

Who We Are: Black Communities

Planned Parenthood is proud to serve Black patients across the country

For more than a century, Planned Parenthood has been one of the nation's leading providers of high-quality, affordable health care, and the nation's largest provider of sex education. Planned Parenthood health centers provide millions of people with contraception, testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections (STIs), lifesaving cancer screenings, and safe, legal abortion. With a presence in all 50 states and Washington, D.C., Planned Parenthood has 49 affiliates that operate more than 600 health centers. People from every community and income level view Planned Parenthood as their first-choice provider of care. We are committed to working alongside our partners and communities of color to dismantle oppressive systems and expand access to care for all people, no matter what. Planned Parenthood strives to provide nonjudgmental health care, providing one important piece in filling the gaps in opportunity.

- In 2018, **16%** of Planned Parenthood patients were Black – over 395,000 people.
- In 2018, **282,000** Black female patients chose to access contraception at a Planned Parenthood health center.
- **13%** of Black patients identify as male – more than 51,000 people.

Due to systemic oppression, [Black people face greater obstacles](#) to obtaining sexual and reproductive health services than white Americans. As a result, Black people experience some of the [highest rates of cervical cancer](#), [unintended pregnancy](#), [maternal mortality](#), and [sexually transmitted infections](#) in the country.

At Planned Parenthood, we know that racism and other systemic barriers have contributed to income inequality that makes Black people in the U.S. more likely to rely on federal- or state-funded programs to access essential and lifesaving health care.

- [Among Americans under 65 who access Medicaid, 20 percent are Black.](#) Black women in particular disproportionately comprise the Medicaid population. 31 percent of Black women are enrolled in Medicaid, compared to only 16 percent of white women.
- The Title X program is intended to ensure people with low incomes have access to family planning and preventive care like STI testing, education and counseling, as well as breast and cervical cancer screenings. Of the 4 million patients who rely on Title X, [861,000 identified as Black or African American](#) in 2018.

Planned Parenthood is proud to serve the Black community, and patients who use Medicaid or other public programs to access care and continues to fight to protect and expand access to these essential programs.