annual report

MEDICAL STUDENTS FOR CHOICE

2025



From Our Board President

Medical Students for Choice has been a haven for students seeking reproductive health education since 1993. While globally, access to abortion and education has waxed and waned, our commitment to our cause has never faltered. We reach students at the grassroots level with our chapter network and programming, and advocate on a larger scale for abortion and family planning education to be part of medical school accreditation requirements everywhere. We are students, activists, healers, and friends. Together, we are 287 chapters strong in 28 countries.

I write to you from America's capital, Washington D.C. The District itself, with no gestational limit, is a refuge for many living under abortion bans in the American South and Mid-Atlantic. And of course, I live mere miles away from where Roe v. Wade took place, where the Dobbs decision came to be, and where my country's laws are set into motion. As a third-year medical student, every day consists of learning as much as I can, forming the foundation of my knowledge in interactions with patients, colleagues, and the community. It is not lost on me how crucial these years are in shaping the physician I will be. MSFC has provided me with a rich educational experience and camaraderie in the joy I share with all of you.

As a part of MSFC, the educational opportunities afforded to students are plentiful. Chapters are provided funding, mentorship, supplies, and more. I so fondly remember participating in my first Manual Vacuum Aspiration training with papayas as a first-year medical student, and helping to lead a vasectomy workshop as a second-year, thanks to MSFC. Community is profoundly present within and between chapters, and at our Conference on Family Planning, which this past year brought together 250 medical students. For students who lack abortion training at their medical schools or desire further education, MSFC hosts our Abortion Training Institutes and organizes our Reproductive Health Externship, the latter of which is a global endeavor.

In 2027, I am incredibly excited for our 2027-2030 Strategic Plan to take effect. Our Board of Directors has been hard at work these past couple of years evaluating our progress with our previous Strategic Plan, and developing our new plan with input from students, alumni, and staff. While we undergo finishing touches, I'd love to give you a sneak peek into our upcoming priorities:

- Strengthen the Abortion Care and Reproductive Justice Leadership Pipeline: Our mission is to support future abortion care providers and advocate for reproductive justice globally. We will focus on providing support, training, mentorship, and connection throughout a student's professional journey across medical specialties.
- Strengthen Shared Leadership and Stakeholder Engagement: The basis of our organization is our chapters. From first-year medical students to alumni who are established in our field, we want to ensure that the future of our organization is shaped by the voices that make us who we are.
- Activate the Alumni Network for Leadership, Mentorship, and Movement Building: Our alumni are incredible, and we hear the call to create a network where alumni can stay connected, and provide perspective to chapter leaders and student members, particularly at schools wherein reproductive health and abortion care education is not provided.
- Strengthen Chapters as Local Leaders for Education, Advocacy, and Change: Our chapters consist of empowered, impassioned advocates who care about and work to improve their communities. MSFC strives to provide support and build upon our coalition.
- Strengthen MSFC as a Global Learning and Leadership Network: We learn so much from one another. It is undeniable now that MSFC is a global organization, and we are all better for our shared knowledge exchange across countries, regions, and contexts.

I know I speak for the entire Board, including eight new Board members from across the world and in diverse professions, when I emphasize how grateful we are to be in this work with you. We are thankful to our members, alumni, staff, and supporters for what we've accomplished thus far, and for all that we are working towards now.

In solidarity,



Sriha Srinivasan
President 2026-2027, Board of Directors
George Washington School of Medicine and Health Sciences
Washington D.C.



From the Executive Director

Medical Students for Choice entered 2025 guided by our strategic plan and our mission to support future abortion care providers and advocate for reproductive justice globally. I am pleased to share that we continue to maintain a positive and collaborative work culture at MSFC HQ, allowing us to provide critical support to 287 chapters in 28 countries across the globe. We are ever mindful that our success is fueled by the active leadership of medical students on campus and in their community, and we are proud to connect medical students with evidence-based reproductive healthcare training and education.

Through the dedicated work of MSFC chapter leaders and under the governance of our Board of Directors, we continue to meet the challenges and opportunities in family planning and abortion education and training. It is an honor to share some of MSFC's highlights from 2025.

Alumni engagement is a key strategic priority, so we developed and launched the MSFC Alumni Network to strengthen our relationship with alums and connect them with opportunities to support MSFC's work and student leaders learning in their community. In October, MSFC hosted an exclusive program and advocacy briefing for alums. We surveyed over 5,000 MSFC alums to identify areas of interest and capacity, and we are ready in 2026 to launch tailored resources, mentorship opportunities, and opportunities for alums to advocate for family planning in medical education.

Our strategic plan also prioritizes supporting U.S. chapters in states with legal restrictions or bans on abortion care. Led by an amazing legal team at the Center for Reproductive Rights, MSFC was a plaintiff in a successful lawsuit against Michigan, resulting in a ruling that struck down all but one of the state's remaining Targeted Restrictions on Abortion Providers (TRAP) laws. We also sought out ways to better support medical students who may not feel safe traveling to access abortion training in the U.S. This led to an expansion of our partnership with Ipas to support on-campus abortion training for chapters in abortion hostile states like Texas and Louisiana.

We are honored to support the global movement for reproductive justice by connecting medical students to family planning and abortion training across the globe. MSFC continues to partner with the British Pregnancy Advisory Services (BPAS) to offer one-week externship opportunities in the UK. In 2025, we expanded our Reproductive Health Externship program (RHE) partnership with Dynamic Doctors Uganda where we have already trained over 50 African doctors on African soil. Building off the success of that partnership, we are now expanding training to Burundi through a new partnership with Medical Actions for Change to support students from French speaking countries. It is exciting to note that both Dynamic Doctors Uganda and Medical Actions for Change were founded by MSFC alums!

After an exciting year that included three in-person Abortion Training Institutes, a multitude of campus events and trainings, and the development of new event and training resources on gender affirming care, MSFC wrapped up 2025 with another successful Conference on Family Planning in beautiful Portland, Oregon!

We have a lot to be proud of and much more yet to accomplish! So, we will apply the lessons learned in 2025 to our work to connect future physicians with the training and education that is essential to maintaining and expanding access to reproductive healthcare. I cannot wait to see what we accomplish together!

In solidarity,



Pamela Merritt
Executive Director

PROGRAMS UPDATE

Conference on Family Planning

The 2025 CoFP was held in person on **December 6 and 7, 2025**, in **Portland, Oregon**. The conference focused on the theme of **"Empowering Choice and Centering Equity in Sexual and Reproductive Health"** to engage our members with experts in the field and spark new connections that bridge divides in reproductive health, equity, and justice through medical student education, training, and advocacy.

There were **254 conference attendees** registered, including **155 medical students** representing **80 medical schools**. Advanced Practice Clinicians in training were also invited to attend the conference and participated in hands-on training sessions.

- 83 medical students received hands-on training in Manual Vacuum Aspiration (MVA).
- 85 medical students received hands-on training in IUD placement.
- 18 MSFC alumni participated in the conference as faculty.

The keynote speaker was **Maria I. Rodriguez, MD MPH,** Director of the Center of Reproductive Health Equity and Professor of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Oregon Health & Science University. The keynote, ***"Research as Advocacy: Understanding the Structural Determinants of Reproductive Health,"*** reframed research as a vital form of advocacy rather than a neutral pursuit. The talk explored how systemic forces—racism, poverty, policy, and geography—profoundly shape reproductive health outcomes, often rendering the concept of "choice" inaccessible. Through real-world examples focusing on policies, the presentation illustrated how data can expose inequities, influence policy, and drive structural change.

The Saturday plenary address, ***"The Turnaway Play: Sisters, Science, and Storytelling,"*** from **Diana Greene Foster, PhD** and **Lesley Greene, MA** highlighted their collaboration to bring the science of the Turnaway Study to the stage. The Turnaway Study is a study conducted by a team of scientists from the University of California San Francisco examining the effects of unwanted pregnancy through the Advancing New Standards in Reproductive Health (NSIRH) program, led by Dr. Diana Greene Foster. They shared insights from more than 40 readings and productions to date giving voice to participants in the Turnaway Study as they recount their experiences of receiving wanted abortions or being denied care.

The Sunday plenary address, ***"Abortion Training in Residency Panel,"*** moderated by **Kristin Simonson from the Ryan Residency Training Program** and **Megan Kumar from TEACH/RHEDI** provided a detailed look at abortion training in ob-gyn and family medicine residency programs in the post-Dobbs era. A panel of physicians and residents discussed how training differs between the two specialties, compared opportunities in states where abortion is banned versus legal, offered guidance on applying to programs in various legal environments, and explored how learners integrate abortion care into their practice in states with and without abortion bans.

Below is feedback from conference participants:

> *"The most valuable part of the conference was learning about abortion care and the legal verbiage surrounding it, especially through sessions that explored how this language directly impacts clinical practice and patient access."*

> *"I really enjoyed hearing from anyone working in a restrictive state. It was hopeful to hear about how they can make an impact and still find satisfaction in their work."*

> *"After hearing experts on reproductive justice in the current environment and ongoing work, I left feeling much more up to date on the landscape and areas of activism."*

> *"It was refreshing to hear talks on the social/political context of abortion and reproductive healthcare. I think it is difficult to find time to think about this aspect of healthcare in medical school, when I am so focused on learning the physiology and medical aspects of care."*

Abortion Training Institutes

MSFC HQ organized one virtual Abortion Training Institute (ATI) held via Zoom and two in-person Abortion Training Institutes held in **Philadelphia, PA**. Of note, filmmakers creating a documentary film titled ***UNAPOLOGETIC*** were invited to observe the August Abortion Training Institute. With the consent of the attendees, conducted interviews and recorded content for a documentary on the diminishing quality of healthcare for all due to restrictive reproductive care for some in the wake of the Supreme Court's decision striking down Roe v. Wade.

We saw a significant increase in our ATIs due to increased training sessions and greater capacity to train more students per session. With these three trainings, we increased the number of medical students trained at our ATIs from 57 in the previous year to 102 in 2025. There was a **73% increase** in ATI applications compared to 2024.

Below are quotes from medical students who attended the Abortion Training Institutes:

"As someone who comes from Texas, MSFC's ATI was an eye-opening experience critical to my medical education. Not only did it provide the medical and procedural knowledge about abortions that is completely omitted from my medical school curriculum, but it also helped to clarify a great number of misconceptions that I held about abortion safety, ethics, and processes, even as a pro-choice individual. As long as some schools and states continue to withhold such essential medical education and training from its future physicians, MSFC must continue to fill these gaps."

"I'm a medical student in Alabama, an extremely abortion-restrictive state—both legally and socially. This ATI has been and will be the only opportunity for me to learn about abortion. I'm the president of the MSFC chapter at my school, and the knowledge I gained on abortions and advocacy from this one weekend far exceed the education I'll receive in 4 years."

"Through the ATI, I was able to connect with students from across the country who share my motivation to improve abortion access, and who experience different hardships/challenges in their home states and institutions. I am so grateful to have learned from my peers and built a network of support for the rest of my career. Thank you for your support in facilitating such an incredible educational opportunity. I am looking forward to sharing this knowledge and experience with my chapter in the short-term, and continuing advocacy for abortion access in the long-term."

Reproductive Health Externship

In 2025, the number of medical students who participated in our Reproductive Health Externship (RHE) program stabilized at 95, up from 93 in 2024. Since Dobbs, MSFC has worked tirelessly in collaboration to ensure that students receive this vital training by expanding our network of partner clinics.

Below is feedback from this year's RHE participants:

"The team I worked with was so kind and eager to include me in clinical care. My time with Planned Parenthood also helped fill significant gaps in my education, as we did not learn much about elective abortions at my medical school. One of the best experiences I've had so far as a medical student!"

"This was a once in a lifetime experience, and I am so grateful to MSFC and the RHE program for the support to expand my horizons in what full-spectrum care entails. Never in my medical school career would I have an opportunity to learn this much in such a short period of time."

"I have learned so much about reproductive healthcare and how I can best support my future patients. I feel that I am more aware of our current political climate regarding abortion, and I am determined to continue advocating for access to abortion in my home state (TX), where I would receive absolutely none of what I received at this externship."

Regional Meetings

Washington D.C.

On March 11, 2025, H*yas for Choice (HFC), a reproductive rights organization at Georgetown University, and the MSFC chapter at **Georgetown University Medical Center** hosted a virtual lecture on abortion education. The event featured an OB-GYN and clinical professor at the George Washington University (GWU) School of Medicine. The lecture aimed to address gaps in Georgetown University School of Medicine's (GUSOM) curriculum by giving students the tools needed to provide safe, effective, and lifesaving care to their future patients.

At GUSOM, the fundamentals of abortion care are not included in their curriculum, making opportunities to learn from experienced providers especially important.

Since 2023, the Georgetown MSFC chapter has recruited over 30 members and continues to grow its membership and solidify their presence on campus. Through events like this lecture, the chapter is preparing Georgetown medical students to be the best possible resource for their patients.

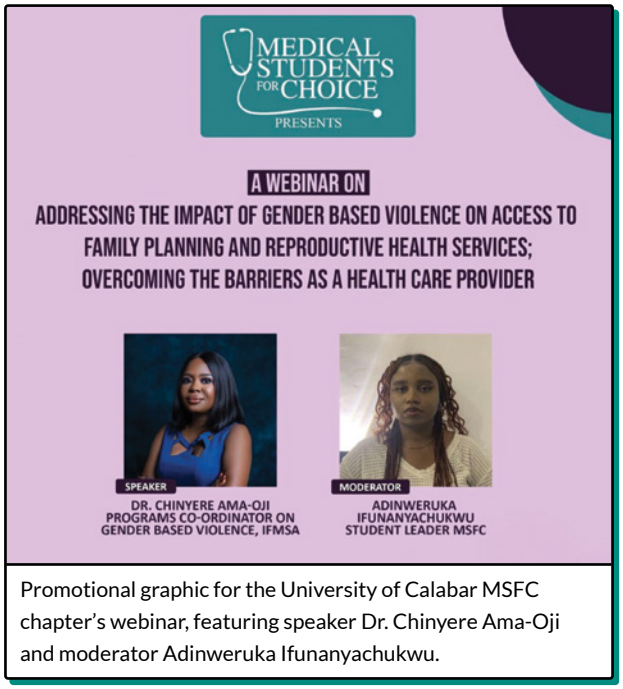


H*yas for Choice and Georgetown University Medical Center's MSFC chapter invited an experienced OB-GYN for a lecture on abortion education.

Nigeria

On July 5, 2025, the MSFC chapter at the University of Calabar hosted a webinar titled "Addressing the Impact of Gender-Based Violence on Access to Family Planning and Reproductive Health Services: Overcoming the Barriers as a Health Care Provider." Chinyere Ama-Oji, Program Coordinator for Gender-Based Violence at the International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA), was a speaker of the session and helped participants examine the barriers that can prevent people from accessing reproductive health care.

Participants left with a stronger understanding of their role as physicians in challenging gender-based violence and are continuing to educate their communities on how to speak out against violence. The chapter is expanding their reproductive health education efforts with plans for more hands-on training for medical students and community outreach. To date, members have provided comprehensive sexual and reproductive health education to more than 400 individuals aged 13–19.



Promotional graphic for the University of Calabar MSFC chapter's webinar, featuring speaker Dr. Chinyere Ama-Oji and moderator Adinweruka Ifunanyachukwu.

New Chapters

Each year, our Student Organizing team works with passionate medical students across the world to activate new and revitalized chapters on medical school campuses. This support is critical to MSFC's steady expansion in this work and to ensure that medical students have the resources and education they need to start a chapter successfully. Below is a list of chapters that joined MSFC in 2025:

- Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine, Florida Campus
- Facultad de Medicina, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico
- Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California
- Laval University – Quebec City, Canada
- Lincoln Memorial University – Knoxville
- Rocky Vista University College of Osteopathic Medicine – Montana
- University of Calgary – Canada

Chapter Events

Chapter events are crucial to providing students with the resources to learn on their own campuses and share information. These events cover a wide range of reproductive healthcare educational topics and can benefit from resources from our student activity fund. Students can also utilize our extensive training resources to cover a variety of topics. Below are examples of events held by chapters in 2025:

- Medical students in **Athens, Georgia** hosted an off-campus Health Policy Panel sponsored by OB-GYN, **American Medical Women's Association (AMWA)**, and MSFC student interest groups where multiple physician speakers led a casual discussion with students about reproductive health policy, including abortion and contraceptive access.
- **Nova Southeastern University** hosted a maternal mental health program with a reproductive psychiatrist and assembled care packages for patients recovering from abortion.
- **The Ohio State University** hosted an abortion patient panel that featured abortion storytellers who have had abortions sharing their experiences in reproductive healthcare. The event was also open to students from MSFC chapters across the state and included speakers from Ohio-based abortion funds and reproductive healthcare advocacy organizations, as well as **We Testify**, a nonprofit organization that uses real stories to change how people see abortion.
- Multiple chapters participated in recruitment efforts to increase the number of engaged medical students.
- **Rocky Vista University Colorado** students distributed a survey across their Colorado and Utah campuses to determine medical students' knowledge of current local abortion laws and clinical practices. They will follow this up with an event highlighting recent changes in abortion law.

Student-Led Fundraisers and Access Initiatives

New York

Every year, MSFC's New York City chapters host a fundraiser to raise funds for organizations that support access to abortion care. On January 31, 2025, the NYC chapters hosted a fundraiser with a performance of The Abortion Monologues by Jane Cawthorne. The Abortion Monologues is a stage play about the lives of 23 women as they tell the stories of their abortions. Proceeds from the ticket sales went to the Abortion Coalition for Telemedicine (ACT), an organization working to advance telemedicine abortion in all 50 states and the Repro Legal Defense Fund, an organization that provides financial support for people facing investigations or criminal charges related to their pregnancy or abortion.



Left: Medical students at MSFC NYC's The Abortion Monologues fundraiser hold copies of the play's program following the performance.

Right: An MSFC member spoke to a seated audience during The Abortion Monologues fundraiser in New York City.

With the ongoing attacks on self-managed abortion care in a post-Roe landscape, abortion storytelling has become an important part of destigmatizing abortion, and their goal was to emphasize that abortion is normal and a deeply personal experience by sharing lived experiences from abortion providers and patients.

The event was a success and MSFC NYC plans to host at a larger venue and involve audience members with a performance of The Turnaway Play, which features real-life stories of women who were denied abortion access across the U.S.

Massachusetts

At Boston University (BU), five Medi Cube vending machines were installed across BU campuses, where students can purchase emergency contraception pills, run by Boston University Students for Reproductive Freedom and Boston University Medical Students for Choice. The machines offer My Choice, a generic form of Plan B, an emergency contraceptive, along with other everyday health and personal care products.

Emergency contraception available on campus takes away some of the barriers students may face when trying to access it quickly, and these machines give students a reliable option when they need it.

Since the installation of Medi Cube machines, stock has constantly run low, showing the need for emergency contraception for the sexual health of students.



Boxes of My Choice, an emergency contraceptive in the vending machine. Image Credit: The Daily Free Press: The Independent Student Newspaper at Boston University.

Underrepresented in Medicine

We made significant strides to support medical students who are underrepresented in medicine. This work is crucial to advancing the global movement in reproductive healthcare.

Below are examples of how we have increased these efforts throughout 2025:

- With intentional outreach to colleagues and alums, we are determining how best to support learners coming from communities underrepresented in medicine. This focus is on students of color and Black medical students, who now face additional hurdles in financial aid, admissions, and culturally competent support at their medical schools.
- Identifying and supporting student leaders interested in local and/or regional collaborations where members can share concerns and identify needs/opportunities emerging from federal attacks on DEI.
- This year, MSFC added more localized trainings in Texas, Georgia, and Louisiana through our partnership with **Ipas**, a nonprofit organization that works globally to advance reproductive justice by expanding access to abortion and contraception. These training sessions are open to students from multiple medical schools near the selected city. They are organized to support learners who may face surveillance or violence while traveling in the U.S. These trainings are scheduled for the summer and fall of 2026.
- We are also connecting with Ipas colleagues in Colombia to identify a dedicated MSFC training site in South America. This is a continuation of our strategic priority to become a more global community where multilingual U.S. learners can train across borders, particularly when they are unable to access clinical training in their home state.

These examples reflect just some of the challenges medical students continue to navigate, and the work of this past year has surfaced important lessons for MSFC's moving forward. Additionally, as funding for these programs has been under attack in recent years, increasing support becomes even more vital.

2025 By the Numbers



287 chapters in **28** countries held **2,326** educational events for their classmates and communities.



26 chapters engaged in curriculum reform efforts.

156 attendees joined us at the Conference on Family Planning.

102 students attended our **3** Abortion Training Institutes to safely learn about abortion.

95 medical students and residents received funding to get training in clinical settings through the Reproductive Health Externship.

MSFC provided chapters with supplies for **195** training workshops on vacuum aspiration abortion, IUD insertion, and No-Scalpel Vasectomy.



FOUNDATION SUPPORTERS

2025

Anonymous

The 1661 Foundation

The David and Lucile Packard Foundation

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The Every Page Foundation

The Lisa & Douglas Goldman Fund

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Thank you to each and every donor who contributed to MSFC this past year. We could not continue this work without your generosity and support.

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2025 - 2026

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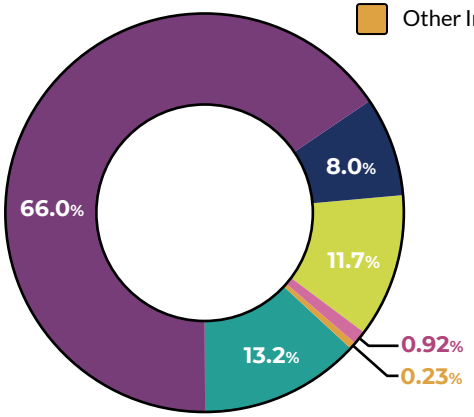
Paula Valino Ramos
Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, St Louis, Missouri

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

2025

Income

Individual and Trust Contributions	$ 377,204
Foundation Grants	$ 1,880,039
Investment Income	$ 226,877
Net Gain/(Loss) on Investments	$ 332,881
Meetings Registrations	$ 26,100
Other Income	$ 6,658

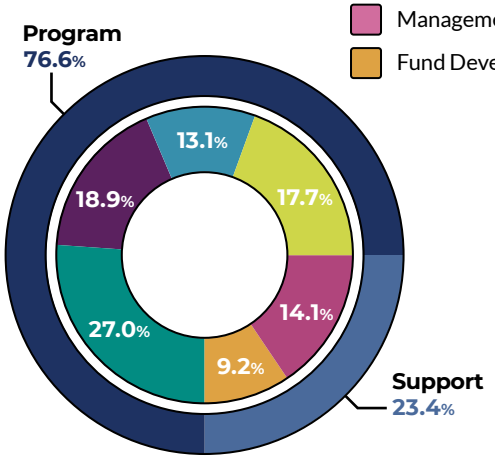


Total Income
$ 2,849,759

Total Net Assets
$ 7,980,230

Expenses

Student Organizing	$ 493,454
Conferences and Meetings	$ 345,568
Reproductive Health Externship	$ 239,151
Outreach and Communication	$ 323,069
Management and General	$ 258,446
Fund Development	$ 168,692



Total Expenses
$1,828,380

THANK YOU!

This year brought new opportunities to our student leaders, and none of that would have been possible without the people who continue to support this work. We are deeply appreciative of our partners, supporters, and medical students for helping us continue expanding opportunities for future physicians to learn how to provide the care their patients deserve.

MEDICAL STUDENTS FOR CHOICE

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