

Our First Year - An Impact Report

ABOUT US:

While abortion bans nationwide were starting to gain traction in 2021, our volunteers began to mobilize to lower the cost of an abortion in Nevada. Though our state has comparatively improved abortion access than many others, the cost of an abortion is not feasible for the majority of people who need care.

We started the Wild West Access Fund of Nevada because we believe everyone should have the final say in their own reproductive decisions, and because we believe in community power. Our team is pro-abortion and believes there should be no stigma in the choice to terminate a pregnancy.

As a volunteer-run organization, our work relies entirely on donations from community members. We aspire to cover as much of each caller's procedure as possible and all donations go directly to our callers. Beyond financial assistance, we offer other forms of practical support and can connect callers to resources following their abortion appointment.



¶ reached out to Wild West Fund after a friend told me she had seen their graphics online. I wasn't expecting much, but figured I could reach out and see if they could help in any small way. I was blown away by the kindness I was shown. They asked no questions and focused on finding out how they could best help me. Wild West Fund covered the majority of the costs for my abortion and offered me a post abortion care kit. My life is forever changed, and I am forever grateful.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDERS:



When we started Wild West Access Fund back in June 2021, it was because we knew there was a need for help in accessing abortion from both growing up in Nevada. And when the attacks on abortion rights in Texas and across the county intensified, we couldn't sit idle any longer. We figured a small mutual-aid network was better than the status quo, and even one person helped is a success story.

We have been consistently in awe of the community support that has carried us through 2021 and allowed us to grow our small network into the operational 501c3 non-profit you'll read about in this report.

We are so proud to be volunteer-run, and to keep building upon the framework we started with - access to abortion without stigma, and without barriers. Thank you for your help in making Wild West Access Fund a reality. Every contribution from sharing a post, to volunteering, to sending a check, makes abortion care and reproductive justice for all more possible.

In Solidarity,
Carla Ramazan & Maureen Scott



BY THE NUMBERS:

Our hotline has assisted 338 callers find abortion resources within in Nevada. Whether it's finding the best clinic for their needs, how to find information on the abortion pill, or accessing community resources beyond their abortion care, our volunteers have been there to connect and support. Sometimes, people who reach out to us for funding are eligible for funding from larger organizations that they were unaware of before reaching out to us. In these cases where financial support isn't needed, we still offer aftercare kits for recovery and our hotline is open for support.
The cost of an abortion in Nevada can be anywhere from \$600 to \$2,600, and for Nevadans who need to travel for care it can cost over \$10,000. With the help of our community, we've been able to send over \$31,000 to local clinics on behalf of patients. When someone reaches out to us, we do everything in our power to ensure they can get the care they need. This fall we even assisted a caller from Texas who was impacted by their restrictive abortion access laws and who was traveling to Nevada.
Beyond financial barriers to abortion care, needing an abortion can be a logistical issue for many–if they don't have reliable transportation, a trusted friend to accompany them, childcare, or if they live far from an abortion provider. Our hotline volunteers have assisted 53 people overcome obstacles to ensure they can access their care without issue.
So many of our supporters helped fulfill our online wishlist to get essential supplies for people after their abortion this year. We were able to put together 300+ aftercare kits that were either hand-delivered or made available at local clinics. Each kit includes maxi pads, an emergency contraceptive, an electrolyte drink, pain relievers, condoms, and a pregnancy test for later use. In 2022, we began partnering with local doulas to provide emotional support resources in our kits as well!
Our fund would not function without the work of dedicated volunteers and board members. We currently have 57 volunteers who help by answering the hotline, providing practical support, as well as with fundraising and community outreach.
In the midst of the pandemic, we sought to safely engage community members in events online and in person. We were able to host a virtual dance party, a drag bingo fundraiser, speak at the Rally for Roe events in Las Vegas and Reno, and table at a number of community events. In total we participated in 14 events.

THE YEAR AHEAD:

Just two months into 2022, we know a difficult year lies ahead of us. According to Guttmacher Institute's website, "States have enacted 106 abortion restrictions so far in 2021, a year that has been marked by unprecedented threats to U.S. abortion rights and access." Abortion funds like ours are critical to ensuring continuous access to abortion care. As states continue to pile on restrictions and the continued threats to *Roe v. Wade*, people are beginning to travel to Nevada to seek services that they can no longer find in their home state.

Right now our fund is pledging \$1,200 a week, which makes an annual budget for 2022 approximately \$62,500 just for the costs of callers' procedures, not including forms of practical support.

We hope to grow our fund to ensure that everyone who calls us is able to have the care they need, even those who are coming from out of state, as attacks on abortion rights unfortunately continue.



"My experience with WWAF was amazing, fast, and very confidential. The volunteer that called me to help me out, honestly she is an amazing sweet woman. She made me feel very hopeful and I am happy that they are in my corner to help me and support me throughout this difficult situation. I am forever thankful to have found WWAF and hope to hear about more amazing stories of how much they've helped other women. Thank you all."

-Caller

LEARN MORE:

Stay up to date with our work this year by following us on our social media or signing up for our newsletter through the website.

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