

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE AND MICHAEL FLAHERTY



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

### RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FULLY FUNDING ABCD TITLE X FUNDING

**WHEREAS,** Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD) has participated in the Title X program for nearly 50 years, and is an anti-poverty community action agency established in 1962 to empower marginalized people by equipping them with the tools to overcome poverty through a comprehensive approach of systematically addressing a range of health and racial barriers faced by households in poverty; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Since 1973, ABCD has provided critical Title X health services throughout Massachusetts including on-the-ground services to those affected by the AIDS epidemic, assistance to teen mothers by providing child care while they continued their education, and pioneering programs for early diagnosis and treatment of infertility. ; *and*

**WHEREAS,** ABCD operates with neighborhood community service centers throughout the Greater Boston area, delivering family planning and reproductive health services through a blend of community health centers, school based health centers, and hospital-based clinics for a total of 20 delivery sites. This neighborhood-based structure enables ABCD to better understand emerging local needs and respond with a high degree of professional capacity and accountability. ; *and*

**WHEREAS,** On March 30th ABCD received news from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of Population Affairs (OPA) that its Title X grant application for family planning services “was reviewed favorably” however funds were not available to support the application; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Notice of the cut of \$2.8 million, per year for five years of the grant, was received on March 30, 2022, providing only two days' notice that thousands of low income residents and communities of color in Boston will be impacted by the termination of funding going that would have gone into effect April 1, 2022; *and*

***WHEREAS,*** For 50 years, Title X family planning clinics have played a critical role in ensuring access to a broad range of family planning and related preventive health services for millions of low-income or uninsured individuals and Title X is the only federal grant program dedicated solely to providing individuals with comprehensive family planning and related preventive health services;  
***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

***RESOLVED:*** That the Boston City Council go on record in support of ABCD's Title X Family Planning grant for the full term of its application, and in opposition of the decision by the Department of Health and Human Services and the Office Population Affairs to defund this all-important program.

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