

# Our Roadmap for Greater Health Access + Equity

Strategic Framework  
2021 - 2024



**shaping the future**  
of sexual + reproductive health care

# Essential Access Health champions and promotes quality sexual + reproductive health care for ALL.

Essential Access was established in 1968, grounded in the belief that the ability to plan our families and futures and make informed, autonomous choices about our sexual and reproductive health are essential for overall health and well-being. More than fifty years later, our 2021 – 2024 Strategic Framework builds upon our long-standing commitment to making access to high quality, comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services and information a reality for everyone – regardless of income, race, age, gender identity or sexual orientation, zip code, insurance or documentation status.

The Essential Access 2021 – 2024 Strategic Framework outlines a bold vision for our organization and provides a roadmap for how we will meet this moment, spark meaningful change, and expand our reach and impact in new and innovative ways. Essential Access will advance the following strategies to help ensure that the future of sexual and reproductive health care is more inclusive, just, and equitable.

## Strategic Framework Guiding Principles



# Increase the availability of equitable, client-centered, high-quality sexual + reproductive health care.

- Strengthen the delivery of in-person and remote sexual + reproductive health care through data-sharing, technical assistance, and other quality improvement activities to ensure there is no “wrong door” for accessing comprehensive services
- Build on the success of Essential Access Health’s Title X Family Planning Program, STI Prevention Center, Medication Abortion Access Project, and implement other strategic initiatives to expand access and advance health equity
- Support and enhance integrated models of care to reduce barriers and meet the individual needs of patients

# Build and enhance strategic partnerships.

- Establish, maintain, and strengthen alliances with partners who work directly with community members facing structural and systemic hurdles to obtaining sexual + reproductive health services and information
- Empower, engage, and collaborate with young people to educate their peers about their sexual + reproductive health, direct services available, and their right to access comprehensive, medically-accurate and confidential care
- Develop culturally-responsive programming and public awareness campaigns that address barriers to accessing sexual + reproductive health care and information

# Lead pro-active policy initiatives to expand access.

- Introduce and advance community-informed, pro-active public policy solutions that promote equity and support sexual + reproductive health and well-being
- Monitor implementation and enforcement of public policy initiatives led by Essential Access Health to ensure accountability and compliance
- Support and amplify public policies introduced by partner organizations that seek to improve sexual + reproductive health care and break down structural inequities

# Expand the capacity of health care professionals across the country.

- Create and deliver innovative Learning Exchange offerings nationwide to increase access to high quality sexual + reproductive health care that respects patient autonomy and advances health equity
- Lead efforts to expand the capacity of health care providers to deliver inclusive, respectful, trauma-informed care that fosters positive patient experiences
- Broaden the reach of the Learning Exchange to help build a more diverse sexual + reproductive health care workforce across the country

# Conduct innovative research studies.

- Develop and implement a comprehensive, innovative sexual + reproductive health research agenda for Essential Access Health
- Expand the scope of Essential Access Health's research studies to strategically fill gaps and build on the Research Center's established leadership in the field
- Design and implement research studies that meet the sexual + reproductive health care needs of all individuals, regardless of gender identity, sexual orientation or race

# Establish and implement internal policies and practices that promote a culture of equity, innovation, and accountability.

- Recruit and retain a diverse workforce and Board of Directors that is representative of the individuals we serve to create a work environment that advances equity and inclusion
- Create and expand policies to foster and sustain an equitable organization where all Essential Access Health staff members feel welcomed, valued, and supported
- Foster openness and transparency at all levels of the organization by providing a broad range of communication channels for sharing input and feedback
- Integrate cutting edge technology at all levels of the organization for a more efficient and flexible work environment
- Implement and expand quality assurance practices to ensure all internal and external work products and deliverables meet standards of excellence