

SUPPORTING ABORTION ACCESS IN RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENTS

Training recommendations for healthcare & social service agencies

May 2025

OVERVIEW OF CONTENTS

About this packet

These training recommendations are designed for healthcare and social service organizations interested in building their capacity to support abortion access.

These training recommendations are intended to support sites in restricted states that are committed to providing quality care for people seeking pregnancy options counseling and education/referrals for abortion care.

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About Provide

Provide envisions an equitable sexual and reproductive health system that cares for the whole person with dignity and respect. We work in partnership with health and social service providers to reduce barriers to care at the intersection of abortion and other stigmatized healthcare by providing training and support, centering marginalized communities where there is unmet need and decreased access.

Staff Training Plan

1

Understanding Foundations:

Supporting People Seeking Abortion

Provide's interactive flagship training is an introduction to having conversations with pregnant people and providing stigma-free reproductive health education. We recommend this training for sites to learn more about abortion stigma and how providers can best support clients in accessing safe abortion care. This 4-hour training can be taken online or in-person.

[Click this link to learn more.](#)

2

Understanding Intersections:

Stigma Training Series

Once you have an understanding of the basics, go deeper by attending 2+ additional trainings from Provide's Stigma Series. These are 2-hour webinars that examine the challenges people with one or more marginalized identities may face when seeking pregnancy care. Each training provides information and skills to reduce barriers to care, eliminate stigma, and improve support for people experiencing unintended pregnancy and/or seeking abortion. As of January 2025, this series includes:

- Supporting Black Clients Seeking Pregnancy Referrals
- Supporting LGBTQ+ Clients Seeking Pregnancy Referrals
- Supporting Trans and Nonbinary Clients Seeking Pregnancy Referrals
- Supporting Young Clients Seeking Pregnancy Referrals
- Fat-Positive Pregnancy Referrals

[Click this link to learn more.](#)

3

Understanding Criminalization:

Do Less Harm in a Post-Dobbs World

Hosted by [If/When/How](#), [Physicians for Reproductive Health](#), and [Nurses for Sexual and Reproductive Health](#), this asynchronous webinar discusses what healthcare providers need to know about self-managed abortion and criminalization in the post-Dobbs legal landscape. [We recommend completing Parts 2 and 3 available at this link.](#)

Note: These training recommendations are primarily for patient/client-facing staff, though administrative employees may also benefit and are welcome to participate. Training availability depends upon Provide's capacity. To see our calendar of upcoming online trainings, visit providecare.org/training/calendar. To request an in-person or virtual training from our [menu](#), please email info@providecare.org.

Technical Assistance & Evaluation

Oftentimes, a single training (or even a handful of trainings) is not enough to create meaningful, lasting change within an organization. **Provide strongly recommends that organizations work with us 1:1 to develop and institute protocols for staff to improve the quality of your counseling, education, and referrals for pregnancy options.** We provide this technical assistance at no cost.



Request a Site Assessment

If your site decides to implement our training recommendations, contact us about also scheduling a Site Assessment and implementing an evaluation plan. Through this process, we will assess your organization's current strengths and challenges, and help your leadership develop a pregnancy options protocol. Provide can also then share findings from our robust pre- and post-evaluation tools to help you track measurable changes in knowledge, attitudes, and skills among your staff.

To request this **FREE** technical assistance, email info@providecare.org.

Provider Tools

Practice Guide for All-Options Pregnancy Counseling

Developed by a panel of reproductive health experts, this resource is designed to guide providers' conversations about pregnancy options with their patients/clients.

Pregnancy Referrals Toolkit

The templates and tools within this toolkit are designed to equip your organization to make client-centered, nonjudgmental referrals for abortion care.

Abortion Resource Guide

This fillable PDF is an easy tool for creating a list of local abortion access resources that can help clients overcome common barriers to care, including funding and practical support.

Access all these resources & more in Provide's online [technical assistance library!](#)

Suggested Timeline for Building Capacity

Recommended training benchmarks for healthcare & social service organizations

<i>3 months</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership meets with Provide to begin developing a pregnancy options counseling protocol • Administer a pre-survey with 100% staff completion • 25% of staff complete Supporting People Seeking Abortion
<i>6 months</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership announces the newly developed pregnancy options protocol and implementation steps • 50% of staff complete Supporting People Seeking Abortion • 25% of staff attend an additional stigma series training
<i>9 months</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 75% of staff complete Supporting People Seeking Abortion • 50% of staff attend an additional stigma series training
<i>1 year</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of staff have completed Supporting People Seeking Abortion • 100% of staff have completed an additional stigma series training • Administer the post-evaluation survey with 100% staff completion • Foundational and stigma series trainings are integrated into onboarding for all new direct care staff • Staff meet with supervisors to determine which stigma series trainings to prioritize in the next year
<i>1 year, 3 months</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25% of staff complete Do Less Harm required modules • 25% of staff complete a second stigma series training
<i>1 year, 6 months</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% of staff complete Do Less Harm required modules • 50% of staff complete a second stigma series training
<i>1 year, 9 months</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 75% of staff complete Do Less Harm required modules • 75% of staff complete a second stigma series training
<i>2 years</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of staff complete Do Less Harm required modules • 100% of staff complete a second stigma series training • Administer a second post-evaluation survey
<i>Maintenance</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff continue to work through Provide's stigma training series and additional programming, as available and relevant • Direct care staff retake Supporting People Seeking Abortion every 2-3 years to refresh their knowledge • Leadership engages with Provide for ongoing technical assistance to institutionalize best practices and stay up to date

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