

Hey! WE'RE YOUR LOCAL ABORTION FUND!

Nice to meet you!

The DC Abortion Fund helps pay for the abortion care of anyone living in or traveling to the DC Metro region, without restrictions or requirements—and we've been doing so for almost 30 years. Through our warmline and expert caller support services, we're proud to support all abortion seekers, regardless of where you work, where you live, or what's in your wallet.

We—you, too!—are so lucky to live in DC. We have incredible abortion access, amazing, all-trimester abortion providers, and a radically supportive community. We've long been lucky to share that with people from all over the country, but despite being an abortion access destination, the current situation has us struggling to hold the Eastern Seaboard together. Allow us to explain.

When the Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade was leaked in May 2022, we knew we could meet the new challenges of the abortion access landscape. DC is an access point for the entire East Coast, and while so many were already coming our way to get their abortions, we thought Dabbs v. Jackson was sure to exacerbate existing barriers to abortion access. Boy, were we right!

We responded by taking every opportunity we could to fund abortion and build power, including fundraising a record \$5M, serving over 4K abortion seekers, and hiring full-time staff for the first time in our history. We were sure that with zero eligibility requirements, connections to multiple area clinics, and a relentlessly supportive community behind us, DCAF would be able to ride the wave of this health care and legal crisis—if not expand our work and reach like never before.

Boy, were we wrong!

Reader, we're not going to sugarcoat it. We're in a crisis! While people across the country threw money and support at abortion funds for a few months after Dabbs, that drought eventually stopped, all the while, our average pledge just kept increasing. While a constellation of abortion bans spanned the American South, forcing more and more Southerners to travel to DC to get care, we had to introduce monthly budget caps for the first time. It became quickly obvious that we just couldn't meet the current need for abortion funding in this city—and we're not sure when we will.

We will need everyone's support in order to keep getting folks the care they need. So if you've ever donated to us, gone to a DCAF fundraiser, attended one of our events, or even reposted our content on social media:

Thank you. You're a part of the grassroots movement for abortion access, and you're supporting front-liners in this work. And if we're new to you, no big deal! There's no better time to join the movement for abortion access—we need you now more than ever. Read on to start your journey!

With love and solidarity,

Alisha & Jade

DCAF's Development/Communications Team



DC
AF

FROM OUR COMMUNITY

"Our community is punk in the truest sense of the word: They're unapologetic. They're pro-abortion. They're using every spare minute to connect back to why abortion access matters. To put it plainly: They ride for us. We wouldn't be anywhere without them."

ALISHA D.
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

THIS IS WHY LOCAL ABORTION FUNDS MATTER.

"MANY OF OUR CALLERS WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO BE SEEN IF IT WEREN'T FOR THE PLEDGES OTHER ABORTION FUNDS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY PROVIDE. IT IS THE SOLIDARITY OF OUR FUND NETWORK THAT KEEPS ME GOING."

- HANNAH D.
CALLER SERVICES & ENGAGEMENT MANAGER

"From patients who I've cried on the phone with after telling them that we can fund their appointment, to others who ask for DCAF's donation link before we end the call with intention to support us when they are able, DCAF is the clearest example of mutual aid & a true grassroots community."

Ellen S.
Lead Case Manager

WE ARE THE FIRST FUND THAT CLINICS TELL PATIENTS TO CALL BECAUSE THEY KNOW THAT WE WILL DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO SUPPORT OUR PATIENTS.

IF DCAF DID NOT EXIST, MANY PATIENTS WOULD HAVE NOWHERE ELSE TO GO.

- SCOTT M., LEAD CASE MANAGER

WHAT THE F*CK HAPPENED?

MRS. STEPHEN... MISSISSIPPI DE... IN WOMEN'S... THE FIFTH...

REBEL
REBEL
REBEL

essential component of what we have described as
"liberty."

in our Nation's history and tradition

liberty

WHAT
THE
F*CK
HAPPENED?

FIELDED
7,820
CALLS

(Calls combined from July 1, 2022 - September 30, 2023)

At last annual report: 5,981 calls

At last annual report: 3,426 abortion seekers

PLEGGED TO
3,990
ABORTION
SEEKERS

(Pledges from July 1, 2022 - September 30, 2023)



FUNDED
\$2,681,955

*At last annual report:
\$798,736*

IN ABORTION CARE

(\$\$\$ from July 1, 2022 - September 30, 2023)

BROADER RAMIFICATIONS

We've had to show up for our neighbors like never before, and navigate a new landscape requiring lots, and lots, of abortion-related travel.

OUTNACHER INSTITUTE
Abortion policies in effect
as of June 9, 2022



OUTNACHER INSTITUTE
Abortion policies in effect
as of September 18, 2023



See above how abortion policies in states across the country changed after the Supreme Court decision on June 24, 2022. As the direct result of this decision, nearly the entire South lost access to abortion, in their own communities.

DC has been an abortion access destination since 1971, thanks to very protective abortion laws, all-trimester access, and exceptional abortion providers in our area. However, the last year has brought new pressures to our region.

We are working closely with abortion funds from across the country, especially the South, to get abortion seekers to DC—but it's not a simple process. Abortion seekers are balancing constantly-changing laws, fear of criminalization, and the logistical, financial, and emotional weight of coordinating long-distance travel to get their abortion. And once they get there, the barriers don't let up: limited appointment slots, lost wages from being forced to take time off, expensive procedure costs, and the sheer cost of existing in this city are what greets them.*

We're proud to fund what we can for these callers, but they're often spending every dollar they have just getting here—which is where practical support funds come in. We're grateful to work with Brigid Alliance, ARC-Southeast, DC Abortion Practical Support Network (DAPS/N), and multiple area funds to connect our callers to funding for their travel, stay, child care, and other needs while they're getting their abortion.

*Did you know? Abortion care in Washington, DC starts at \$500, and can go up to \$20,000 depending on gestational age.

ABORTION LATER IN PREGNANCY HAS BEEN STIGMATIZED, TARGETED, AND RESTRICTED WITH RENEWED GUSTO.

(NOT SO) FUN FACT

There are only FOUR abortion clinics in the country who perform abortion care in the third trimester, and THREE of them are in the DMV area. Because of this sparse landscape, we fund the majority of third-trimester procedures performed in the country—meaning folks from everywhere have historically come our way to access this care (including “Blue” states like California, or New York).

Abortion later in pregnancy is typically a more complex procedure, meaning it has a higher cost. We’ve seen rates for third trimester procedures between \$10,000 and \$20,000. (Yup, you read that right!) This abortion experience is already the most inaccessible, the most expensive, and usually, the most emotionally difficult—we used to say that folks only get this procedure when they receive new information about their pregnancy.

HOWEVER, BOBBS CHANGED THAT: NOW, STATE BANS ARE FORCING ABORTION SEEKERS LATER INTO PREGNANCY, DUE TO THE TIME REQUIRED TO CROSS STATE LINES, SECURE AN APPOINTMENT, AND COORDINATE FUNDING.

DESTIGMATIZING ABORTION LATER IN PREGNANCY

STOP!

Did this make you feel some type of way? Read here to learn why abortion later in pregnancy is central, not an afterthought, in our fight for abortion access.

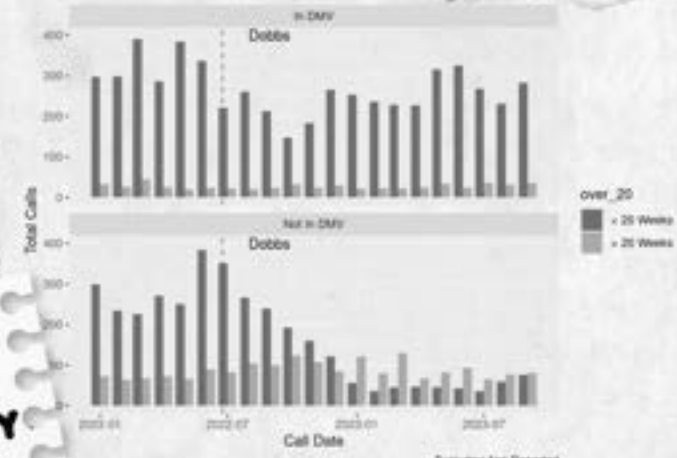
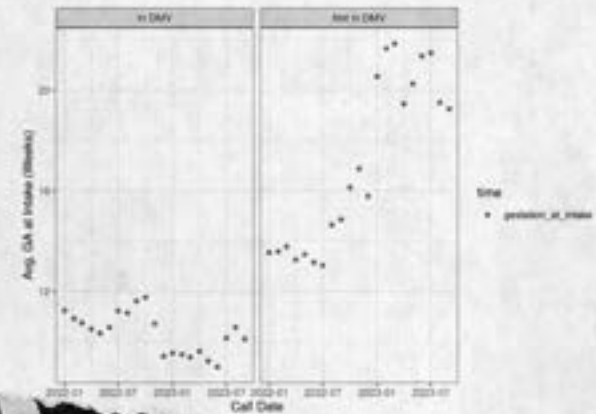
DCAF believes in no restrictions on abortion access, and despite abortion stigma, we support every caller to know the best decision for them. We believe it’s impossible to be pro-abortion without this core value.

For your consideration:

- People get abortions in the third trimester for one of two reasons: (1) They received new information on the health of their pregnancy; (2) Barriers to abortion access have forced them later into pregnancy than they wanted to be.
- Restrictions on abortion later in pregnancy are like every other abortion restriction: They are tools of state control, and they never deserve our support.
- Many of the abortion stories shared in response to the loss of our rights are later in pregnancy, as these are the most vulnerable and emotional of situations. We’ve all read the stories, and we all know the stakes: Why would we then abandon these abortion seekers in our advocacy?

Learn more about destigmatizing abortion at DCAbortionFund.org/Learn!

WHAT THE F*CK HAPPENED?

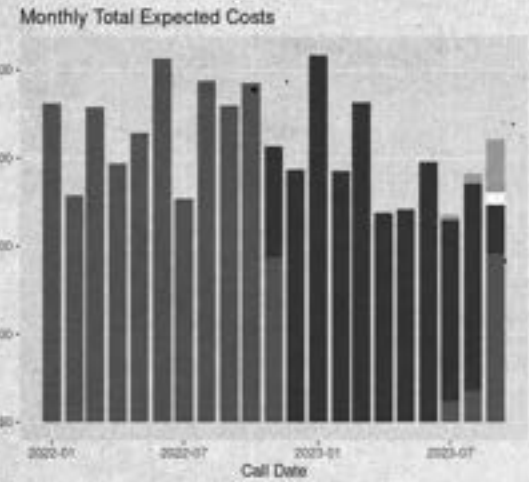


WHAT'S NEXT

MIND THE GAP!

MONEY PLEASE!

Like we said, we've had to decrease our budget multiple times in the past year. We now only can spend around \$130K per month to stay afloat, but we know the full cost of funding abortions is far, far more than that.



According to our data (see above), we would need \$1 MILLION per month in order to fully fund all of our callers. While we fill the gaps we can, the missing \$870K means we cannot provide true access to everyone who needs it, and abortion seekers are being left behind.

Abortion care should be free. Health care should be free. Abortion funds are a band-aid solution to a systemic problem, and the wound is growing. We can't keep filling the gaps in our legal and health care system without sustainable investment and consistent support.

This just in: For whatever reason (*cough* stigma), Big Philanthropy doesn't love local abortion funds. Contrary to popular opinion, most foundations did NOT open up their doors to us; throughout the past year, we've mostly relied on small-dollar donations from our community — working people. We're funding ourselves out of our own pockets.




F*CK THAT JOB!

People are losing their jobs, struggling on picket lines, and drowning in medical and student debt. 2023's economic downturn has hit all of us hard, but we're forced to continue to ask our community to fund health care that should be free. We're all hurting, but we're still showing up to take care of each other.


GLIMMER OF HOPE

WANT TO BE A PART OF OUR FIGHT FOR ABORTION ACCESS? HERE'S A FEW WAYS YOU CAN HELP:

Lucky enough to have disposable income?

 If you aren't already, become a recurring donor. Monthly donations ensure your local abortion fund is consistently able to support our neighbors.



Love cool sh*t like this zine?

 Sign up to join our sticker team, and beautify our city with DCAF stickers, event flyers, zines, and more!


Chronically online?

Follow us on Instagram, X, TikTok, Threads, & Facebook at @dcabortionfund, and repost our content every chance you get!

Itching for something to do?

  Use our brand-new events calendar and event toolkits to stay engaged, plan your own event, and fund abortion.

Job, internship, or volunteer opportunity hunting?

 We're looking to recruit across all teams, as our funding and capacity allows. Keep an eye out for new opportunities through our website!

THE GOOD NEWS:

While the abortion access landscape is, for lack of a better word, depressing, what's NOT depressing is how DCAF and our community have shown up for abortion seekers this year. Here are some of our wins since Dabbs!



WE MADE GETTING YOUR ABORTION FUNDED WITH US EASIER THAN EVER, WITH A BRAND NEW DIGITAL INTAKE SYSTEM AND A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE ON OUR WEBSITE!

We worked our hardest on making it as EASY as possible to find us, get our services, and support our mission!



WE BUILT A WHOLE NEW WEBSITE!

We hired new staff members!

WE BECAME MORE EFFICIENT WITH OUR CASES, AND GOT ABORTION SEEKERS CARE FASTER!



WE WERE PROFILED IN HUFFPOST!

WE WERE GIVEN MORE DONATIONS FROM OUR COMMUNITY THAN EVER BEFORE!

WE HAD MORE EVENTS AND FUNDRAISERS THAN EVER BEFORE!

We saw advocates and organizers become more full-throated in their support for pro-abortion work!

WE EXPANDED AND INVESTED IN OUR DEMOGRAPHIC DATA COLLECTION!

Thanks for reading all the way through, friend. Hope to see you in the streets (and in the Tweets) for abortion access, soon! XOXO

DC ABORTION FUND