Donor Brief ~ November 2021

An unmet need

Most medical and nursing education programs in the country do not provide adequate training in reproductive health. Some are restricted by conservative state laws or cultural norms, while many are housed in religiously affiliated hospitals that adhere to faith-based prohibitions against reproductive health training and procedures. State abortion bans, harassing litigation, and regulatory restrictions all reduce training opportunities. As a result, fewer clinicians are trained to be abortion providers and gaps in reproductive health care and training widen.

MAP’s unique approach to meet the need

Since 2007, Midwest Access Project has been developing programs to increase the accessibility of full-spectrum reproductive health care in the region. True to our mission, MAP continues to remove barriers by offering education and training opportunities for healthcare providers nationwide. MAP is the Midwest’s only on-the-ground nonprofit organization addressing training gaps.

The cornerstone of MAP’s mission focused work is its Individual Clinical Training program which arranges individually-tailored rotations for medical and nursing students, medical residents, practicing physicians, advance practice clinicians, and nurses. Since its founding, MAP has provided clinical training rotations to over 320 health care professionals. MAP trainees come from all over the country and around the world.

Trainings range from one-day observations to month-long, hands-on rotations. MAP’s training partners are established, high-quality clinics in Illinois, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Kansas, Tennessee, Michigan, and Oklahoma.

“\[My training with MAP was such a unique experience. I am inspired by the model of care for providing medication abortion via telehealth, and I will incorporate this care into my future practice.\]” 3rd Year Family Medicine Resident, 2021

MAP’s Provider Education program offers workshops on reproductive health care to educational institutions, community-based groups, and national and regional conferences. Presentation topics include contraception, all options pregnancy counseling, abortion care, and the impact of regional disparities on patients and providers. The program seeks to increase knowledge of comprehensive reproductive health care and inspire continued training.
Midwest Access Project thanks its foundation and family fund partners:

- Argosy Foundation
- Best Portion Foundation
- Chicago Foundation for Women
- Conant Family Foundation
- Ellie Fund at the Jewish Women’s Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago
- Evans Family Foundation
- Gorlitz Foundation Ltd
- Grant Healthcare Foundation
- Irving Harris Foundation
- Jill and Brad Gordon Foundation
- James P. & Brenda S. Grusecki Foundation
- Haviraj Foundation
- The Kellcie Fund
- Lakshmi Foundation
- The Lehman-Stamm Family Fund
- Lisa & Douglas Goldman Fund
- Liz Kramer Lefkofksy
- The Mayer and Morris Kaplan Family Foundation
- Reggi Marder Foundation
- Sara and Two C-Dogs Foundation
- SB Wolf Family Foundation
- The Sidney and Sondra Berman Epstein Fund at the Chicago Community Foundation
- Barnett A. Slepian Memorial Fund
- Telligen Community Initiative

MAP programs expand access to high quality comprehensive reproductive health care.

The January 2018 edition of Contraception, an international reproductive health journal, published an article detailing the effectiveness of Midwest Access Project’s training model. Findings include:

* Nearly all of MAP’s alum provide full scope contraception and pregnancy options counseling;
* Half of MAP alum provide abortion;
* The majority work in the Midwest and are family physicians;
* MAP trainees who had higher numbers of rotations and more hands-on experiences were significantly more likely to provide abortion;
* MAP training increased their PREPARATION and INTENT to provide;
* MAP alum are filling access gaps, advocating for reproductive health, and training others.

MAP’s foundation partners and individual donors help sustain and grow its training programs.

Every donation advances MAP’s mission.

* $3,600 = one 10-day clinical rotation, which includes site fees, staff coordination time, supplies, and administrative costs.

* $500 = trainer fee for one physician instructed clinical workshop.

MAP’s impact is limited only by the resources it raises every year.

It’s a simple equation. Increased resources = more training and expanded access. And expanded access to reproductive health care allows people to parent when they are ready, to prevent pregnancy with patient-centered contraception, and to receive high quality abortion care and miscarriage management services when the need arises.

With much gratitude,

Lynne Johnson
Executive Director