

More Options for Maternal Support (MOMS)

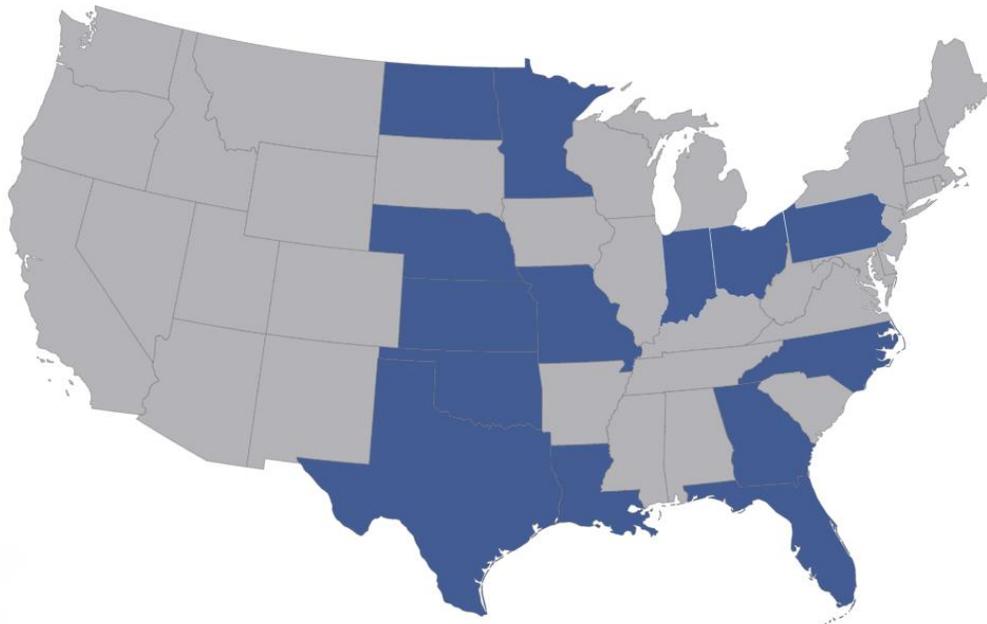
A pregnancy support program to promote positive outcomes for mother and child

The Iowa More Options for Maternal Support (MOMS) Act will ensure that every pregnant woman in Iowa has access to meaningful assistance and support when she needs it most.

When faced with a crisis pregnancy, many women fear if they choose life for their baby they won't be able to find needed social services, family support, and financial resources. This initiative will support these mothers, their babies, and help stabilize their families. It will ensure access to quality prenatal and postpartum care, which will result in healthier pregnancies and birth outcomes. In addition, the Iowa MOMS Act will provide for the material needs of a new mom as well as counseling and educational services.

All women deserve real options and real support. That is why Iowa needs the MOMS Act.

14 states support pregnant women and new moms through coordinated, life-affirming assistance programs: FL, GA, IN, KS, LA, MN, MO, NC, ND, NE, OH, OK, PA, TX.¹



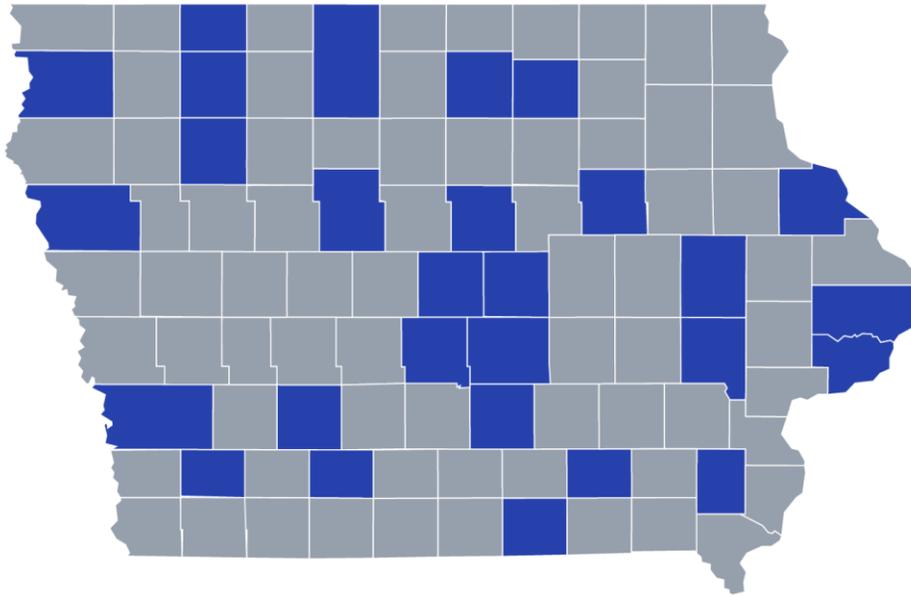
While every state is different, in general pregnancy support programs provide grants to non-profits to provide:

- **Medical care**, including pregnancy tests, STD tests, ultrasound services, and prenatal care.
- **Baby essentials**, including cribs, clothing, formula, diapers, and safety devices like car seats.
- **Counseling, referral, and care coordination services.**
- **Housing and employment assistance** during pregnancy and for up to one year after birth.
- **Classes** to prepare for pregnancy, birth, parenting, adoption, nutrition, life skills, and employment readiness.

¹ Jeanneane Maxon, "State-by-State Summary of State Alternative to Abortion Funding," Charlotte Lozier Institute (2020).

Built on an Established Network:

- Iowa already has at least 42 pregnancy resource centers in 30 Iowa counties, including 9 of Iowa’s 10 largest counties.²



A Proven Model:

- The first program was created in 1996 in Pennsylvania by Governor Robert Casey.³
- 3 of Iowa’s neighboring states have a pregnancy support program: MN, MO, NE
- The largest program in the country, Texas’s Pregnancy Care Network, served 90,567 women and 10,532 men in 2020 alone.⁴

Cost Effective:

- Georgia’s “Positive Alternatives” program reduced Medicaid costs by \$13,006,570 over four years while receiving funding of \$8,081,808—a savings to the state of nearly \$5,000,000.⁵
- In 2019, pregnancy resource centers provided an estimated \$266,764,916 in no-cost goods and services to mothers and families across the United States.⁶

² For county populations, see “Iowa Counties by Population,” *Iowa Demographics*, Cubit (2021). Viewed January 7, 2022. https://www.iowa-demographics.com/counties_by_population

³ “History of Government-funded Pregnancy and Parenting Support Services,” Real Alternatives. Viewed January 7, 2022. <https://www.realalternatives.org/https-wp-content-uploads-2019-06-history-2019-pdfhistory/>

⁴ *Alternatives to Abortion Report for Fiscal Year 2020*, Texas Health and Human Services (2020).

<https://www.hhs.texas.gov/sites/default/files/documents/laws-regulations/reports-presentations/2020/hb1-alternatives-abortion-dec-2020.pdf>

⁵ *Positive Alternatives for Pregnancy and Parenting Grant Report*, Life Resources of Georgia (2021).

⁶ Mai Bean, Chuck Donovan, Moira Gaul, Jeanneane Maxon, Genevieve Plaster, *Pregnancy Centers Stand the Test of Time*, Charlotte Lozier Institute (2020). https://lozierinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Pregnancy-Center-Report-2020_FINAL.pdf