



Family PACT Program Evaluation: Cost-Benefit Analysis for Calendar Year 2007

Overview of Study

- Since its implementation in 1997, California's Family PACT (Planning, Access, Care, and Treatment) Program has had a significant effect on the lives and wellbeing of low-income individuals by preventing unintended pregnancy and preserving reproductive health. This study compared the cost of providing publicly-funded family planning services through the Family PACT Program in Calendar Year (CY) 2007 with projected public sector expenditures which would have occurred in the program's absence.

Pregnancies Averted by Family PACT

- Through the provision of contraceptive methods to nearly one million women and 100,000 men of reproductive age in 2007, **the Family PACT Program averted an estimated 296,200 unintended pregnancies in California**, which included 286,700 pregnancies to female clients, 9,500 to the partners of male clients, and 81,200 pregnancies to adolescents.
- The 296,200 pregnancies averted in 2007 would have led to approximately 133,000 live births, 122,200 abortions, 3,000 ectopic pregnancies, and 38,000 miscarriages.

Public Sector Cost-Savings

- The Family PACT Program has reduced the number of unintended pregnancies in California resulting in substantial financial savings to local, state, and federal governments. Low-income pregnant women can qualify for several public programs that provide free or low-cost medical services before and after a delivery, as well as income support and social services for themselves and their children.
- **Each pregnancy averted to a female Family PACT client saved the public sector approximately \$6,557 in medical, welfare, and other social service costs for a woman and child from conception to age two and saved \$14,111 from conception to age five.**
- **The total public sector cost-savings of the pregnancies averted attributable to Family PACT female clients in 2007 was \$1.88 billion from conception to age two, and over \$4 billion from conception to age five.**
- Although adolescents account for approximately 27 percent of the total pregnancies averted by Family PACT, they account for 44 percent of the cost-savings.
- The share of public sector cost-savings from conception to age two was over \$1 billion federal, nearly \$623 million state, and over \$11 million local. From conception to age five, the share of savings was nearly \$2.7 billion federal, over \$1.3 billion state, and nearly \$14 million local.

- The Family PACT Program's total service expenditures were \$437.3 million in 2007. By reducing public health and welfare expenditures resulting from unintended pregnancies, **every dollar spent on Family PACT saved the public sector \$4.30 from conception to age two and \$9.25 from conception to age five.**
- These findings indicate a substantial increase in the Program's cost savings since the previous 2002 cost-benefit analysis, with the **overall savings nearly doubling** due to the increased public sector cost per pregnancy, a greater number of pregnancies averted per client, and decreased Family PACT expenditures per client. Despite the conservative methodological approaches used in the study, the fiscal impact of unintended pregnancy are over four times the cost of investing in prevention. This study, like numerous studies before it, underscores that investing in pregnancy prevention results in fiscal savings at every level of government.

Source: Biggs MA, Foster DG, Hulett D, and Brindis C. (2010). *Cost-Benefit Analysis of the California Family PACT Program for Calendar Year 2007*, San Francisco, CA.

This research was conducted by the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), Bixby Center for Global Reproductive Health and was supported by funds from the State of California, Department of Public Health, Office of Family Planning. All analysis, interpretations, or conclusions reached are those of UCSF, not the State of California.

Created October 2010