



Friends of Family Planning of Martha's Vineyard

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Dear Friend,

As you know, the Supreme Court's reversal of Roe v Wade has caused many states to restrict access to abortion and reproductive health care. It may come as a surprise to you that **although abortion in Massachusetts remains legal, access is not easily available to those living on the Vineyard.**

Currently, those in need of surgical abortion must first take a ferry and then travel for over an hour one way to access the nearest clinic. This often means 1-3 days off work as there is initial visit procedure and follow up. Many of the clinic's patients are either uninsured or underinsured, with 49% hovering at or below the poverty line. A trip off-Island poses an additional unwanted hardship in a challenging and emotional time. **The community of Martha's Vineyard deserves on-Island access to all aspects of full sexual health and reproductive health care.**

While there is much work to be done, progress has been made towards the goal of abortion access on the Vineyard. In the past year, the Island-based clinic, managed by Health Imperatives, has partnered with an off-Island provider that enables them to offer access to medical abortions with medication in the comfort of one's home. Your valuable donations have helped Friends of Family Planning aid in this effort by purchasing the **equipment** essential for this procedure and **training** for Health Imperatives' staff.

The mission of Friends of Family Planning is to support compassionate, inclusive, life spectrum sexual health care for all people in our community, and to support the clinic. Abortion is an important aspect of reproductive health care.

Friends of Family Planning is calling on you, our supporters, to join us in this important work to provide truly comprehensive sexual health care to all our Island residents, regardless of age, gender, or orientation, now and in the future.

We, as a board, are grateful for these donations that continue to help us support the clinic to deliver exceptional care for Islanders.

We are proud of the work we have done as we look to the future to evolve Friends of Family Planning's mission. In addition to our important work towards our goal of on-Island abortion access, we have successfully launched and continue to sponsor key programs such as:

- The **Monthly Tide Program** to help end period poverty
- Reimbursement to those who must travel off-Island for **abortion care** or a **vasectomy**
- Continuing to provide a home to our clinic, cleaning, and maintenance of the property, all to their expense of only **\$500 per month**

To continue this good work, **we need your help!**

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