2023

Impact Report



A Note from ACCESS



Dear ACCESS RJ Community,

It's hard to believe we are writing to you at the end of 2023, nearly 18 months after the overturning of Roe v. Wade and at the end of our 30th anniversary year.

Reflecting on this year, it is full of high highs and low lows. ACCESS RJ added three new wonderful individuals to our staff, rounding out our biggest staff in the organization's history! The growth of our team from two at the start of 2021 to 11 in 2023, has expanded our team's capacity to support our caller community and our volunteers, provide resources and education to a broader community, and make our work sustainable for the long haul. With the support of our current funders and donors like you, we supported over 1,500 individuals across the state and country to access abortion care and other reproductive healthcare services. On the policy side, through our partnership with the California Future of Abortion Council and other state and local coalitions, we are ensuring a Reproductive Justice lens is applied to the legislative and other policy making done throughout California.

All of our work has continued and in many ways, increased, over the last year as we as individuals, our communities and the broader world continue to be inundated with struggle and tragedy.

- In March, we were reminded that corporations continue to control our well-being and put profit over person when Walgreens announced it would not sell abortion pills in states where lawmakers threatened to take legal action.
- Summer brought Californians Hurricane Hilary, the first tropical storm to make landfall in California in nearly 100 years, reminding us that the environmental instability of our Earth is yet another factor we consider when determining if, when, and how we start our families.
- And of course, this Fall our news cycle had been inundated with the events coming out
 of the Gaza Strip. We continue to raise awareness of Palestinians being violently
 displaced from their homes at the hands of the Israeli military, calling for a permanent
 ceasefire in the Gaza Strip, and bringing attention to the reproductive oppression
 women and others are facing throughout the region.

Amidst the progress and setbacks, we took pause this November to celebrate our 30th anniversary and to reflect on where we've been since our founding in 1993 and where we are going in the ACCESS RJ future. This is what we know for sure: we will continue to support our community in accessing the reproductive healthcare they need, want, and deserve; we will continue to raise our voices and call out injustice whenever and wherever we can; and most of all, we will continue to lift up our Reproductive Justice values in everything we do.

Thank you for joining us in this work, for being in the fight with us!

In Solidarity,





Funding ACCESS



Supporting Callers Post-Roe

Anticipating an increase in caller support after the Dobbs decision, our Healthline team prepared to meet the moment by restructuring into two teams: Intake & Practical Support (PS). Along with the restructuring, 2023 was the first full year our Healthline operated with its largest paid, full-time staff — a small but mighty team of four.

1,118
California callers

345 out-ofstate callers 28 states supported Contact ACCESS RJ for support accessing care in California.



Need support?

The Healthline spent \$167,000 on caller support in 2022 — thanks to receiving state funding for the first time in ACCESS's history, we were able to more than QUADRUPLE the amount we have to spend on callers' needs in 2023.

2023 Healthline Data

(through November 10, 2023)



Caller Testimonials

"It was so encouraging. I felt well cared for and listened to, didn't feel like I needed to over-explain myself or why I needed help. This was already a high-stress situation, and it was a huge relief to feel supported both financially and with texts to check in on how I was doing."

"I am extremely grateful for the support that I received. Not having to worry about the financial side of this experience was a blessing. Thank you for extending your helpful hand to us in other states with no reproductive rights.

Thank you for fighting with us."

Growth at ACCESS



New Staff & Board Chair

We are excited to share that the ACCESS RJ team has continued to expand in 2023 to support the growth of our organizational operations and to help us reach our communities.

This year we hired 3 new staff members:

- Director of Finance & Operations
- Development & Communications Manager
- Outreach & Education Coordinator

In October, Cynthia Gutierrez was elected as ACCESS RJ's new Board Chair! Cynthia has been a part of the Board of Directors since 2019.

30, Flirty & Thriving

ACCESS RJ unveiled a new look to commemorate 30 monumental years of building abortion access across California!

The 30th Anniversary logo could be found at all of our 30th anniversary events throughout 2023, including at a special live podcast with Black Feminist Rants and Sabia Wade, and at our 30 & Flirty Birthday Bash this past fall.

We also created special 30th anniversary merch for ACCESS RJ supporters who wanted to rep their favorite abortion fund. If you haven't purchased your merch yet, there's still time before the year ends!



ACCESS is Blooming



Volunteers in Full Bloom

Following the heightened influx of volunteers after the Dobbs decision and an increase in funding to support caller practical support needs, we took an intentional approach this year to enriching our volunteer network from the inside out. This year we engaged more with our volunteers through monthly resource workgroups to enhance trans/gender-affirming care, low-cost childcare providers, lactation and nutrition support and other vital resources to support reproductive justice needs of Californians.



volunteers statewide

ACCESS

ACCESS

All anguages represented

In February 2023 we launched *ACCESS Sibling Circle*, a healing and networking space for people who have had abortions. Each month we host this space and offer past callers not only a safe space, but also information about paid storyteller opportunities, volunteer and community trainings offered, and a way to provide direct feedback to shape policy in real time.

In 2024 we will be opening ACCESS Sibling Circle statewide to Californians who have had abortions, stay tuned!

We connected more deeply with our volunteers to leverage their individual expertise to support in outreaching within the community to spread awareness about abortion access, creating post-abortion kits, individually and within their faith-based communities, and even facilitating trainings. 2023 was the year ACCESS RJ Volunteers were in full bloom.



Notes From Our Volunteers

[The best part about volunteering with ACCESS is] community and feeling I could do meaningful work that made a real impact.

Advocating for ACCESS



Nonprofit of the Year



Each year, California State Senators and Assembly Members honor a Nonprofit of the Year for their district.

For the second year in a row, ACCESS RJ was selected as Nonprofit of the Year by California state legislators. This year we were honored to be selected by Senator Nancy Skinner (SD-9), Chair of the California Legislative Women's Caucus.

Policy Post-Dobbs

ACCESS RJ reconvened it's second year as part of the California Future of Abortion Council Steering Committee and the first year year advocating for policy recommendations in the post-Dobbs era. Our team has been at the Capitol, at conferences, and in Zoom rooms fighting to build power and remove barriers to abortion for Californians.

Our legislative agenda offers guidance on how we can advance policy to build this future and achieve reproductive justice.

It is our hope that California policy makers implement our recommendations and partner with us to make the necessary changes so that our communities can have full autonomy to achieve reproductive, economic, political, and cultural freedom.

TO
reproductive
rights bills passed









Celebrating 30 Years of ACCESS



New Decade, Deeper Commitment

In 2023, ACCESS RJ celebrated 30 years of funding abortion by throwing a 30 & Flirty Birthday Bash in the Bay Area! We celebrated all we have achieved in the past 30 years and dreamed of where we are heading in the years to come!

It was a fun evening filled with tasty desserts, drag story time, fabulous cocktails, and our ACCESS RJ community! We raised more than \$30,000 for abortion and expanding reproductive health care access in California.









They say Roe was the floor, not the ceiling, for abortion access and without it, now is the time to dream of a future where abortion is legal, accessible, and without stigma. A future where all forms of reproductive oppression are abolished not only in California, but across the country and the world.

Until then, we say cheers to another 30 years of funding abortion and fighting for reproductive justice in California! With the support of our communities we will continue building toward a future where everyone has ACCESS to abortion.



93% of our online donations are from sustaining donors! Become a monthly donor today, or increase your monthly gift, and help us reach our end-of-year fundraising goal.



DONATE

3 Ways to Support ACCESS RJ:

- Donate to ACCESS RJ
- Subscribe to newsletter
- Follow us on social media
 Visit www.accessrj.org to learn more.





Our Impact in 2023



You are a vital part of the ACCESS RJ Community.
Our work isn't possible without YOU!

Thank you for joining us in the movement for RJ!