

COUNTING THE COST: FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR ABORTION IN QUEENSLAND

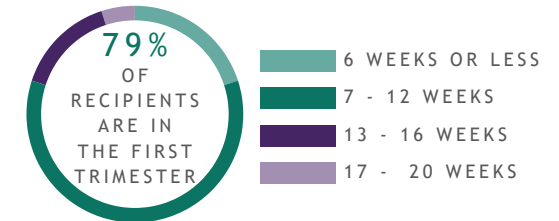
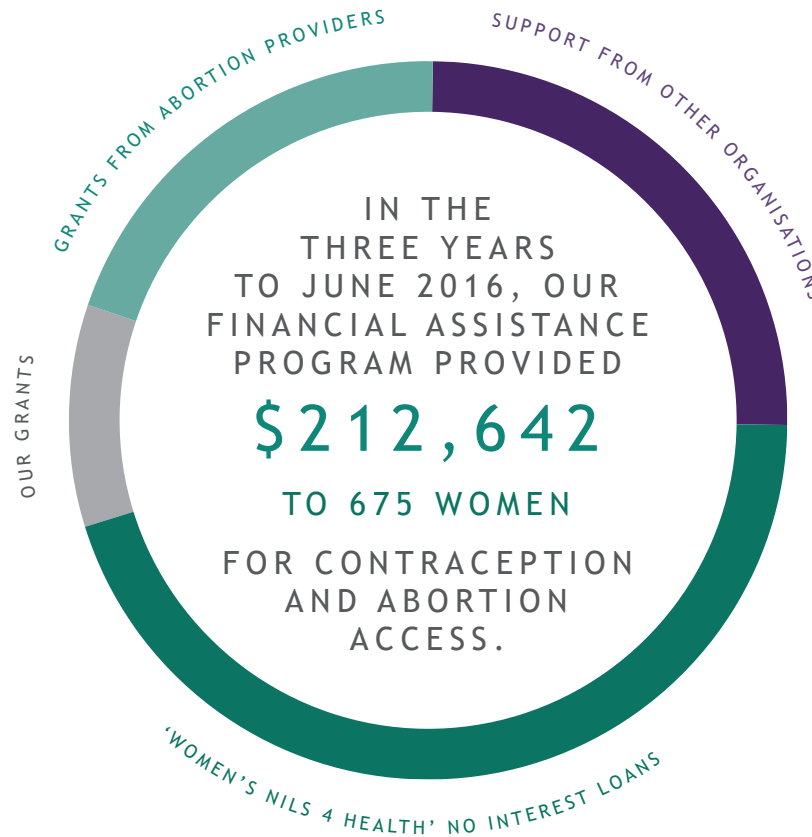
Children by Choice has been providing financial assistance to help disadvantaged Queenslanders access abortion since 2000. The need for this program has grown significantly since its inception and in the 2015-16 financial year totalled over \$90,000.

This assistance consists of grants from our service which women do not have to repay, no interest loans administered by us (in a scheme started thanks to some startup capital from a philanthropic grant fund), support from other community organisations (including youth, homelessness, and violence services), and discounted procedures from abortion providers.

None of the funds we provide come from government funding. All the grants we supply are made possible by donations from members and supporters, who have the grateful thanks of our team and our clients.

Financial assistance is disproportionately accessed by the following groups:

- Those in the Metro South Health and Hospital Service district (36% of all funds in 2015);
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women (18%); and
- Those experiencing domestic and/or sexual violence (44%).



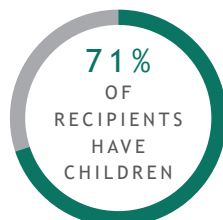
IN THREE YEARS ONLY FIVE WOMEN - OR 0.7% OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE CLIENTS - WERE SEEKING ABORTION AFTER 20 WEEKS GESTATION. ALL THESE WOMEN TRAVELLED TO VICTORIA FOR THEIR PROCEDURE.



ALMOST 1 IN 10 DOLLARS GO TO WOMEN PREGNANT AFTER SEXUAL ASSAULT

WOMEN REPORTING VIOLENCE ARE ALMOST TWICE AS LIKELY TO BE IN THEIR SECOND TRIMESTER WHEN THEY CONTACT US. ACCESS TO ABORTION IS MORE LIMITED AND MORE EXPENSIVE AT THIS STAGE OF PREGNANCY.

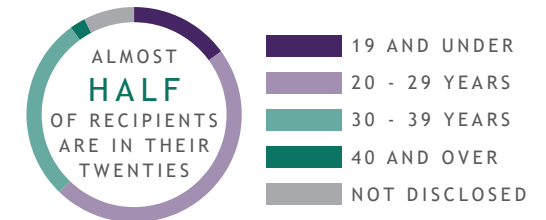
ALMOST 1 IN 3 DOLLARS GO TO WOMEN IN THE METRO SOUTH HEALTH & HOSPITAL SERVICE DISTRICT



ALMOST 1 IN 5 DOLLARS GO TO ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER WOMEN

111 WOMEN RECEIVED FREE OR LOW COST LONG ACTING CONTRACEPTIVE

1 IN 7 DOLLARS GO TO CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE WOMEN



ABOUT THIS MAP:

ABORTION PROVIDERS

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Queensland Health allocates funding and resources to regions through the Health and Hospital Service (HHS) system.

There are 16 HHSs throughout Queensland, as outlined on this map.

The green circles on this map illustrate the total amount of financial assistance for abortion provided by Children by Choice, and the number of recipients, per HHS from 2013-2016.

SEXUAL HEALTH CLINIC
MEDICATION ABORTION ONLY (<9 WEEKS). Generally no cost, but only available to residents of local area.

GP
MEDICATION ABORTION ONLY (<9 WEEKS). Involves multiple appointments. Costs can vary from completely bulk billed to around \$600.

PRIVATE CLINIC
MEDICATION ABORTION (<9 WEEKS) AND SURGICAL ABORTION (GESTATIONAL LIMITS VARY BUT ALL <20 WEEKS). Out of pocket costs range from \$400 to over \$3000 depending on gestation and location.

