



midwest access project

Filling the Gaps ~ Training Providers in Reproductive Health

Midwest Access Project (MAP) envisions a society in which every person has access to comprehensive, high quality, patient-centered sexual and reproductive health care in their community. Our mission is to improve access to comprehensive reproductive health care by training providers in abortion, miscarriage care, contraception, and pregnancy options counseling. Rooted in the Midwest, MAP's innovative training model fills gaps nationwide in medical education and clinical training.

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Donor Brief ~ Winter 2022/2023

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 works to increase the accessibility of full-spectrum reproductive health care around the country. True to our mission, MAP removes 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 350 health care professionals.**

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. MAP also offers telehealth training in Washington and Maryland, and rural mobile health unit services around the country.

"Thanks again to everyone at MAP for this opportunity. It is what I've been seeking for four years and you helped me make it happen. Now I will be able to provide abortions where they are very needed." California physician, 2022.

MAP's **Provider Education** program offers workshops on reproductive health care to residents, students and clinicians. Presentation topics include contraception, all options pregnancy counseling, abortion care, telehealth, gender affirming care, and self-managed abortion. The program seeks to increase knowledge of comprehensive reproductive health care and inspire continued training.



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.*

Midwest Access Project thanks its foundation and family fund partners:

- Angell Family Foundation
- Argosy Foundation
- Best Portion Foundation
- Conant Family Foundation
- Elaine and Barry Nekritz
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MAP's foundation partners and individual donors help **sustain and grow** its training programs.



Every donation advances MAP's mission.

* \$4,100 = one 10-day clinical rotation, which includes site fees, staff coordination time, supplies, and administrative costs.

* \$500 = trainer fee for one clinician instructed 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,

Alison Mankowski
Interim Executive Director



Midwest Access Project is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, incorporated in the State of Illinois.