

# Access Bridge

IMPACT REPORT, MAY 2024

## Addressing Today's Crisis in Reproductive Health Access



**Access Bridge fills critical gaps in reproductive health care by building the capacity of U.S. emergency departments to serve as reproductive health safety nets. We aim to improve access to evidence-based reproductive health services and increase health equity, focusing on communities with limited access.**

**Since Access Bridge launched in February 2023**, we have made substantial progress toward increasing ED capacity to provide reproductive health services.



### Produced novel treatment protocols and resources for use in ED settings covering critical topics including:

- Early pregnancy loss (miscarriage)
- Contraception and emergency contraception care
- Ectopic pregnancy
- Medication abortion

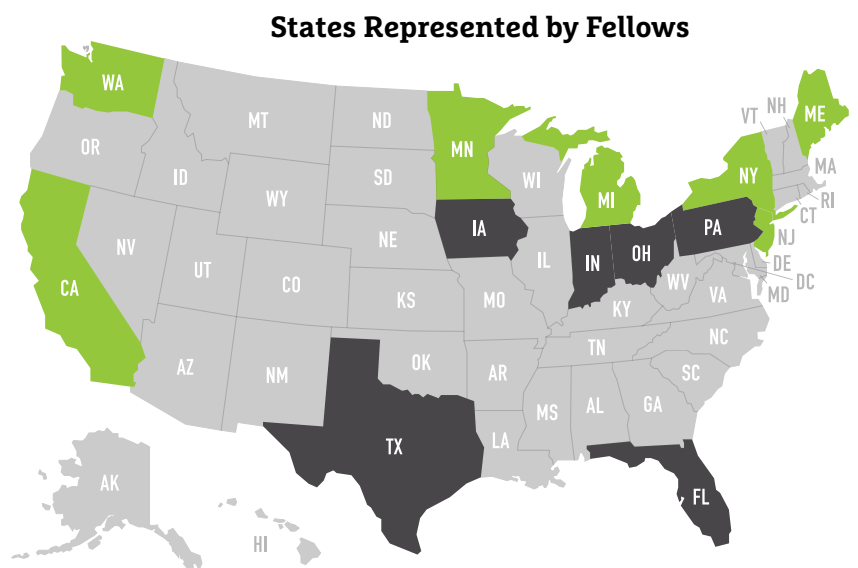
### Launched the Access Bridge Clinical Fellowship

22 clinicians working in 19 hospitals across 13 states:\*

- 7 states where abortion is legally protected
- 6 states where abortion is banned or restricted



**Developed “train the trainer” tools for fellows to teach peers and build local expertise.**



**Presented at the National Abortion Federation (NAF) Conference in Washington, D.C., in April 2024.**

\*Note: The legal environment is in flux, and we do our best to keep up with shifting legislation. We also acknowledge that disparities in access exist even in states where abortion is protected and expanded.

## Clinical Fellowship Impacts

In the **six months** since our fellowship commenced, Access Bridge fellows have received training on our protocols and on building culture change in the ED. Our February 2024 mid-point assessment shows the impact of participation in the fellowship.

### AS OF FEBRUARY 2024:

**NEARLY ALL CLINICIAN FELLOWS** reported the Access Bridge Fellowship was critical to expanding the provision of medication for miscarriage and contraception, and would like to see this fellowship continue for their peers.



**19 out of 22** reported the fellowship was critical to expanding the provision of medication for miscarriage and contraception in their respective EDs.



**21 out of 22** reported the fellowship meetings are "extremely useful" to them.



**19 out of 22** reported that sample slide decks were "extremely useful" to them.



**All 22** reported they would recommend this fellowship to a peer.

### BIG WINS BY FELLOWS

Published Op-Eds and national interviews on how abortion restrictions affect emergency medicine patients.



Won a research competition for a poster depicting the benefits of ED-based miscarriage treatment.



Initiated medication abortion from an ED.



Brought a free vending machine with over the counter products, including emergency contraception, to an ED waiting room.



### Access Bridge Can Solve Gaps in Access to Care

OB/GYNs are already leaving abortion ban states. As this continues, we will see an increased dependence on the emergency department as the only access point for patients needing urgent or emergent reproductive health care.

With your continued financial support, we will expand our work in EDs and continue to teach skills in the diagnosis and management of common pregnancy emergencies, provide information on the provision of non-coercive access to contraception and emergency contraception, and develop further partnerships for research and data collection.

For more Access Bridge resources and information, visit: [BRIDGETOTREATMENT.ORG/ACCESS-BRIDGE](https://BRIDGETOTREATMENT.ORG/ACCESS-BRIDGE)

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