



2023 Blueprint Policy Agenda

The Blueprint for Sexual and Reproductive
Health, Rights and Justice

ReproBlueprint.org

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Blueprint for Sexual and Reproductive Health, Rights, and Justice is rooted in the bold vision that every person has the ability to make their own decisions about their lives and health regardless of who they are, how much money they have, or where they live.

Inspired by that vision is a policy agenda, endorsed by more than 100 organizations, to protect and advance sexual and reproductive health, rights, and justice (SRHRJ) in the United States and around the world. Ensuring every person has access to sexual and reproductive health, rights, and justice is foundational to economic, mental, and physical well-being.

This is especially critical in the wake of escalating assaults not just on abortion, but also to contraception, sex education, gender-affirming care, the rights of women, girls, and LGBTQIA+ people, and much more. Simultaneously, there are growing crises in maternal health, STI rates, climate, and many more.

While the intersectional crises cannot be solved by executive action alone, it is critical that the current and future administrations prioritize sexual and reproductive health care and racial and gender justice in all actions and implement policies that will help ensure all people have sexual and reproductive autonomy.

This is particularly impactful for those harmed most by anti-SRHRJ policies, including women, Black, Indigenous and other people of color communities, LGBTQIA+ people, people living with and affected by HIV, immigrants, religious minorities, young people, people with disabilities, survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, those living in rural areas, and others

The 2023 Blueprint Policy Agenda identifies specific policy and leadership actions the Executive Branch, including agencies and departments, can take to further advance SRHRJ. Leadership actions are things the executive branch can do that are not legislative or regulatory based. The 2023 Blueprint Policy Agenda builds upon the many actions that the Biden-Harris administration has taken to advance and defend access to sexual and reproductive health care.

Select Highlights of Policy Actions:

- **WORK WITH CONGRESS ON MEANINGFUL BUDGETS:** Establish a budget that reflects a commitment to SRHRJ domestically and globally by ending restrictions that limit access to SRHRJ coverage and care and providing adequate funding to truly meet the need for SRHRJ coverage, including fully funding the Title X Family Planning Program, the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program, the Division of Adolescent and School Health, the Title V Maternal & Child Health Services Block Grant, international family planning and reproductive health programs, UNFPA, and other federal programs that address SRH.
- **REVERSE HARMFUL POLICIES:** Rescind policies that deny people full equality, such as Executive Order 13535 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act's (ACA) Consistency with Longstanding Restrictions on the Use of Federal Funds for Abortion; and Executive Order 13798, Promoting Free Speech and Religious Liberty, which sets the stage for expanding the use of religion to discriminate against people seeking sexual and reproductive health care.
- **FOCUS ON RULEMAKING:** Finalize all proposed rules that protect and expand access to health care and coverage, including abortion, birth control, and gender-affirming care, and those that regulate coverage for specific populations, including immigrants, Black, Indigenous, and people of color communities, young people, people with low incomes, and people with disabilities.
- **AFFIRM U.S. COMMITMENT TO GLOBAL SRHRJ:** Launch an initiative to integrate, elevate, and prioritize sexual and reproductive health, rights, and justice across foreign policy priorities and global health, development, and humanitarian programs. This effort must include ensuring all agencies that administer global health programs and U.S. Missions provide clear, ongoing, and proactive communication that reflects U.S. support for sexual and reproductive health and rights and clarify what is permitted under current abortion funding restrictions to ensure access to allowable abortion services, information and counseling in countries where abortion is legal; as well as communicating that the global gag rule is no longer in place.
- **PROTECT PATIENT PRIVACY:** Ensure the privacy and safety of consumers' health and health-related information, especially any new HIPAA privacy rule protections regarding reproductive health data, as well as ensuring the federal criminal code cannot be used to

prosecute people for self-managed abortion and ensure that law enforcement agencies cannot take action against those individuals.

- **DEFEND ACCESS TO SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE AND RIGHTS IN COURT:** Robustly enforce the protections afforded by Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), access to care under the Title X Family Planning Program, access to medication abortion, the right to contraception established in *Griswold v. Connecticut*, and other attempts to restrict access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care and rights.
- **EXPAND ACCESS TO CONTRACEPTION:** Increase access to contraception over-the-counter (OTC) by eliminating the unnecessary prescription barrier and requiring insurance plans to cover the cost with no out-of-pocket cost, consistent with the ACA.
- **PROTECT ACCESS TO MEDICATION ABORTION AND SELF-MANAGED ABORTION:** Build public education and outreach efforts to combat widespread misinformation regarding medication abortion, including creating and supporting the public availability of materials that includes medically accurate information about how self-managed abortion with pills works, what the common side effects are, and under what conditions a person may need to seek medical help following a medication abortion or miscarriage.
- **ADDRESS THE MATERNAL HEALTH CRISIS:** Develop a robust research and outreach initiative on U.S. maternal mortality, which disproportionately impacts Black and Indigenous communities, in the form of an interagency task force and prioritize funding research to improve maternal health and pregnancy outcomes, ensuring healthy lives for all.
- **ADVANCE COMPREHENSIVE SEX EDUCATION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE:** Issue guidance and recommendations that are supportive of young people's access to inclusive evidence-based, medically accurate, age- and developmentally appropriate, culturally and linguistically responsive, trauma informed, affirming of LGBTQIA+ individuals sex education.
- **PROTECT AND EXPAND IMMIGRANT ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE:** Strengthen standards of care for people in immigration detention, including guaranteed access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care, including by explicitly recognizing providers of sexual and reproductive health services among health care providers recognized as sensitive locations.
- **ENSURE COVERAGE AND CARE FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV:** Require ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) jurisdiction plans to include clear commitments to support state efforts to reform or repeal HIV criminalization laws; and to engage with people living with

HIV who have experienced incarceration to address the residual impacts of criminalization, including access to adequate treatment and care.

Select Highlights of Leadership Actions:

- **COMBAT STIGMA AND DIS/MISINFORMATION:** Use the White House bully pulpit to drive narrative around the importance of access to SRH, combat inflammatory rhetoric and de-stigmatize health care, including abortion, gender-affirming care, and birth control. Combat widespread misinformation about medication abortion. Condemn anti-abortion violence, intimidation of health care providers and patients, and pregnancy criminalization and violations of privacy.
- **NOMINATE PRO-SRH PERSONNEL:** Prioritize putting forth judicial nominees with a demonstrated commitment to equal justice, civil rights, equal rights, individual liberties, and fundamental rights of equal protection, dignity, and privacy. For all executive-branch positions, nominate individuals who are experts in their field, committed to the core mission of the agency, possess a positive record on reproductive health, rights, and justice, and who will contribute to the diversity of the executive branch.
- **MAXIMIZE INFRASTRUCTURE:** Expand the scope and mandate of the [Reproductive Healthcare Access Task Force](#). Developing a national SRHRJ Strategy, including a framework for integrating sexual and reproductive health equity (SRHE) into federal processes. Establish a permanent infrastructure dedicated to promoting SRHRJ policies and programs grounded in human rights and racial equity. Name a co-director for the White House Gender Policy Council.
- **PROMOTE ENGAGEMENT AND CONVENING:** Convene a national conference with federal and state policy experts, cabinet-level officials, nonprofit organizations, and other stakeholders, as well as state attorneys general, to discuss and review strategies to protect and expand SRHRJ. Convene a federal advisory committee, or similar entity, to provide access to information and advice, and the public with an opportunity to provide input into a process that may form the basis for policy actions. Mark the 30th anniversary of the landmark International Conference on Population and Development with a high level event in Washington, DC that recommits the U.S. government to the ICPD Program of Action through both rhetoric and action.
- **CHAMPION SRHR IN DIPLOMACY AND MULTILATERAL SETTINGS:** Leverage the United States' diplomatic power to advance sexual and reproductive health and rights around the world and urge all countries and leaders to respect, protect, and fulfill the sexual and reproductive health and rights of all people. Support outcome documents, policies at international negotiations, and civil society participation in multilateral bodies and executive boards, which strengthen access to full, evidence-based, sexual and reproductive health and rights. Promote inclusion of civil society experts in multilateral

fora, specifically by including diverse, evidence-based participants within the official delegations to international negotiations.

- **ADVANCE TELEHEALTH EQUITABLY:** Coordinate across agencies and sectors to ensure individuals are able to access health care via advancements in technology, with telehealth models of care, education on digital and health literacy, and supports for providers to provide services in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner. All the while centering equity to ensure that the latest innovations and technologies are available to all communities, including via telehealth.

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