IMPACT REPORT

2023

MIDWEST access COALITION

Pennyroyal

Thistle

Laminaria

Gossypium herbaceum

Blue Cohosh
The year and a half that has followed the Dobbs decision has brought me much joy and grief for me. This Spring, my partner and I became parents of Gemini twins (see below), thanks to the science of IVF. Midwest Access Coalition’s staff and board made it possible for me to take as much time as I needed with my new family. They also helped onboard 5 brilliant staff members and 5 new board members this year. This has greatly increased our capacity to support people and has also allowed us to further develop our Piggybank software project with Reprocare. Strengthening our infrastructure empowers MAC to practice the Reproductive Justice tenet of parenting children in safe and sustainable communities. MAC’s work makes it possible for parents to participate in creating a just world all the while witnessing the daily tragedies of parents in Gaza, Congo, and those seeking asylum at the US border.

After my parental leave, MAC met for an in-person staff and board retreat where I finally accepted how becoming a parent has reshaped the way I connect and approach the work. Parenthood is a humbling process, and part of me misses the productivity I used to enjoy, but I quickly learned I could lean on others more. Seeing the way everyone here cares for each other as much as they care about the work helped me embrace the change that parenthood brings. This keeps me going more than any abortion ban or hateful SCOTUS decision.

Many of the staff, including myself, started off as volunteers developing this work in the evenings and on lunch breaks for years. I’ll speak for them all and say that we feel tired, but with that comes motivation and opportunity to pass on lessons we’ve learned. Next year we will continue to expand, build stronger tech tools to share with the movement, and nurture thriving leaders that can pass on important skills while babysitting twin infants.

Diana Parker-Kafka (she/they)
Executive Director, Midwest Access Coalition
Co-founder & Board Member, Apiary for Practical Support
Founding Board Treasurer, Elevated Access
The Numbers

We spent over $1,000,000 on practical support expenses for people from every Midwest state and 16 states outside the Midwest.

$320,000+ for flights

$300,000+ for hotel

$8,000+ for client supplies such as toiletries, phones, and chargers

$6,000 to ship emergency contraception

$50,000+ for food

Top 5 states traveled to:

MAC clients went to 86 abortion providers, up from 58 in 2022 due to clinics and hospitals opening or expanding abortion related services. Check out ACN's 2023 Communities Need Clinics report to see the landscape of independent abortion care as we head into 2024.

Patti (she/her),
Co-Director of Client Services
Updates from Project Piggybank

2023 was a year of milestones for MAC and its technical operations. Since 2020, MAC has been using our own software to efficiently distribute cash to our clients through our clinic partners. After years of working, dreaming, and planning, we were able to convert our Lockbox app to the Piggybank Cashbox, opening up the app for other abortion funds and practical support organizations to utilize! This now means MAC is a software service provider to our peer organizations in the movement.

Big wins of 2023

- Presented on Project Piggybank at Abortion Care Network’s 2023 conference
- Onboarded our first new abortion fund users to the app, Fund Texas Choice & New Mexico Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice
- Collaborated with Reprocare and National Network of Abortion Funds to explore possible technical integrations between our tools
- Participated in the Techies 4 Reproductive Justice coalition space where we’ll be relaunching MAC tech volunteering in 2024

MAC DISTRIBUTED OVER $124,000 TO OUR CLIENTS VIA PIGGYBANK IN 2023!

Including:

- $73,000+ in gas reimbursements
- $9,000+ in childcare

Now with Piggybank Cashbox, other abortion funds can more easily distribute cash to their clients too!

The Power of Collaboration

While the Piggybank Cashbox is MAC’s app, Project Piggybank is a broader collaboration between MAC and Reprocare, whose Piggybank Portal app streamlines eligibility and funding between providers and abortion funds. Since 2021, we’ve been working to ensure our tools can be complementary and symbiotic, and we’re walking into 2024 ready to achieve some integrations!
Expanding Options

You probably saw in our 2022 Impact Report that you can now get free emergency contraception from MAC. Whether it’s an EC kit for your personal use, or a bulk order for you to distribute in your community, MAC has your back! We distributed over 8,000 boxes of EC in 2023.

Plan B and Julie emergency contraception are medications to help prevent one from becoming pregnant up to 72 hours after sexual contact. We believe EC should be available to anyone at no cost but emergency contraception can be hard to access in rural areas and financially burdensome. There is no age requirement to access this nonprescription over-the-counter medication.

You can still find the same essential products in MAC's EC kits this year, like menstrual pads, pregnancy tests and pee cup, condoms, and a snack. We’re also excited to share we’ve partnered with the Illinois State Rifle Association to offer gun locks and Emergent to provide Narcan.

If you or someone you know would like a free emergency contraception kit or get EC in bulk, please submit the EC form or text our confidential hotline at 847-750-6224.

Be on the lookout in 2024 for free emergency contraception vending machines from MAC! The first one at Dorothy in Chicago has already been delivered and we are excited to start stocking it with all the things you have come to know and love from our kits, plus more!
“By providing excellent communication and timely responses to patient and client needs, The Midwest Access Coalition team’s support and guidance has been invaluable. They connected Equity Clinic and our patients with other partners such as Elevated Access. Their expertise and kindness have made a difference in many lives. We are grateful to have the opportunity to work with them.” - Sheryl Rich, Office Manager

“We are eternally grateful for the support we can offer our patients because of Midwest Access Coalition. It’s such a comfort to know that we are all working together to get our people what they have a right to, choice. We are committed. We are a team.” - Meg Larkin, Center Administrator

“Abortion services returning to Wisconsin feels empowering. We have gained some of our freedom back to support patients and their right to choose. As we continue to fight the fight, we are proud to be standing alongside MAC.” - Naomi Jackson, Regional Director of Specialty Services

“Many people seeking abortion care in Michigan live substantial distances from their nearest clinic and reside outside regions covered by existing state abortion funds. Hydra Fund was designed to fill the gaps to support all folks seeking care in Michigan. Regardless of their zip code. Our partnership with Midwest Access Coalition allows us to expand care by reaching people who aren’t yet aware that we offer funding, practical support, and counseling. Our partnership increases our collective capacity to provide outstanding client management.” - Jex Blackmore

“Being in partnership with MAC is so helpful for abortion seekers because the open line of communication between our organizations allows for more streamlined care for them. Together, we can maximize quality care for abortion seekers who don’t have to lose precious time and resources finding that support. We are happy to be able to support telehealth clients through AFF and to have a partner in MAC who can support clients with practical support needs.” - Christie, Ruchi, & Julie
Major 2023 Supporters

The City of St. Louis* | Lisa & Douglas Goldman Foundation | Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Philanthropies | The Weissman Family Foundation | Summer Oaks Fund | Reva and David Logan Foundation | Tara Health Foundation | Conant Family Foundation | Hearthland Foundation | Women Donors Network | The Brigid Alliance | National Network of Abortion Funds | Collaborative for Gender + Reproductive Equity/Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors | Girls Just Want to Have Fundamental Rights Fund at the Tides Foundation | Chicago Community Foundation | Arkansas Abortion Support Network | Oechsle Family Foundation | James P and Brenda S Grusecki Family Foundation | The Hunter Family Foundation | California Community Foundation | Chicago Foundation For Women | Sara and Two C-Dogs Foundation | Roe Fund | Olly Costello | Second Unitarian | The Lichen Fund | Many Anonymous Donors

* awarded, money being blocked by the MO Attorney General

Individual donors made up 60% of our funding this year

Thank You

Dezi (they/them),
Client Coordinator

Madison (she/her),
Incoming Deputy Director
Some Of Our Many Partners
In The News This Year

- America’s abortion access divide is reshaping blue-state border towns
- ‘Dream bigger’: How weekend marches keep advocates’ fight for Roe v. Wade alive
- Plan B vending machines fail to make it into Illinois’ latest abortion legislation
- Feminist Buzzkills Live: Fake Clinics Out Here Causing Cancer
- Politicat: Chicago Mayoral Elections Special
- Small planes and secrecy: Pilots fly people to Kansas and other states for abortions
- In post-Roe America, these Minnesotans are getting people to their abortion appointments
- Remaking America: Crossing State Lines For Abortion Care
- Abortion Funds: ‘Out Loud and Proud About Aiding and Abetting Abortions’
- Bill targets ‘misleading practices’ at Illinois crisis pregnancy centers
- One year on the new front line of America’s abortion fight
- Romance for Reproductive Justice, a Pod Interlude
- Kansas is a sanctuary state for abortion. What’s at stake if it’s outlawed?
- ‘Still in flux.’ Abortion’s uncertain future a year after Roe was overturned
- Tale of two states: A year after Roe v. Wade overturned in Missouri and Illinois
- ‘They are going to attack abortion through any means necessary’
- The end of Roe, one year later
- St. Louis marks year since ‘Dobbs’ Supreme Court decision on abortion
- Abortion fund coordinator reflects one year after the fall of Roe v. Wade
- Judge Blocks St. Louis From Granting Federal Funds for Abortion Support
- Abortion bans build off each other. Indiana’s will impact people across the region
- Iowa limits abortion access; where to get abortion care in the Midwest
- Who's Getting Abortions? The Answer May Surprise You
- Illinois City Becomes New Abortion Haven for Out-of-State Women
- Abortion after the ban: How Iowans may still seek legal abortions
- ‘Exception’ to Iowa’s Six-Week Abortion Ban Gives Victims Six Weeks, Four Days to Report a Rape
- Indiana ban to go into effect in next two weeks
- Battle over abortion access moves from Indiana to Illinois
- Ohio vote shows enduring power of abortion rights at ballot box, giving Democrats a path in 2024
- A year after TN’s abortion ban, 14,000 people have faced limited choices, devastating consequences
- Ukrainian Village Lesbian Bar Getting Vending Machine With Free Emergency Contraceptives
- Illinois law holds crisis pregnancy centers accountable for fraud, misinformation
- The Whole Story with Anderson Cooper, Without Roe: The New Abortion Landscape
- Planned Parenthood to resume offering abortions next week in Wisconsin, citing court ruling
- Inside the nationwide web of activists helping Texans get abortions
- The Defenders: 800 Miles to Freedom
- Out of sight, out of mind
- Women’s Issues, Women’s Voices November 13
- Abortion rights won big on the ballot in Ohio. But in Missouri, advocates remain divided
- Abortions shoot up in Illinois as more states ban procedure
We'll be giving away FREE Plan B at Thick Mall!
Because fat folks need to take twice as much EC (and pay twice as much for it!)

May 21, 2023 | 12:30-5pm | Sleeping Village

ABORTION FUNDS & ORGS TO SUPPORT

FRONTERA FUND (TEXAS)
https://fronterafund.org/ | @fronterafund
Provides financial & logistical support to undocumented people in the Rio Grande Valley seeking abortions.

WEST FUND (TEXAS)
https://westfund.org/ | @westfundtx
Provides funding for patients who live in the Southwest: El Paso, Texas; Cd. Juarez, Chihuahua, and south/eastern New Mexico.

THE MARIPOSA FUND (NEW MEXICO)
https://mariposafund.org/
Assists undocumented people who will be seen at Southwestern Women's Options in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

FLORIDA ACCESS NETWORK (FLORIDA)
https://flaccessnetwork.org/ | @flaccessnetwork
Supports undocumented & immigrant folks, Trans & Gender non-conforming communities, Black & Indigenous peoples, and those who have physical or mental ability needs.

MIDWEST ACCESS COALITION (MIDWEST)
https://midwestaccesscoalition.org/ | @midwestaccess
Covers travel costs, childcare, lodging, meals and more. MAC does not turn away clients because of age, income, insurance, or immigration status.

A night of music... in support of abortion funds, community, and bodily autonomy

WOMEN EMPOWERING WOMEN
Baltimores & Liberations Artes & Entrenamiento

FRIDAY 28
LUNCH & LEARN - ZSLG TQTAY: REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE
12:45-1:00 PM
University Union
102 S Wright St, Champaign

SATURDAY 29
BIPOC FOR GREATER BIRTH DOUGLAS FOR BIRTH JUSTICE
3:00-4:00PM
A Mother's Journey, Inc.
202 S Bradley Ave, Urbana

SUNDAY 30
PARTY FOR REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE
8:00-10:00 PM
180 N Race St, Urbana

Arsenal puppy Love music from local bands! Specializes in New Souls, Kelly Ann Bond, and Willow Gough. How about you come in to dance. Prong Tail fundraising will benefit Urbana Access Coalition and Abortion Access Coalition.