

Texas women's health programs provide access to essential services, including:

- Annual well-woman exams
- Pap tests
- Breast cancer screening
- Screenings/treatment for sexually transmitted infections
- Diabetes screenings
- High blood pressure screenings
- Cholesterol screenings
- Contraceptive methods
- Diagnostic services for abnormal breast or cervical cancer test results
- Health education and counseling

Why are these services important?

These essential services are important because they save the state money and:

- Ensure newborns are healthy;
- Reduce the number of births paid for by Medicaid;
- Detect diseases early, when complications can be prevented.

Women's preventive services and contraception help women avoid unplanned pregnancies, which can lead to higher risks of prematurity and low birth weight, educational and economic disadvantage, and poor child mental and physical health.



Texas Women Need Preventive Healthcare

The Texas Women's Healthcare Coalition

is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of Texas women, babies, and families by ensuring access to preventive healthcare – including health screenings and contraception – for all Texas women.

TWHC brings together healthcare, faith, and community-based organizations committed to increasing access to women's healthcare.



TEXAS
Women's Healthcare
COALITION

Texas Women's Healthcare Coalition

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TEXAS
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COALITION

Texas Women's Healthcare Coalition: Advocating for a state where every woman has access to preventive and wellness care.

Access to preventive and preconception care—including health screenings and contraception—means healthy, planned pregnancies and early detection of cancers and other treatable conditions.

Approximately 1.8 million Texas women are in need of publicly supported preventive and wellness care.

Funding Restored. More Work Remains.

The Texas Legislature boosted funding for women's health in 2013 and 2015. But the need for care is still far greater than the supply, and the capacity of healthcare providers to meet the need for services remains uncertain.

Lack of access to preventive healthcare means more pregnancies without prenatal care, more unplanned pregnancies, higher risks of child abuse and neglect, and higher Medicaid costs.

Our objectives:

- Increase funding for women's preventive healthcare, including contraception, to fully meet the growing need among low-income uninsured women;
- Ensure Texas has a strong provider network with the capacity to serve all women in need of preventive health services;
- Support innovative health care policies that benefit the health of Texas' women and families.

How does the TWHC achieve its goal?

- Working with state legislators to increase access to preventive health care for Texas women;
- Strengthening relationships among coalition members and community stakeholders;
- Educating the public and mobilizing statewide support for women's preventive health care;
- Building relationships with leaders in state agencies to improve programs that serve Texas women.

General Members

Access Esperanza Clinics Inc.
Amistad Community Health Center
Austin Advanced Practice Nurses
Austin Physicians for Social Responsibility
AWHONN Texas
Brazos Valley Nurse Practitioner Association
Cardea
Center for Community Health, UNTHSC
Central Texas Nurse Practitioners
Children's Hospital Association of Texas
Coalition for Nurses in Advanced Practice
Coastal Bend Advanced Practice Nurses
Consortium of Texas Certified Nurse Midwives
Department of Ob/Gyn of UNTHSC and the ForHER Institute
El Paso Area Advanced Practice Nurse Association
Fort Worth Region Nurse Practitioners
Gateway to Care
Good Neighbor Health Center

Healthy Futures Alliance
Hill Country Advanced Practice Nurses & Physician Assistants Association
Houston Area Chapter of NAPNAP
Houston Area Nurse Practitioners
League of Women Voters of Texas
Legacy Community Health Services
National Council of Jewish Women—Texas State Policy Advocacy Network
National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health
North Harris Montgomery Advanced Practice Nurse Society
North Texas Alliance to Reduce Teen Pregnancy
North Texas Nurse Practitioners
Panhandle Nurse Practitioner Association
People's Community Clinic
Port Arthur Housing Authority
SALVERE (Striving to Achieve Literacy via Education, Research, and Engagement)
San Antonio Metropolitan Health District
San Antonio Nurses in Advanced Practice
Schneider Communications
South Plains Nurse Practitioner Association
South Texas Family Planning & Health Corp.

Southeast Texas Nurse Practitioner Associates
St. David's Foundation
Texas Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
Texas Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy
Texas Council on Family Violence
Texas Health Institute
Texas Hospital Association
Texas Medical Association Alliance
Texas Nurse Practitioners
Texas Nurses Association
Texas Pediatric Society
Texas Unitarian Universalist Justice Ministry
University Health System
Women's & Men's Health Services of the Coastal Bend, Inc.

Steering Committee Members

Texas Medical Association
District XI (Texas) American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
Texas Academy of Family Physicians
Texas Association of Community Health Centers
Methodist Healthcare Ministries
Teaching Hospitals of Texas
Texans Care for Children
Center for Public Policy Priorities
Healthy Futures of Texas