

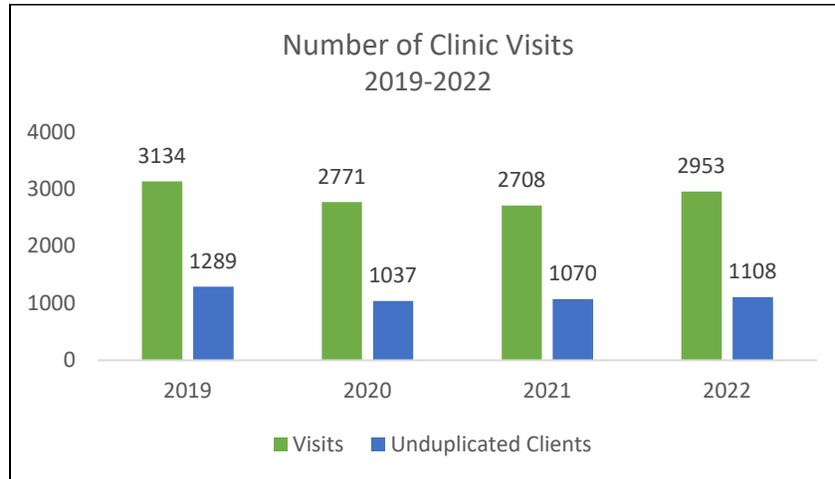
Greene County Family Planning 2022 Annual Report

MISSION STATEMENT: *Providing confidential, compassionate, and professional care, we strive to promote positive health and sexual behaviors through education, prevention, and treatment.*

2022 marks the **50th year** Greene County Family Planning (Family Planning) has been providing highly skilled, trusted reproductive health care for men, women, and the teens of Greene County. We are proud to report on the work of the past year where we were able to achieve all of our goals from 2021:

1. Increase the number of unduplicated visits and clients seen to pre-pandemic levels:

This graph demonstrates that the numbers have rebounded from 2020 and 2021, but are not yet at 2019 pre-pandemic levels.



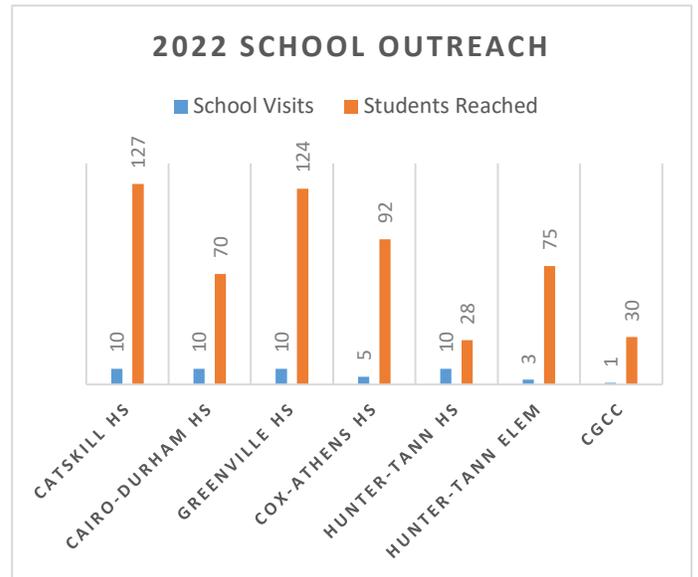
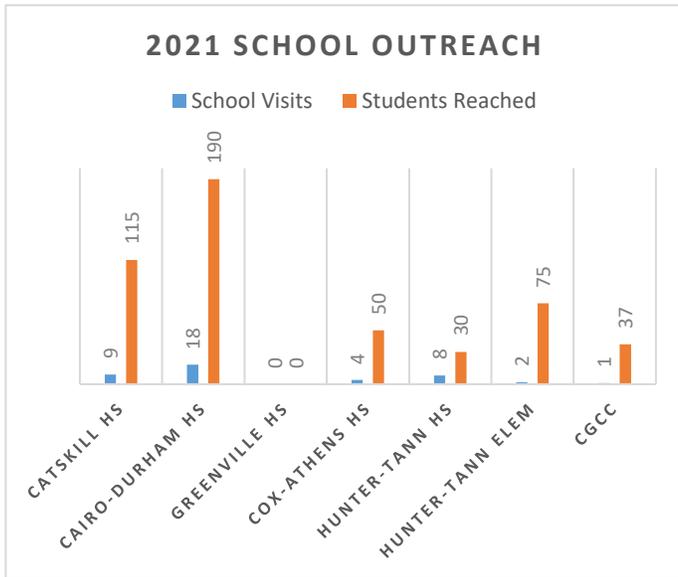
2. Improve the patient experience through surveys, interviews, and focus groups:

- a. *We collected 212 patient surveys in clinic:*
 - i. *98% reported it was easy to schedule an appointment*
 - ii. *96% were highly likely to recommended us to friends or family*
- b. *When surveyed about barriers accessing our care clients identified:*
 - i. *Lack of transportation to clinic-7, (“transportation down here is hard-there is nowhere closer that offers same services”)*
 - ii. *Lack of healthcare insurance-4*
 - iii. *Other barriers included: Lack of money to pay for services, work, childcare, trying to get here discretely, updated info, wasn’t ready, not taking new Medication Assisted Therapy (MAT) patients*
- c. *A sample of comments:*

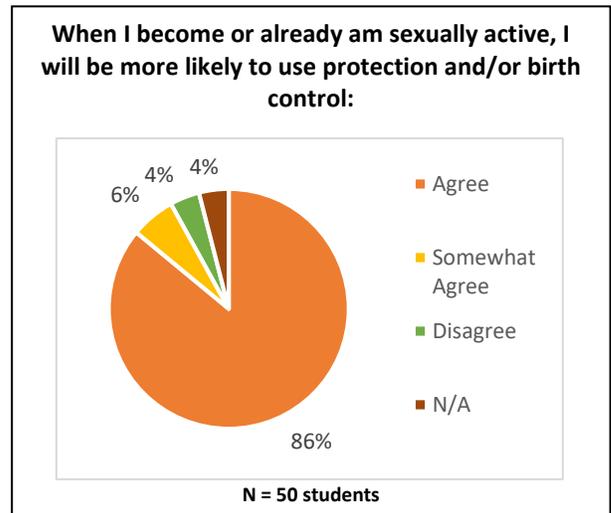
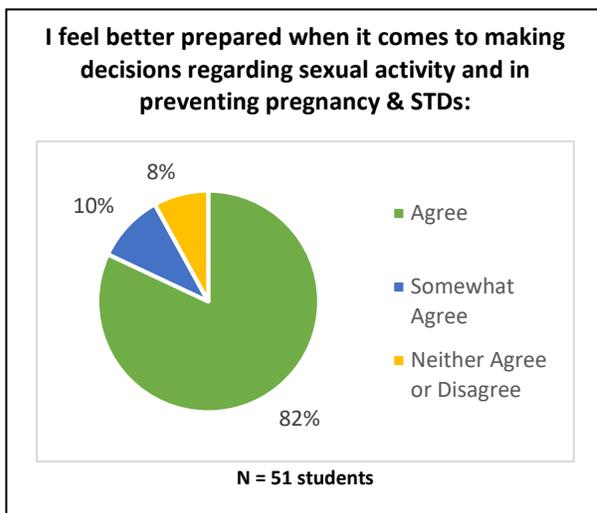
- **GCFP saved my life**
- *I’ll be forever grateful for every single staff member here*
- *The staff here is the best and they care for people*
- *My care was excellent!*
- *I appreciate the time she took to get me referrals for my concerns*
- *This place is a great place the staff really care about you*
- *Great Staff very thorough and friendly, always treated with courtesy*
- *Everyone was very friendly and approachable*
- *Thank you all for what you do, you guys are awesome!*
- *Great Clinic awesome people*
- *The staff always go out of their way to make sure everyone is on the same page and no gets left behind*

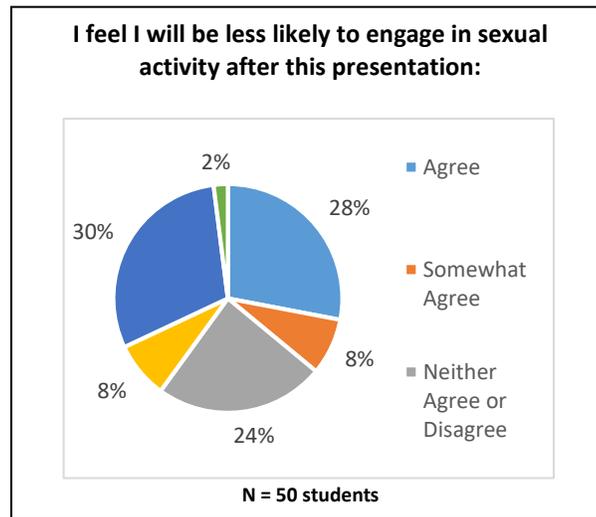
3. Increase community outreach to schools and community organizations through the mobile outreach van partnered with Greener Pathways.

- a. We partnered with Greener Pathways to bring mobile services back to Columbia-Greene Community College. While at the college, they were able to distribute Narcan, Fentanyl Strips, and condoms as well as educating students and staff about the services that we provide.
- b. The quarterly newsletter was created and then distributed among patients. The newsletters feature important family planning topics, such as birth control. Also featured is a staff member and the great work they provide at the clinic.
- c. The charts below show the schools that the health educator went into during the 2021 and 2022 year. In 2021, COVID still affected the health educator visiting school districts, but virtual or in-person education. In 2022, the health educator was able to return to the schools. Also, all of the school districts that are listed cover the high risk zip codes that NYSDOH has identified for teen pregnancies.



- d. Students are presented with surveys to complete at the end of the session. They provide valuable information and helps to improve future presentations.





- Obtain real time data on overdose deaths and respond in a timely manner with the county level overdose response plan.** With the assistance of an epidemiologist and data manager from the CDC Foundation, a dashboard was created and now sits on the Public Health page and the Columbia-Greene Addiction Coalition websites. Updated weekly, the dashboard offers real-time information about overdoses, and links to connect to recovery services. *See the Opioid Dashboard [here](#).*

At its very core Family Planning is a public health program with the following goals:

Prevent unintended pregnancies and promote and plan healthy births:

We offer a range of effective to highly effective contraceptive methods with same day access, low cost, and counseling to plan a healthy pregnancy. As the graph below demonstrates, the teen birth rate in the United States has fallen dramatically from its high in the early 1990's.

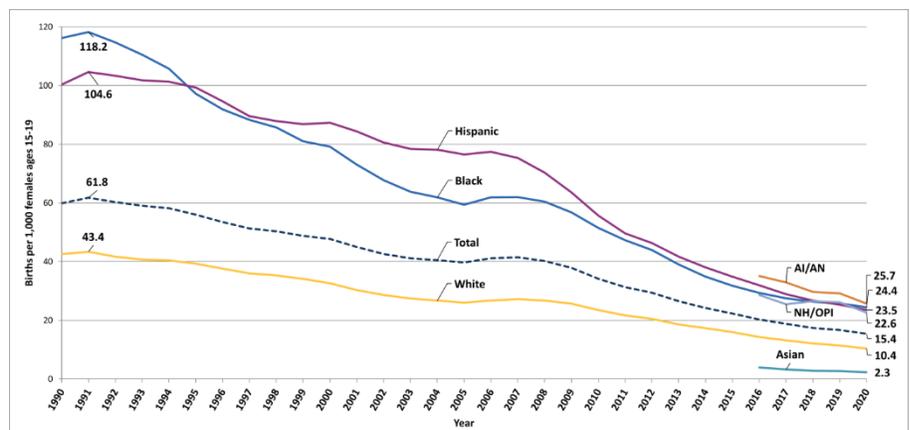


Figure 1: Birth rates per 1,000 for females ages 15-19, by race and Hispanic origin of mother, 1990-2020

Sources:

- For 1990-2015: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2017). Births: Final data for 2015. National Vital Statistics Reports, 66(1). https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr66/nvsr66_01.pdf
- For 2016-2020: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2022). Births: Final data for 2020. National Vital Statistics Reports, 70(17). <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr70/nvsr70-17.pdf>

Prevent the spread of Sexually transmitted diseases and HIV:

We offer testing and treatments for all of the most common STD's including chlamydia and gonorrhea.

STD Testing		
	2021	2022
Chlamydia	821	1108
Gonorrhea	824	1110

HIV		
	2021	2022
Tests performed	446	525
Clients on pre-exposure prophylaxis	13	18

All at-risk clients are encouraged to be screened for HIV. In 2022, our rates of HIV testing increased 17.7%.

We counsel on **abstinence as primary prevention**, then encourage the use of condoms and adoption of safer sex behaviors to reduce the risk of HIV and STD's. We also offer HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis as a risk reduction measure to prevent the spread of HIV.

Improve birth outcomes:

All clients, men and women, are asked about their reproductive life plan, helping them determine when they want to have their first child. We counsel and assist them to improve their health prior to conception by quitting smoking, avoiding illicit drugs, controlling their diabetes, high blood pressure, and obesity. We have a strong referral system with our Public Health Maternal Child Health nurse who follows ante- and postpartum women, and local OB providers to ensure they and their babies have the healthiest outcomes. Women who were actively using heroin were successfully referred into treatment for their opioid use disorder and OB care and had successful outcomes.

	2021	2022
Smoking Cessation counseling	135	118
Prenatal vitamin scripts	43	54

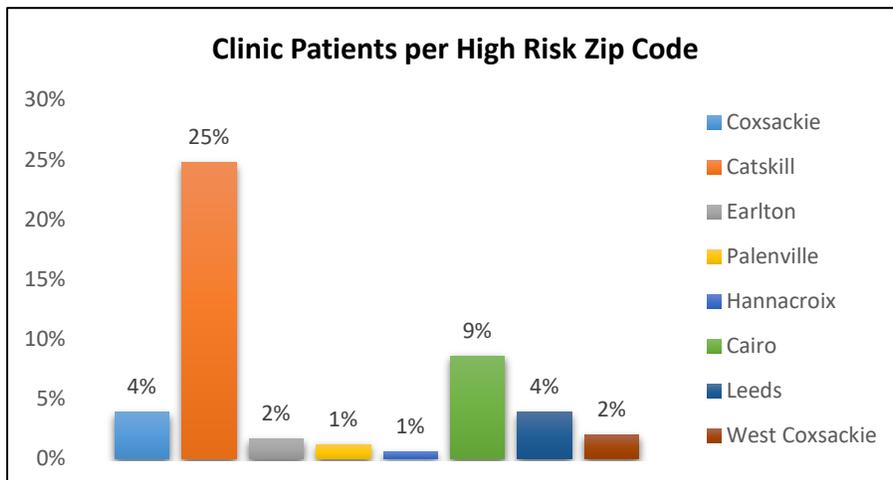
	2021	2022
Colposcopies	19	22
Pap Smears	199	213
Abnormal Pap Smears	45	84
Mammogram referrals	82	102

Facilitate early detection and treatment of reproductive cancers:

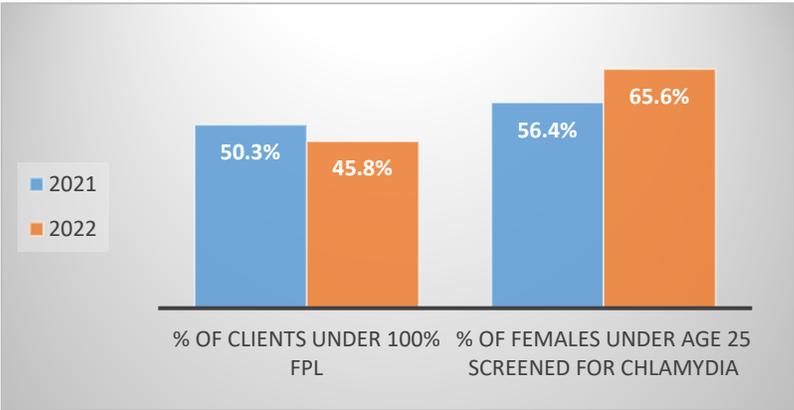
Women are screened for cervical, thyroid, breast, skin, endometrial and ovarian cancers; and while much rarer, we screen men for testicular and breast cancer. Since we are a small clinic, our patients are followed to make sure they are seen and cared for by specialists. One of our Nurse Practitioners offers colposcopy on-site.

Without these vital services, Greene County residents would have no access to low cost, sliding fee or free reproductive health care.

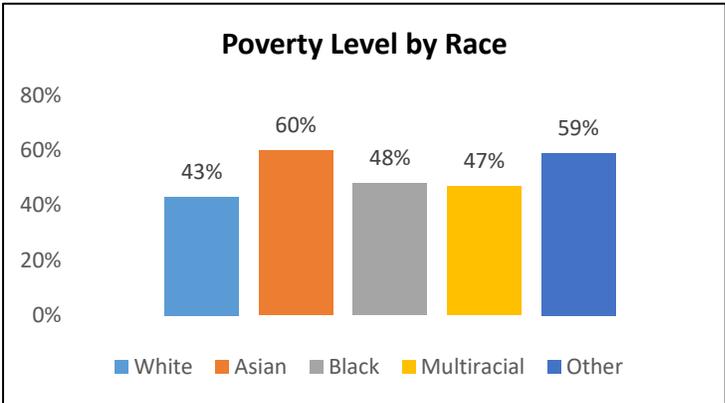
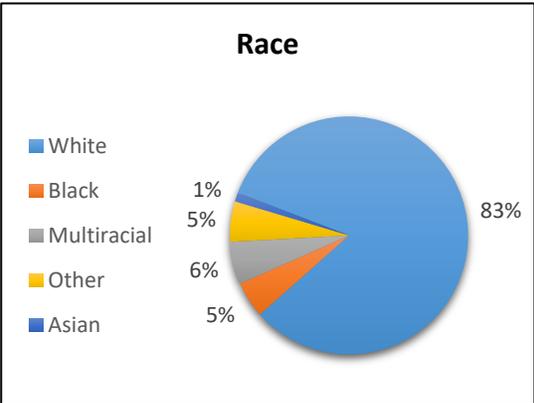
Our Family Planning grant specifically funds us to provide outreach and services to the following vulnerable populations in our community. The following performance measures are tracked on a quarterly basis to ensure we are reaching the intended population served: percent of people served under 100% of the federal poverty level, % of females screened for chlamydia under aged 25, and high risk populations' including the following Greene County Zip codes with disproportional levels of maternal health outcomes



Chlamydia is the number one cause of infertility and often has no symptoms. Screening young women is an evidence-based strategy to reduce the burden of disease and improve birth outcomes.



Racial/Ethnic minorities: The clinic is in a predominantly Caucasian County; however, we serve a greater percentage of minorities than the county with the high-risk zip codes representing even higher percentages of minorities served. According to County census data, 89.8% of Greene County residents are white, 6.1% black and 6.3% Hispanic. In 2022, the average number of minorities served by the clinic was 19% down slightly from 20.6% in 2021. However the percentage of people with Hispanic origin rose to 16.5 % from 11% in 2021, and of those, 53% were under 100 of the FPL.



LGBTQ population: Family Planning staff has participated in training to be culturally sensitive when serving patients identifying as LGBTQ. In 2022 we continued to see an increase in LGBTQ persons from NYC re-locating upstate and seeking HIV testing and HIV Pre Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP). Our Electronic Medical Record (EMR) now includes a mandatory screen for a person to identify their gender and sexual preferences. Because of this, we see that our numbers of patients identifying as LGBTQ has increased from 5% in 2021 to 9.1% in 2022, with 1% identifying as transgender.

Refugees/immigrants: We estimate that 2.5% of our patients are undocumented. One barrier to them accessing our services in the county building is the need to go through a security check at the door. Walking past armed sheriffs is very likely a barrier to those seeking services with an undocumented immigration status. The County Administrator and Sheriff have both been contacted with these concerns. This author has had conversations with deputies about the need to have access to our services and they have been receptive.

Individuals with limited English proficiency:

- Our medical receptionist/family planning aide is bilingual, which is a tremendous help for all of our Spanish speaking patients. She assists them at check in, and out, with paperwork (in Spanish), and for questions. We continue to use the Language Line for in-clinic visits by the providers.

- In 2022, our QA nurse performed an assessment of cultural competent services regarding language and identified that the pre-screening questions being sent out prior to a visit were not being done in languages other than English. With a simple click of a button in the chart, these documents are now sent in Spanish.
- Our electronic medical record tracks this information. In 2021 and 2022, 3.4% of all patients seen indicated a primary language other than English with Spanish being the primary one at 2.9%.

Depression: Since depression can lead to poor reproductive health outcomes, we screen all clients annually for depression. While more people were screened in 2022, the percentage scoring positive for depression is down from 2021. Those who screen positive are counseled about resources in our community and referrals for treatment and evaluation are expedited and followed up.

	2021	2022
Clients screened	696	776
Percent positive	12.2%	10.8%

Referrals to GCMH	
2021	2022
29	20

It has been especially helpful co-locating a social worker (MSW) from Greene County Mental Health in the clinic one day a week for referrals and consultations. In addition, the Mobile Crisis Assessment Team provides a 12 hour/day team of mobile clinicians who have come to the clinic for urgent assessments and follow up on any non-urgent cases through calls or home visits. We continue monthly meetings with Greene County Mental Health to improve access for all of our clients.

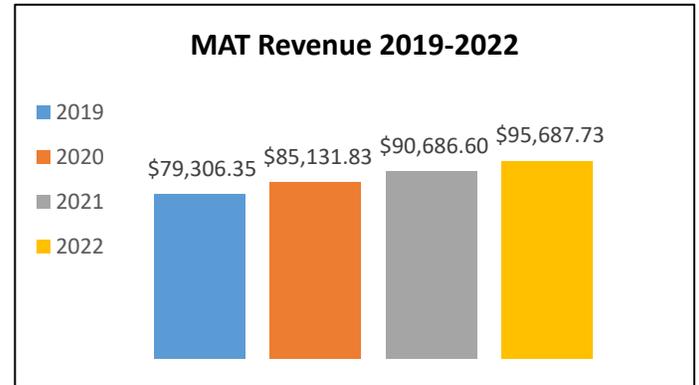
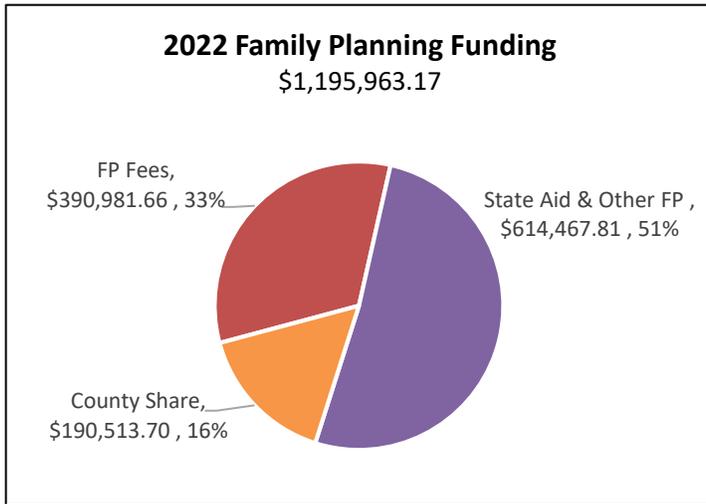
People in active drug use and recovery are at higher risk of having adverse reproductive outcomes which could include late or no prenatal care, polysubstance use during pregnancy, and inability to parent the child due to social and criminal history related to their substance use. Since 2019 our program has been offering direct Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for opioid use disorder by prescribing buprenorphine, sublingual and injectable formulations. Using our EMR reports we have 104 active clients receiving MAT up from 89 in 2021. A benefit to being treated in our clinic is that their reproductive intentions were discussed and access to highly effective contraceptives is supported if desired.

- In 2022, with the help of 2 contract staff from the CDC Foundation, we were able to look at the data from the clients treated for opioid use disorder in the clinic, including retention outcomes. Examining the total of 198 patients seen between 1/1/2019 and 3/3/2022, we found 60% of patients were retained for 6 months and more, which is higher than the national average. Additional findings were significant for Hepatitis C infection.
- Injection Drug Use is common among MAT program patients. Of a sample of 198 MAT patients, 67% have a history of injection drug use, and Hepatitis C status is known for 78% of them.
- Among patients with a history of injection drug use, the prevalence of Hepatitis C infection is 61%. 97% of patients with Hepatitis C have a history of injection drug use.
- This demonstrates a high prevalence of Hepatitis C within the community in Greene County that injects drugs.

Revenue:

All revenue we generate is used to offset the county share for our services. We are mindful of the costs to the taxpayers of Greene County and look for opportunities to remain sustainable.

- In 2022, the County share of funding decreased by 14% in comparison to 2021.



2022 Highlights:

1. In October, we promoted one of our Nurse Practitioners to the role of clinic manager. Her primary responsibilities are overseeing the laboratory, pharmacy and staff and learning the administrative tasks required for the program administration work.
1. Highlighted in the Arnold ventures: We had a visit from Michael Friedrich of Arnold Ventures who had been referred to us by the National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association. He shadowed the staff on December 2nd to see what a “day in the life” of a Title X clinic was like. Here are links to the two articles: <https://www.arnoldventures.org/stories/a-federally-funded-clinic-fights-to-serve-its-community> <https://www.arnoldventures.org/stories/i-dont-think-you-can-put-a-number-on-how-valuable-it-is-to-the-community>
2. We had a mandatory family planning program review conducted virtually by IPRO on November 9-10. IPRO identified that we were not seeing enough people under 100% of the federal poverty level. In our Plan of Correction (POC), we identified in-reach and outreach strategies to improve this percentage. This POC was accepted in December and will be highlighted in 2023.
3. A Security assessment was completed with gaps identified in the clinic and public health areas.
 - a. Step 1: Installing video cameras in the clinic hallways was completed in 2022.
 - b. Step 2: Secure key fob access via swipe was installed in January 2023.

2023 Goals:

1. Increase the number of clients seen below the poverty level to 50% consistent with our IPRO POC.
2. Secure the Bureau of Justice Assistance Grant which will support the harm reduction work of the clinic.
3. Hire a new family planning aide and nurse practitioner so that we are fully staffed.
4. Transition our quality assessment work to fully digital by all staff.
5. Host a successful 50th Anniversary celebration on June 2nd, 2023, which will increase community awareness of our services.

In closing, we would like to thank the Legislature and County Administrator for all of their support for this vital program.

Respectfully submitted,
 Laura Churchill, DNP, FNP-BC, Director of Public Health
 Wendy Johnson, MS, FNP-BC, Family Planning Clinic Manager