MEMORANDUM

Date: July 6, 2022

To: The Honorable Chair and Members  
Pima County Board of Supervisors  

From: Jan Lesher  
County Administrator

Re: Board of Supervisors July 5, 2022 Addendum Item 3 – Support for Access to Reproductive Health Care

In preparation for Addendum Item 3, I asked Dr. Cullen to provide a detailed listing of reproductive health and contraceptive services currently provided by the Health Department and how these are funded. (Attachment) This was also the question posed by Supervisor Scott during his direction to staff at yesterday’s Board of Supervisors meeting.

Since 1970, contraceptive services across the country have been funded by the Federal Government through its Title X Family Planning Program. In Arizona these resources are awarded to the Arizona Family Health Partnership, which contracts with a variety of providers across the state and including Pima County. In addition, the general fund supports family planning staffing, supplies and delivery sites that are not covered through the federal funding source.

Please note that the broad array of family planning services currently offered by Pima County are not impacted by the U.S. Supreme Court case Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization decision and we do not anticipate making any program modifications. What has changed is the need to ensure that all individuals who want to avail themselves of contraception can do so easily. As such, we continue to explore opportunities to decrease or eliminate barriers for these services.

JKL/dym

Attachment

c: Francisco García, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator  
Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator  
Terry Cullen, MD, MS, Public Health Director, Health Department
MEMORANDUM

Date: June 30, 2022

To: Jan Lesher
   County Administrator

From: Theresa Cullen, MD, MS
   Health Department Director

Re: Importance of Access to Reproductive Health Care in Pima County

The Pima County Health Department provides a range of reproductive and sexual health services none of which are affected by the recent Supreme Court decision in the Dobbs case. These services include:

- Hormonal contraceptive methods, such as birth control pills and implanted contraceptive devices, like intrauterine devices
- Barrier methods inclusive of internal and external condoms
- Emergency contraception, like Plan B & My Way, intrauterine devices
- Reproductive & sexual health education and counseling
- HIV and STI education, testing and treatment, including pre-exposure prophylaxis
- Pregnancy testing, screening and counseling
- Maternal Child Health programs including; Child Care Health Consultants, and home visitation programs.
- Women, Infants and Children (WIC) supplemental nutrition program
- Breastfeeding support services
- Well-woman visits, breast exams, and cervical cancer screening
- Access to menstrual hygiene products
- Vaccination related to STI prevention including high-risk HPV and hepatitis

These services are funded by through a variety of federal and state contracts valued at approximately $1.25 million per year. Funds come from various programs including the Title X Family Planning, Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant Program recipient, CDC Well-Woman Health Check, CDC Sexually Transmitted Disease Control and Surveillance, among others. Additionally the County General Fund supports the delivery of reproductive health services program at approximately $1.3 million. This funds the purchase of supplies, drugs, as well as support for personnel and the facilities (and mobile unit) that deliver these services.

We also note that under the Affordable Care Act, most public and private health plans cover reproductive services inclusive of birth control and family planning counseling with no out-of-pocket-cost. Communication of this specific federal benefit to our community continues to be a priority.

Reproductive and sexual health services are foundational to public health. They enhance social and economic mobility, improve maternal health outcomes, prevent the spread of sexually transmitted infections, and prevent cancer. According to the Institute for Women’s Policy research, having access to contraception by age 20 reduces the probability that a woman will
live in poverty. Given that 37% of pregnancies are unplanned in Arizona, it is critical that the Health Department provide services and education that prevent unintended pregnancy and support those pregnant individuals. At your direction, and concordant with Board action, the Health Department continues to provide legal reproductive services within our scope and capability.

c: Francisco Garcia, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator for Health & Community Services
Andrew Rowe, Clinical Services Division Manager, Health Department