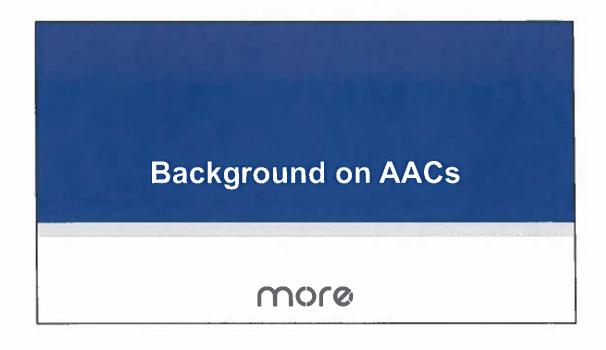


Scanned current events, Massachusetts AACs, research, and advocacy landscape around AACs Highlighted existing communications campaigns and consumer messaging Identified considerations for our campaign to discuss MORE a canamada f cangany



Names and Terms

- They refer to themselves as...
 - Crisis pregnancy center—Recently, they've used CPC less and less, in the face of more exposure
 - Pregnancy resource center
 - Women's health center
- The healthcare, advocacy, and research fields are using various names CPCs, anti-abortion centers/clinics, and/or fake clinics. Mostly antiabortion centers.
 - The AP is now using the term anti-abortion centers (crisis pregnancy centers)

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What They Do & Don't Do

- Number of AACs is growing: About 2,500 nationwide; around 30 operating in Mass.
- Funded by anti-abortion groups and religious orgs with the explicit agenda to prevent abortion. Some receive funding from state programs like TANF.
- Use predatory, deceptive tactics to present as healthcare facilities with healthcare staff, but offer virtually no healthcare
 - 95% offer no prenatal care, less than half refer to prenatal care (from Designed to Deceive)
- · Biased and false information, including false claims around abortion
- · Promote "free" items and services (diapers, support) but "earn as you learn" tactics
- Advertise aggressively online to people looking for abortion, prenatal, pregnancy-related support
- · "Co-locate" next to real clinics and/or abortion providers to confuse patients

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How They Harm

- Impede/delay access to real care including delayed prenatal care, STD care, etc.
- · Spread misinformation
- · Delay abortion services, and therefore, access
- Push the unsupported, unproven, and dangerous "abortion pill reversal"
- Put patient data and privacy at risk (no HIPAA requirements)
- · Break down trust of legitimate health care

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<u>Crisis pregnancy center failed to spot an ectopic</u> <u>pregnancy, threatening patient's life, lawsuit alleges</u>

AAC Targeting

- · Primarily target BIPOC individuals
- · Low-income, uninsured
- · People looking for diapers, clothes, help with planned pregnancies; in need of prenatal care
- People looking for abortion services (refer to their audience as "abortion-minded" or "abortion-seeking" potential patients)
- Younger people, including college students
- · Immigrants

"I'm a full-time college student and the resources that I have are extremely can be...The website used all the right language. I even knew about CPCs before this whole ordeal. I completely fell for it because it made the website seem like a medical clinic..."

Excerpt from "Hana's Story", A.s. Magazine, 2022

AAC Advertising Tactics

A report from the Center for Countering Digital Hate (CCDH) shows that between March 2021 and February 2023:

- AACs spent an estimated \$10.2 million on Google ads
 - · Ads were clicked on an estimated 13 million times
 - 2 times more spent in states where abortion is legal compared to states with bans.

AACs use keywords for SEO and Google Ads,

- AACs target 15,000 different queries (keywords/phrases) related to abortion
- Examples:
 - "abortion clinic near me"
 - "pregnancy options"
 - "telehealth abortion pill <state>"
 - "how much is an abortion in <state>
 - "abortion pill"
 - "planned parenthood"

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Sample List - AACs in Massachusetts

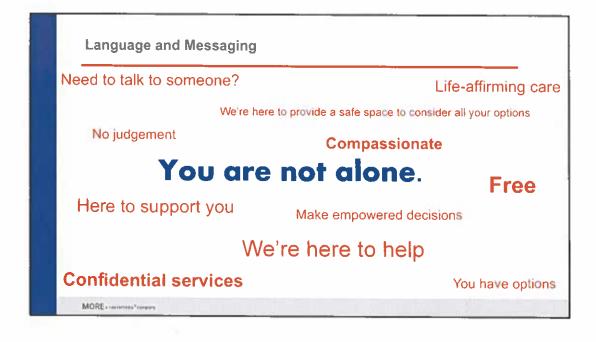
- Attleboro Women's Health Center/Abundant Hope Pregnancy Resource Center, Attleboro
- Boston Center for Pregnancy Choices, Boston
- · Healthy Futures, Dorchester
- Your Options Medical Center (Fall River, Sturbridge, Revere, other locations)
- · Alternatives Pregnancy Center, Greenfield
- · Your Options Medical Mobile Van, Hyannis
- Pregnancy Care Center/Standing With You/Options for Pregnancy, Lowell
- · Pregnancy Support Services of Berkshire, Pittsfield
- Learn Your Options Pregnancy Confirmation Services, Revere
- Springfield Pregnancy Care Center, Springfield
- · Clearway Clinic, Worcester

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Care
Support
Clinic
Resource
Choices
Medical
Women's Health
Center

Services They Advertise

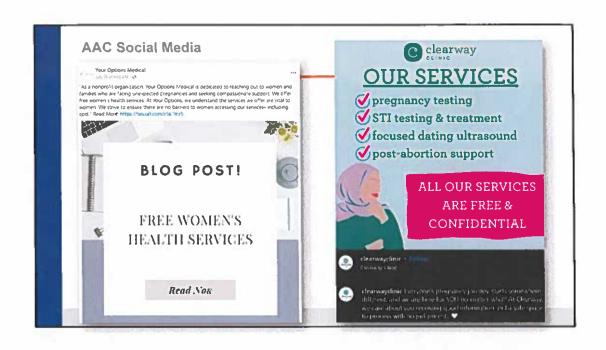
- · Pre-abortion consultation
- · Abortion information
- · After-abortion care; after-abortion counseling
- Ultrasounds
- Pregnancy testing
- Prenatal/pregnancy education
- STI testing/treatment
- Abortion pill reversal
- Parenting classes
- Diapers

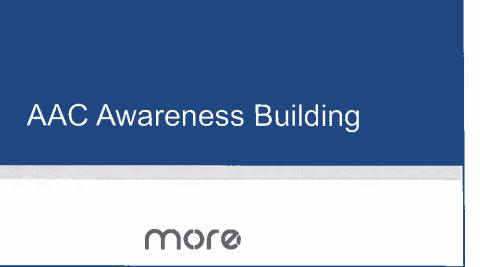












NOWNYC / Women's Justice NOW

To train, educate, and provide programs/resources on a wide range of women's rights topics

Women seeking information about their rights regarding pregnancy/abortion (once on pages related to these rights)

Key Messaging

From resource page for how to spot and report AACs:

- . "Get the facts"
- . "Find a REAL clinic"
- . "False claims used by CPCs..."
- . Spotting fake clinics
- . How to know if a clinic is fake



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LegalVoice: "Know Before You Go"

Objective

Group fighting for equitable laws and educating people on their rights.

Audience

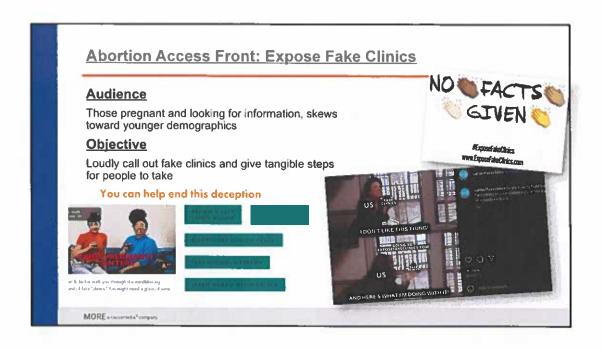
Those pregnant and looking for information

Toward Justice & Gender Liberation.

Key Messaging

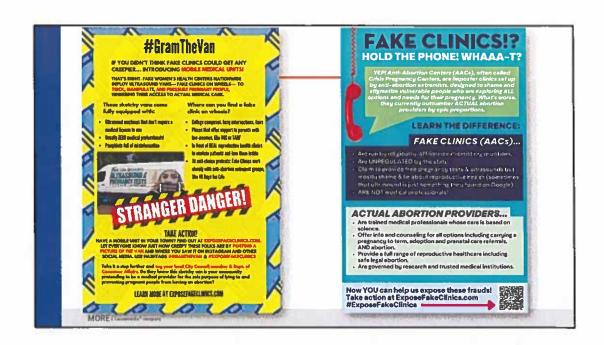
- · "Know Before You Go"
- From their CPC resource page on how-to-spot-AACs
- Refers to both "fake clinics" and the #ExposeFakeClinics campaign, linking to that group's page

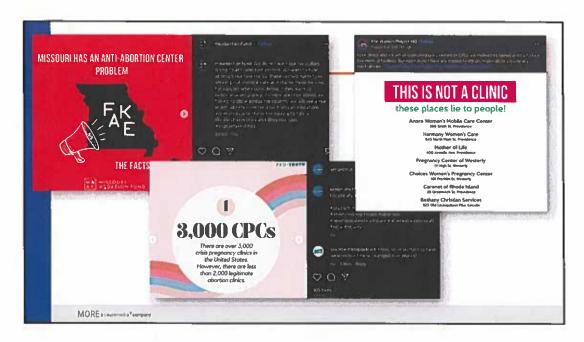
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Abortion Access Front: Expose Fake Clinics Key Messaging/Strategies · Printable signs; toolkits for protest; flyer downloads; in-person Ideas for sign language and chants · Links to leave reviews, vote for honest reviews of AACs · Resources for how to spot and report these centers THIS IS #ExposeFakeClinics' website offers direct links to activism · Additional digital strategies—reporting mobile clinics NOT ('#gramthevan') A · Many examples of navigating the language we are considering DOCTOR'S Fake clinics are often made to look like medical facilities, yet OFFICE they don't practice medicine (outside of an occasional ultrasound or STI test), nor do they use medical facts or standardized ethics.





Further posts using the hashtag #ExposeFakeClinics, for their own campaigns or events

Abortion Care Network: #EndAbortionDeception

Objective

Educate those in the San Francisco area that AACs mislead and offer medically unsound information

<u>Audience</u>

San Francisco Bay Area residents

Key Messaging/Strategies

- #EndAbortionDeception
 - · 6 billboards around San Francisco Bay area
 - · Supported by extensive earned media
- · Use of real-life care provider
- "Medically accurate"
- "Deception"
- · "Care they can trust"
- "Politically motivated"

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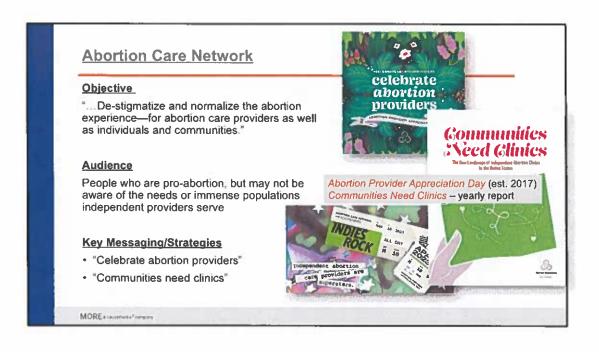
Face of billboard campaign UCSF nurse Monica McLemore

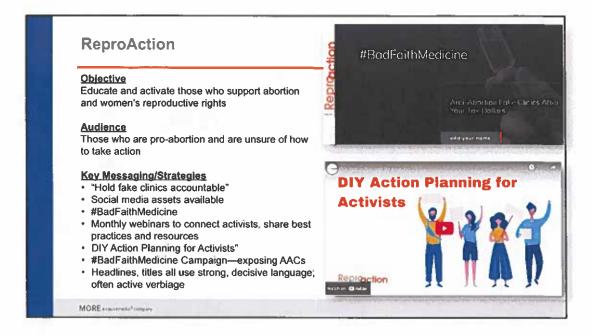


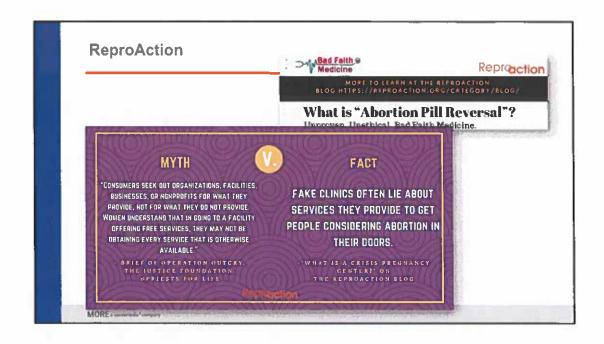
Several other clinics followed this same messaging campaign across the country



Art by @liberaljane - activist artist - justchoice org utilizing 'fake clinics' language







Planned Parenthood

Objective

To educate and provide resources to ensure people have the care they need to protect and make decisions about their bodies and reproductive health

<u>Audience</u>

Patients/people who have historically faced barriers to quality health care- often BIPOC and LGBTQ+ community as well as people in rural areas, with low incomes, and without health insurance.

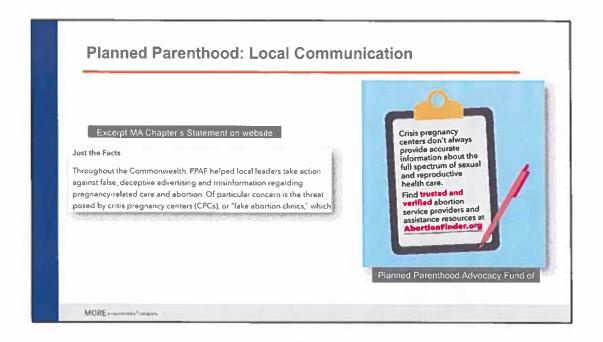
Key Messaging/Strategies

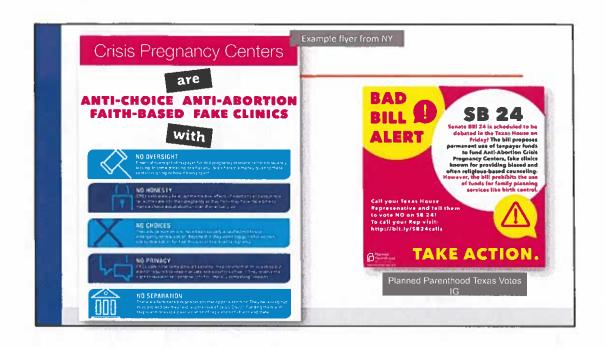
- · Consistent messaging about resources for factual, medically sound care and education
- · National Press Statement from 2007 condemning AACs
- · Little national messaging on AACs
 - · Localized groups have more AAC-focused advocacy, directly oppositional language

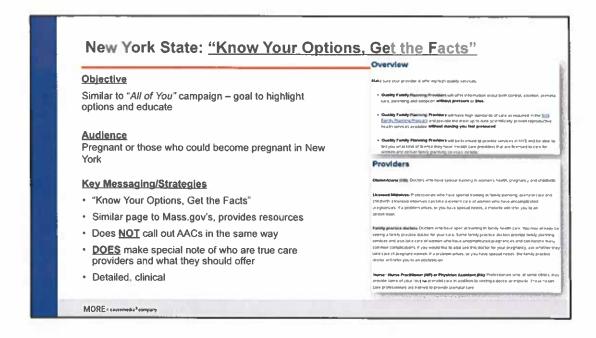
 - Many blog posts catling out AACs
 Hypers/fact sheets
 Local affiliates often have statements
 ex. Planned Parenthood Advocacy Fund of Massachusetts (PPAF) board statement













Considerations

- Calling out AACs—Consider balance between helping people recognize the facility in their community AND calling them what the field is calling them, anti-abortion centers
 - Fake clinics may not be vlable given licensing of some MA centers. Recommend avoiding this in testing if it's not legally viable.
 - Consider what Abortion Access Front used: "Anti-abortion centers, which are often called crisis pregnancy centers,...."
- Key messages about harms and why they should be avoided—Focus on what is universally a strong deterrent for patients and include more info on campaign page
 - What individuals lose out on (all options, accurate information, trusted care, care without judgement, etc.)
 - The deception and dishonesty
- AACs are targeting more than just people looking for abortion care—keep this front of mind in messaging and media/marketing strategies
- · Using myth vs. fact messages—is this effective?

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Considerations

- Using health care provider as face of campaign, to share what they offer and what AACs really are
 - Many providers have suggested real stories would be powerful
- · Keep our audiences' real and/or perceived barriers to care front of mind
 - Messaging about SRHP clinics should address barriers
- Language
 - "All your options"; terms like "comprehensive care"
 - Free: many providers pointed out the appeal of free pregnancy tests, but that it's not actually "free"
 - Using terms like red flags, spotting fake clinics has been done a lot

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How do we want to tackle/address religious aspects of these places

Bad

Faith

medicine

Hold accountable

Fake

Deceptive/deception

'Know' – putting a positive light on the mind of the consumer – they can spot these, they are not helpless they can know

Options

Facts

Red flags

Etc.

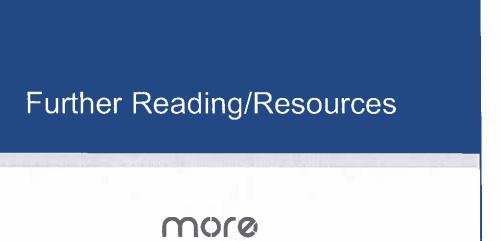
Research Update and Next Steps

- · Key informant/provider interviews to date
 - Dr. Carrie Baker and Jenifer McKenna
 - REN
 - Tapestry Health—Cindy Miller
 - BMC-Dr. Kate White
 - Health Imperatives—Emily and Elizabeth
 - Family Health Center of Worcester-Abby Rosenstein
 - UMass-Dr. Luu Ireland

Coming: Marie Harris and Areli Castillo-Torres, PPLM Worcester

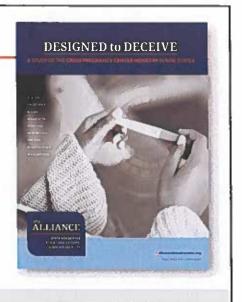
- Sept 25th Next meeting
 - Share key informant call insights and discuss key messages
 - Final Project Brief for sign-off
- Develop the Creative Brief 25th Oct. 10th (presented 10/10)

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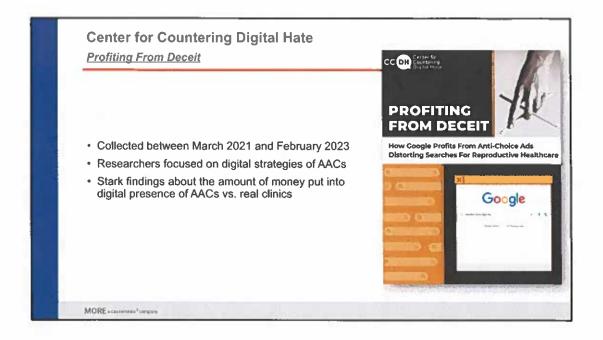


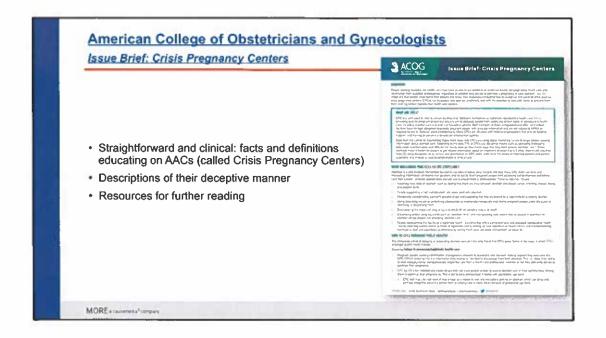
The Alliance Designed to Deceive

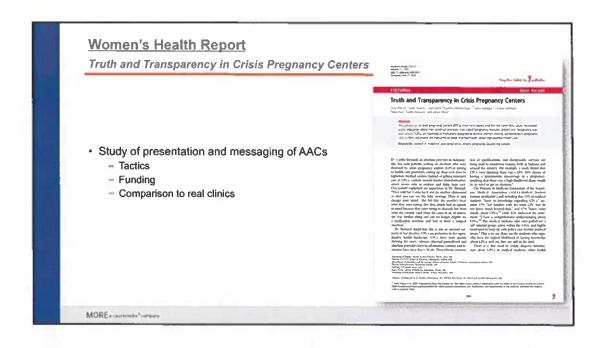
- The Alliance: "a collaborative of state and regional law and policy members" with widely cited report and robust resource page on AACs
- Report spotlights
 - Non-Diagnostic Ultrasounds
 - Abortion Pill *Reversal*
 - Patient Information and Big Data



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