

# WOMEN'S HEALTH

## Family Planning



### What is the purpose of the program?

To improve the health of women and infants by enabling families to plan and space pregnancies and prevent unintended pregnancy.

### What does the program do?

The Georgia Family Planning Program (GFPP) provides comprehensive reproductive health services to women of childbearing age and their partners. Services include physical exams; birth control counseling and supplies; abstinence skills training; immunizations; and screening for cancer, high blood pressure, diabetes, HIV and other sexually transmitted infections. The GFPP also provides screening, counseling and referral for risk factors affecting women's health such as substance abuse, poor nutrition, cigarette smoking and exposure to violence.

### Why is the program important?

For every dollar spent on family planning services, Georgia saves \$4.40 on medical care, welfare and nutritional programs for babies up to age two. Over two years, the savings could equal \$16 million. Family planning programs increase the percentage of women receiving early prenatal care and reduce the risk of low birth weight, which reduces expensive medical costs and lifelong disabilities for babies. Unintended pregnancies often have adverse health, social, or economic consequences for both women and children. These consequences may include lower levels of educational and job attainment, as well as greater risk for families to live in poverty. Eighty-seven percent of the individuals served are working poor or unemployed (at or below 150% of the Federal Poverty Level), and typically have no health insurance. Family planning programs provide many of these women with their only source of primary and reproductive health care.

### How many people are helped by the program?

In FY 2007, the program served 159,617 women and 5,089 men.

### Who is eligible?

The program is designed to provide access to contraceptive supplies and information to all who want and need them with priority given to low income persons.

### Where are services located?

Services are available in all of Georgia's 159 counties at 242 clinic sites.

### Outcome measures

- Reduce the number of unintended pregnancies in Georgia.
- Increase the number of women and men receiving family planning services.

### Legislative Authority

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Project Grant for Family Planning Services, OCGA 49-7-03

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<http://health.state.ga.us/programs/familyplanning/>

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