

Bill Explainer: State Funds for Crisis Pregnancy Centers

2024 Utah Legislative Session

Summary: For the first time, the Utah Legislature is considering direct ongoing state funding for a crisis pregnancy center and non-profits that opposes abortion access in Utah. This funding totals \$575,000 for fiscal year 2024-25.

Overview: Crisis Pregnancy Centers are anti-abortion organizations that claim to help pregnant people, but instead often attempt to coerce, deceive, and manipulate them into carrying pregnancies to term. The organization seeking this funding is Pregnancy Resource Centers of Salt Lake, Inc., which operates two facilities, one in Salt Lake City, and the second in American Fork. The non-profit selected for state funding is Pro-Life Utah, which is an anti-abortion advocacy group.

The direct funding is being proposed by Rep. Karianne Lisonbee, a member of the House Majority Leadership team. As a result, these funding requests are ranked in top positions on the Ongoing Funding Request Priority List.

Additional funding is also proposed as part of [SB 147 \(Adoption Revisions\)](#) which allocates \$245,000 in state grants to organizations providing “pregnancy support services,” which means services that “encourage childbirth instead of voluntary termination of pregnancy.”

Funding Totals:

\$200,000 - Prolife Utah Support Life Program

\$130,000 - Utah Pregnancy Resource Center Support Life Program

\$245,000 - Grants for pregnancy support services (SB 147)

\$575,000 - total state funds allocated for FY24-25

Media Coverage

‘Misleading’ anti-abortion programs could get \$400K from Utah taxpayers

The Beehive State would join a growing number of states, the majority of which have some of the most restrictive abortion bans in the country, giving money to faith-based crisis pregnancy centers.

By Emily Anderson Stern

Salt Lake Tribune

Feb. 12, 2024

PDF: [24-02-11-SLT-CPC-state-funding.pdf](#)



Scan code to access article

Summary of Funding:

Executive Appropriations List - Ongoing Funding Request Priority List

<https://le.utah.gov/interim/2024/pdf/00001524.pdf>

#16. (DHHS) ProLife Utah Support Life Program - \$200,000

#17. (DHHS) Utah Pregnancy Resource Center Support Life Program - \$130,000

Prolife Utah Support Life Program

\$200,000 ongoing (FY24-25)

-Requested By: Rep. Lisonbee

<https://cobi.utah.gov/2024/1/issues/22458>

Funding granted to a nonprofit organization in Utah, to establish a program to enhance and increase resources that promote childbirth instead of abortion to women facing unplanned pregnancies and to offer services, including pregnancy support services, parenting help, and adoption assistance; Provided further, That the Program shall include only the following services: Counseling or mentoring intended to improve the pregnancy or parenting situation, including care coordination for prenatal services, providing educational materials and information about pregnancy and parenting; Expense reimbursements for financial support given to the client in the form of emergency housing, temporary housing, basic utilities, medical care given at hospitals or clinics, and emergency transport; Referrals intended to improve the pregnancy or parenting situation, including referrals to county and social service programs, referrals for child care, transportation, housing and state and federal benefit programs, and referrals that connect clients to health programs; Material items intended to improve the pregnancy or parenting situation including, but not limited to, car seats, cribs, maternity clothes, infant diapers and formula;

Utah Pregnancy Resource Center Support Life Program

\$130,000 ongoing FY24-25

-Requested By: Rep. Lisonbee

<https://cobi.utah.gov/2024/1/issues/22513>

Funding to be granted to Pregnancy Resource Center of Salt Lake, Inc. (nonprofit organization in Utah) to establish a program to enhance and increase resources that promote childbirth instead of abortion to women facing unplanned pregnancies and to offer services, including pregnancy support services, parenting help, and adoption assistance.

SB 147 (Adoption Revisions)

\$245,000 ongoing FY24-25

-Requested By: Sen. Wilson

<https://le.utah.gov/~2024/bills/static/SB0147.html>

Allocation of \$245,000 in state grants to organizations providing “pregnancy support services,” which means services that “encourage childbirth instead of voluntary termination of pregnancy.”