins, the Policy Lab aims to share our learnings and disseminate model policies within the larger reproductive health, rights, and justice movement, raising awareness of the intersection of surveillance and reproductive freedom and influencing their work.

Depending on the priorities and context in which Policy Lab members operate, including specific population needs and political climate, potential outcomes could include:

- Development and work toward passing one or more proactive policies in their states and/or localities that address a pressing anti-surveillance or data privacy challenge. Potential policy areas may include:
 - Prohibiting geo-fencing and license plate tracking,
 - Regulating data brokers and protecting consumer health data use,
 - Strengthening data protections for electronic health records (EHRs).
- Creation of effective messaging toolkits, talking points, and narratives, informed by existing research, and tested for resonance and impact among key stakeholders.
- Creation of model policies, issue briefs, talking points, and/or presentations.
- Practical adoption of internal data privacy and security measures within the Policy Lab member organizations.
- Cross-movement relationship-building and elevated capacity and power to further work at the intersection of repro and data privacy.

Commitment to the Policy Lab

Both reproductive health, rights, and justice organizations and data privacy organizations will be expected to participate in the following:

- Two 60–75 min virtual Policy Lab calls per month
 - One skill-building Labs (e.g., data retention, digital security, cross-movement privacy skill share)
 - One Office Hours space for project-based support
- At least one in-person convening
- A secure communications tool for rapid updates and connection
- Ongoing collaboration on movement-facing resources, including a policy brief and communications materials

Reproductive health, rights, and justice organizations will additionally:

- Lead on-the-ground policy engagement and narrative strategies and organize campaign actions (e.g., council briefings, teach-ins), executing at least one per quarter
- Support the development of a model policy brief with lived expertise
- Adopt at least two internal digital-safety practices and share implementation process

Anti-surveillance/data privacy organizations will additionally:

- Provide tailored technical assistance to reproductive health, right, and justice partners during monthly Office Hours, along with NIRH staff
- Lead on the development of technical sections of the policy toolkit
- Co-develop and co-facilitate trainings with reproductive health, rights, and justice partners, as needed and determined by the Policy Lab participants and NIRH
- Support implementation of digital safety practices with reproductive health, rights, and justice partners

To support organizations' participation in the Policy Lab and for reproductive health, rights, and justice organizations to lead a state or local policy effort, funding of up to \$40,000 is available for reproductive health, rights, and justice organizations and up to \$20,000 for data privacy organizations.

Selection Criteria and Submission Process

Data Privacy Organizations

This project encourages applications from data privacy organizations with demonstrated experience working on issues related to health data privacy, with a preference for organizations with experience supporting advocacy organizations in implementing data privacy practices internally and/or organizations with previous advocacy experience.

While no prior experience in the right health, rights, and justice movement is required, data privacy organizations must demonstrate a baseline understanding of the surveillance and health data privacy threats facing reproductive health care patients, providers, and helpers, and state and local advocacy organizations. Data privacy organizations are expected to bring a justice lens to the work, including an understanding of the link between government surveillance and weaponization of reproductive health data to target the communities most at risk of criminalization.

NIRH prioritizes partnering with data privacy organizations that have demonstrated engagement and deep relationships with the communities most at risk of surveillance and criminalization, specifically Black, Indigenous, Latine, and Asian communities, immigrants, LGBTQ+ people, and people with low incomes.

Reproductive Health, Rights, and Justice Organizations

Reproductive health, rights, and justice organizations interested in applying do not need to hold prior data privacy and anti-surveillance expertise, but applicants should demonstrate an eagerness to learn and be able to explain how this work fits into their organization's vision and strategy. Organizations must be able to connect these issues to the criminalization of Black, Indigenous, Latine, and Asian communities, immigrants, LGBTQ+ people, and people with low incomes.

NIRH prioritizes partnering with organizations that have demonstrated engagement and deep relationships with the communities most at risk of surveillance and criminalization, as described above. NIRH also prioritizes partnering with independent state-based organizations.

This project explicitly encourages applications from reproductive health, rights, and justice organizations interested in working within:

- Municipalities pursuing proactive policy solutions under hostile state governments, including where there is a heightened risk of criminalization using locally gathered data, specifically in states where abortion is completely banned or severely limited.
- States with
 - Constitutional and/or state statutory protections for reproductive health, including abortion, but where clinics, patients, and helpers remain at heightened risk of surveillance and criminalization by some hostile state officials, such as the governor or state legislative majority.
 - Legal protections for providers who mail medication abortion across state lines, with the opportunity to enact additional proactive policy.

Submission Process

Completed applications are due on June 11, 2025 by 11:59 pm PDT. Please note that you cannot save the application form and come back to it, so make sure your proposal is complete before you begin this process. You can download a copy of the questions in each of the RFPs [here](#). Reproductive health, rights, and justice organizations and data privacy organizations each have a different set of questions to answer. Contact us at partnerships@nirhealth.org with any questions.

Important Dates

- **May 20** at 3 pm EDT: NIRH staff will host a webinar to review the RFPs and answer general questions. [Register here](#).
- **May 27 – June 6:** Optional: Schedule a 1:1 call with NIRH staff to discuss proposal ideas or answer specific questions. Please note staff will not review written proposals.
 - [Abortion Coverage Policy Lab](#)
 - [Birth Justice Policy Lab](#)
 - [Repro and Data Privacy Policy Lab](#)
- **June 11:** Proposal Deadline. [Submit your proposal\(s\) here](#).

- **July 21-25:** Interviews with final round applicants. If selected for an interview, applicants will be contacted with as much notice as possible to facilitate scheduling. Interviews will be no more than 30 minutes.
 - *We recognize that this falls during the summer and key staff may be more likely to be out of the office. Please do not feel the need to plan around this; if this week doesn't work, we will work with you and your team to develop an alternate plan that does work.*
- **August 15:** All applicants will be notified of final decisions – whether accepted or not – on a rolling basis, but no later than August 15.
- **September 1:** Partnerships will begin and run through August 31, 2026.

Strategic Guidance and Technical Assistance

NIRH is an advocacy organization, not a foundation. We are proud to offer a range of strategic guidance and technical assistance to our partners and prioritize partnerships with organizations who would benefit from this support as much as the funding we are able to offer.

- **Administrative:** Scheduling and planning meetings, note-taking, assistance with research and program planning, support with job descriptions and onboarding staff
- **Coalition building and management:** Coalition planning, formation, and governance; planning, facilitation, and follow-up for coalition meetings; navigating conflict and communication
- **Communication:** Creating messaging strategy and message development; support with digital strategy and content; support with media relations, including press strategy and support with earned media pitches.
- **Policy strategy:** Supporting the development of state and local-level policies, including drafting legislation, regulations, amendments, talking points, and testimony
- **Political organizing:** Supporting the creation of legislative and advocacy campaign strategy plans, execution of Lobby Days at the state or local level
- **Trainings & workshops:** Developing and hosting customized trainings on a range of topics for elected officials, community members, allies, and other stakeholders