

2021

Impact Report



FUND TEXAS CHOICE

THE POST-ROE FUTURE HAS ARRIVED

The post-Roe future we've dreaded for years arrived in Texas on September 1, 2021, when SB8 became the law of the land.

You can still get an abortion in Texas. But only for about one week of your pregnancy – so early that most people don't even know they're pregnant yet. Since September 1, 99% of Fund Texas Choice clients have been unable to get an abortion close to home.

But thanks to you, that hasn't meant the end of abortion care for Texans. Your generosity enabled hundreds of people to get the abortion care they needed – and, crucially, helped ramp up our infrastructure to meet the overwhelming need. This impact report is both a record of a terrible year for reproductive justice ... *and* a story about how thousands of people from all 50 states and the District of Columbia, as well as 21 nations, stood up to fight back.

Your generosity has strengthened our organization, our networks and coalitions ... and our resolve. As this report shows, the fight for reproductive justice and autonomy didn't end in Texas on September 1. Thanks to you, we're stronger and better prepared to meet the difficult days ahead.

One critical goal for this year is to normalize abortion care. Anti-abortion extremists push the message that abortion is shameful. But thanks to you, our fight to keep abortion safe, legal, and accessible will continue. We also must keep the pressure on the radical lawmakers who are the architects of these schemes. This year, they will face the voters for the first time since SB8 went into effect – and we intend to highlight the impact of their cruelty every step of the way.

Thank you for standing with us in this long battle for reproductive justice, in Texas and beyond.

With gratitude,

Anna Rupani, Executive Director &
Yolanda Barnes, President - Board of Directors



Anna Rupani



Yolanda Barnes

P.S. This report features direct quotations from the people you helped in 2021. We hope you will scroll through and read their words of gratitude and relief. You made them possible!

*"The transportation was perfect.
The support over text was amazing. I felt
taken care of. I felt like I was in good hands!"*

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2021 Program Numbers

686
total clients
served

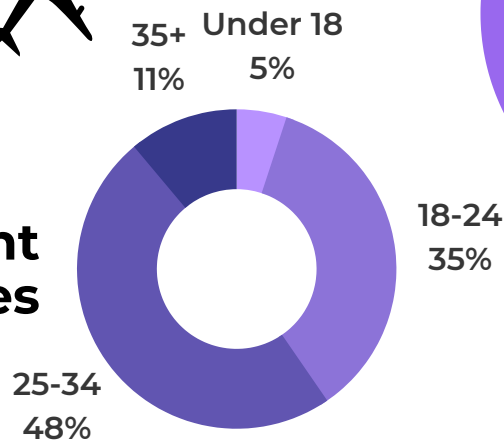
Total Miles Travelled:

667,949

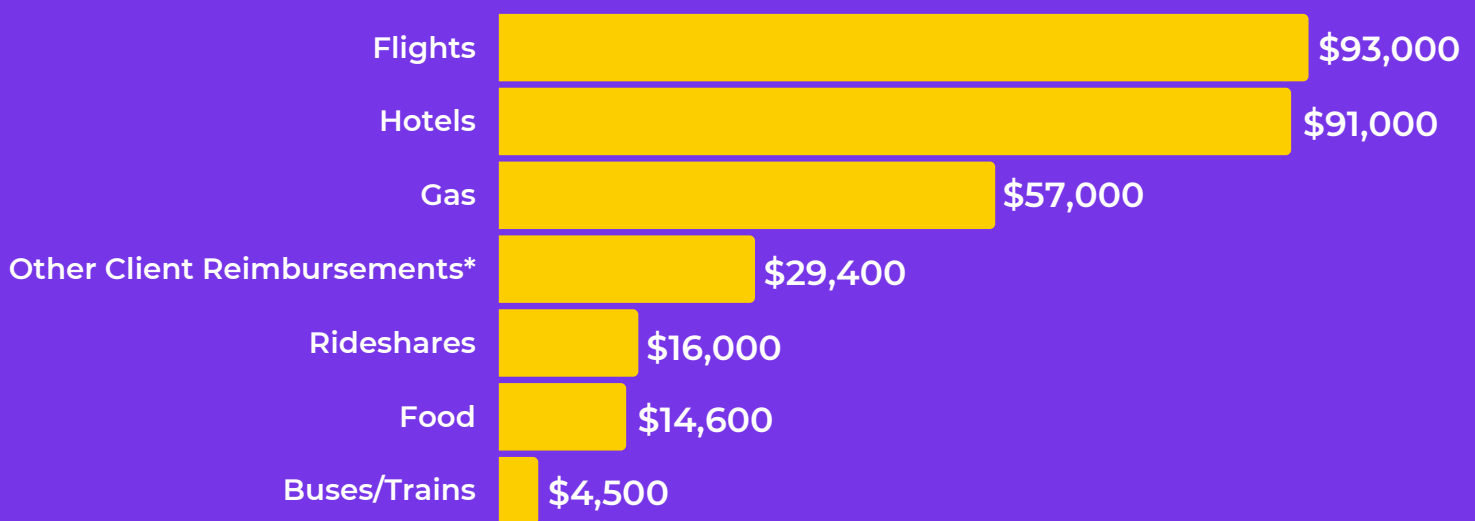


73%
of our clients
identify as BIPOC

Client Ages



What did we fund?



*medicine, sanitary supplies, rental cars, and client purchased travel expenses

"I was so scared in this journey but you made me feel like I was not alone the entire time. Bless everyone who made this difficult journey a little bit easier and possible."

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SB8 IMPACT

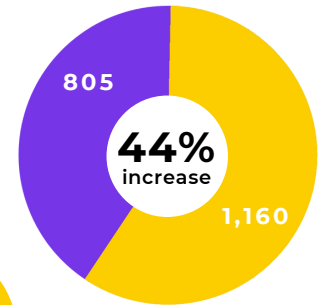
Abortion access has never been easy in Texas; residents outside major metropolitan areas have long been forced to travel long distances and stay away from work and family to get the care they deserve.

But SB8 shut down access completely, to nearly everyone. Functionally, it is a total ban – a blunt instrument with zero provisions to protect the health and safety of people facing unwanted pregnancy and it has real-world effects.

Looking ahead, as more states shut down access to abortion, there will be a handful of destination states where the rest of the country – millions of people – will be forced to travel for care. That means longer distances and longer trips, which we're already seeing.

What this means is that organizations like ours are going to play an even larger role in ensuring access to abortion. It's no longer enough to fund clinics and rely on volunteer escorts to ensure access. We'll need to sustain abortion funds as the primary guardians of access for anyone living in a state where abortion is under attack. In other words: your support is going to matter even more in the future.

Average Miles Travelled
Pre & Post SB8



2,164
miles

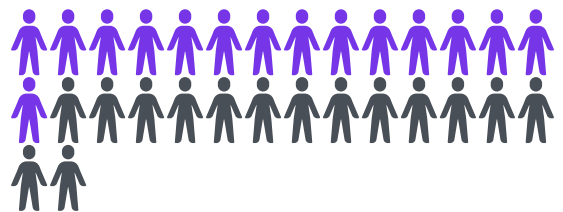
Longest one-way
distance traveled

"Sadly, my medical issues made this pregnancy life-threatening to me. Three specialists advised me that termination was medically necessary. But with the new heartbeat law, no doctor could legally terminate the pregnancy until my life actually was in danger. So I just have to wait until my uterus ruptures and I'm bleeding to death? My life isn't more important? And my six-year-old little girl having her mommy isn't important?"

Requests for Assistance



Before SB8, we received 40-50 requests for assistance per month and met 90+% of the need.



Post SB8, we receive over 300 requests for assistance per month and even with increased staff, meet ~50% of the need.

Meeting the Challenge

Your generosity in 2021 helped us scale up our operational staff to meet the overwhelming need created by SB8.

Thanks to your support, we created three new program coordinator staff positions – boots on the ground to answer phones and make travel arrangements. Your generosity directly increased the number of people we could help.

We also developed Program Manager, Development & Communications Manager, and Chief Operating Officer positions, to ensure that we're working with our partner organizations and coordinating our planning and operations.

These new staff positions better prepare us to respond in 2022.



Sahra,
Program Manager



Jaylynn,
Dev. & Comm. Manager



Natalie,
Program
Coordinator



Sam,
Program Coordinator



Sofia,
Program
Coordinator



Rebecca,
COO

New Services



62%

of our clients
identified as parents
and shared that child care is the
number one barrier to accessing
abortion care after travel expenses.

Thanks to your support, we've made the strategic decision to add child care support to our roster of services. Recognizing the extreme hardship on parents who are forced to find overnight care for their children, we have begun reimbursing clients for child care expenses in addition to travel and food costs.

Your generosity helped fuel new connections and relationships across the country that are already proving critical to the fight for reproductive justice.

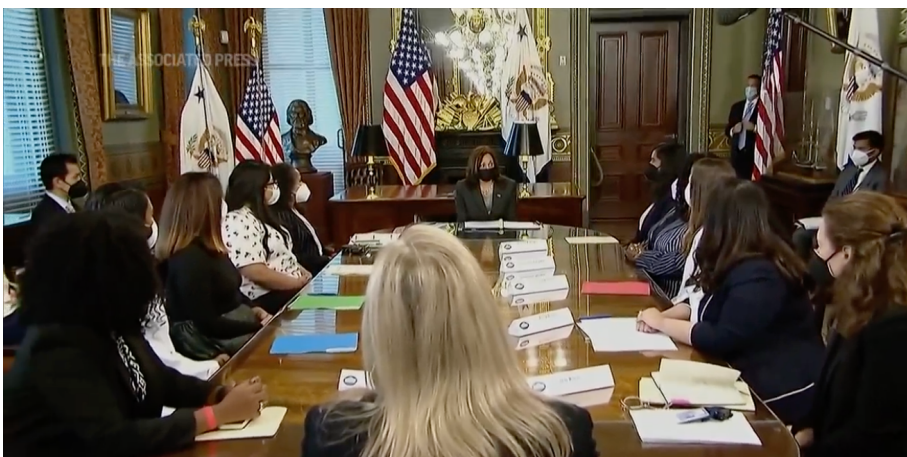
Advocacy

Here's another important lesson we learned in 2021: Abortion and practical support funds like Fund Texas Choice must be - and have **always** needed to be - a part of the conversation about reproductive autonomy and justice. Reproductive advocacy should not only be dominated by legacy organizations, whose main goal has been to protect *Roe*. Protecting *Roe* has always been important, but as we know, anti-abortion laws are being passed at the local level. This is how Texas ended up in a post-*Roe* environment. And this is why our perspectives, honed from working directly with those most hurt by these laws, are critical.

The days of blandly advocating for "choice" are over. The racial, economic and gender inequities exacerbated and encouraged by the Texas abortion ban are real-world issues that we can no longer afford to avoid.

If more states follow Texas' lead with early-pregnancy bans – as they are in the process of doing – abortion funds are going to be a critical network that enables people to retain their right to reproductive autonomy. We're also going to be essential sources of information about the real-world implications of abortion bans.

Your generosity funded efforts to develop that network, and to ensure that the reality of what's happening every day in Texas is known to everyone who holds elected office.



Fund Texas Choice Executive Director Anna Rupani was invited to participate in a Reproductive Rights Round Table with Vice President Kamala Harris and other Texas abortion advocates. "The right of [individuals] to make decisions about their own bodies is not negotiable," the vice president said.



Fund Texas Choice Program Manager Sahra Harvin travelled to DC as part of the Trust Respect Access Coalition, a network of reproductive health, rights, and justice organizations. "Laws could be passed at the national level to protect people living in a harsh landscape for abortion," explains Sahra. "We met with Representatives and Senators to encourage them to act."

All Thanks to You

The outpouring of support from across the globe – from YOU – has been a rare silver lining.

You came from all 50 states & D.C., and from 21 countries outside the U.S.

You were decisive and magnanimous in our hour of greatest need.

Every note of thanks we receive from a client is really for you. Because we couldn't serve even one person – let alone 686 – without your generosity.



“Your organization is amazing. You all should be looked at as angels. This was by far the hardest thing I’ve ever gone thru but knowing that there are people who understand the hard choice, and let alone want to help you get thru it is truly amazing. I will never forget how you all helped make a hard situation a little bit easier for me to deal with and for that, I will forever be grateful.”

“I am forever thankful. Without you guys I wouldn’t have been able to get to my appointment or have a place to sleep while I was there.”

“I appreciated how professional and caring the staff was throughout what was a very emotional experience for me. I am truly grateful to have had the support.”

Our Partners

This work would not be possible without partners and the incredible interconnectedness of abortion, practical support, and allied funds and organizations.



THE
AFIYA
CENTER

JANE'S DUE PROCESS
teens. reproductive rights. texas.



clinic access support network



THE
**BRIGID
ALLIANCE**



Florida Access Network

ACCESS
ACLU of Texas
All Above All
Apiary for Practical Support
Center for Reproductive Rights
Cobalt
The Lawyering Project
National Abortion Federation

National Institute of Reproductive Health
New Mexico Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice
National Network of Abortion Funds
Thompson & Coburn
Trust Respect Access Coalition
Planned Parenthood and affiliates

"I get paid \$11 an hour. There was no way for me to even afford to think I could make the trip. But you truly helped me a lot. It blew my mind. I love you and I'm grateful for you."

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Looking Ahead

The Supreme Court's indifference to the civil and reproductive rights of Texans doesn't give us much hope for the judiciary coming to the rescue.

In fact, we expect that this year will bring an official end to the protections of *Roe* and increased restrictions on abortion access across large sections of the country.

That's why it's more important than ever to strengthen and solidify the national networks that will protect and ensure access to abortion services.

The added expense of overnight child care can be one more barrier to abortion access. So in 2022 we're adding a reimbursement for child care expenses our clients incur when they are forced to travel. Thank you for making this possible!

We'll also keep fighting in the court of public opinion, and we hope you'll all join us. Individuals in the U.S. overwhelmingly support abortion rights. They understand that no one is free if they are forced to become parents against their will. We can expose the "pro-life" narrative for the lie it is – and recognize that a truly pro-life policy honors and upholds every individual's decisions about pregnancy and parenting.

It isn't 1973 anymore. Generations of Americans have only lived in a country in which abortion is safe, legal and accessible – and we aren't going back to the days of shame and stigma. The only way we're sure to lose this battle is if we stop fighting! We hope you'll renew your support in 2022, so we can keep serving the people of Texas – and keep fighting for reproductive justice and autonomy.

“Stay awesome and continue to help women in my prior position feel cared about, loved, and able to make our own choice without judgment.”

GIVE NOW

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