Dear friends,

It’s been a long road since November.

It seems like just yesterday, we watched the election results roll in and wondered how much of the dangerous campaign rhetoric would turn into reality. Now, months in, we know that the new administration and congressional legislature is even more dangerous than we had imagined. From 20-week abortion bans, spousal consent bills, to attempts at making the Hyde Amendment permanent, the cumulative effect of these measures will render abortion care inaccessible to all but the most privileged people—those who can afford the procedure, cover necessary travel expenses, take time off work, and secure childcare. Many abortion fund callers will also be impacted by the wave of intersecting policies that criminalize poverty, deny living wages, threaten immigrants, compromise the safety of people of color, and strip away existing social safety protections for our communities.

Against this backdrop, abortion funds forge ahead with a fierce determination to do everything in our power to regroup, resist, and fight on. Immediately following the election, so many of you marched, rallied, and spoke out for reproductive justice. Within weeks, nearly 1,000 of you became part of our inaugural group of individual members, building a powerful base of people who call, support, and volunteer with abortion funds. And now, because of you, the National Abortion Access Bowl-a-Thon, the largest grassroots fundraiser for abortion access, is well on the way to raising $1 million for abortion funds—an all time high!

You’re fired up and so are we! This spring, we’re ready to take that energy and it turn it up a notch. As we enter the first year of a bold new strategic plan, we stand at the ready to execute a transformative organizing model that continues to combine direct support for those seeking abortion with organizing grassroots power to effectively resist the profound threats before us and build the base we need to win. With your partnership, we are building a movement, mentoring young leaders, and working towards a world in which everyone can shape their own futures and families.

Thank you for joining us in this fight. We could not be more honored to be here with you.

In solidarity,

Yamani Hernandez
Executive Director
Every day, abortion funds hear directly from the people bearing the brunt of the new administration’s devastating agenda. Abortion fund callers are parents who fear their children’s schools being dismantled; they are immigrants fearful of their ability to travel freely; they are people of color experiencing heightened hate crimes in their communities.

Following the election, we convened abortion fund leadership from across the network to assess the new landscape, strategize together, and build out an agenda of resistance. Our staff and fund members across 30 states shared their experiences of conditions across the country and had collaborative discussions about their needs, ideas, concerns, and plans for the next several years. We developed response plans for emerging physical and digital security threats facing our communities, drawing inspiration from our partners in the immigrant justice and transgender justice movements to learn tactics in community safety. We also learned from cybersecurity experts about ways to keep ourselves and our data protected.

Donald Trump and Mike Pence have promised to make abortion less accessible. Although no mandate exists, they are committed to increasing barriers at the risk of our collective safety and autonomy. These tactics have already been deployed across the nation’s Southern states, where a web of restrictions have made it increasingly difficult for patients to access care. In direct response, we created the Southern Funds Cohort for patients to access care.

In direct response, we created the Southern Funds Cohort for patients to access care. The National Network of Abortion Funds supports the way this network of 70 member organizations operates and builds power together. We have an internal abortion fund called the Tiller Fund serving callers across the network and the Dr. Willie Parker Fund which goes directly to abortion funds working in the South.

A lot of funds are run and led by volunteers who answer phone calls, drive people to appointments, and coordinate events like Bowl-a-Thon. These volunteers make abortion funds possible and reflect the racial, economic, and gender diversity that is so important to the abortion access movement.

A majority of abortion funds do “intake” with people who contact them for funding using hotlines and coldlines. We never ask a caller to prove they need support and only gather essential information before pledging support.

Abortion funds often help people navigate barriers in addition to paying for procedures. We make sure people feel respected and valued when they call. We believe in a holistic approach because people facing abortion barriers often face more than one. That’s why many funds also provide “practical support,” including transportation, child care payment, lodging, translation services, abortion doula, and more.

Abortion funds are autonomous in their structures and policies because they are experts in direct service in their communities across widely varying cultural and political geographies. Because of grassroots events, creative communications, and organizing, we are opening the door for individuals to join our movement who haven’t always had a seat at the table in the past.

Abortion funds run out of money every month and can only support a portion of the people who call; the amount pledged to callers varies widely from fund to fund. That’s why we need to end coverage bans so abortion is a reality, not just a right. That’s also why local funds need a base of supporters to tap into.

We know that funding abortion helps make abortion accessible on a daily basis, but we’re also fighting for everyone to have access to resources and support for ALL reproductive options in the future.
Bowl-a-Thon shows how fundraising can be a political act to redistribute wealth and privately fund abortions that should be covered no matter where we live, what insurance we have, or how much money we make. Bowl-a-Thon is a testament to how small amounts as low as $10 can snowball into a massive collective force.

Whether or not you can come out for a local event, we encourage you to give generously to a team, individual, or abortion fund. Use the search page to choose where you'd like to chip in. You can also join a team or fundraise virtually!

Bowl-a-Thon is an annual series of nationwide events in the month of April that community members can join as donors and fundraisers. This year, we have a goal of raising more than $1 million together! We came so close last year! We’re proud to be resilient in this changing political climate and in the face of anti-abortion aggression. Enjoy our new, more secure platform while you fundraise with us and sign up for your local event.

Help our network reach $1 million!

**Bowl with a Fund**

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**Donate to a Fund**

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**Fund Abortion, Build Power.**

Bowlathon.nnaf.org

**Become a Member**

Declare your support for abortion funds and commitment to act for abortion access by becoming an individual member during Bowlathon! You can anchor your membership with a local abortion fund of your choice.

Because of the size and reach of our network, we believe individual membership will create the largest national surges in grassroots engagement that the reproductive health, rights and justice movements have seen in many years. You will be part of a base to incite cultural and political change.

Individual members pay $25 in dues annually, which defrays the cost of administering membership (and is not a substitute for donating). You will receive an inaugural membership t-shirt, as well as regular (no more than monthly) updates and action alerts from the National Network of Abortion Funds and funds in your region.

**Become an Individual Member.**

Abortionfunds.org/member

**Check out our Flair Page where you can find profile pics, badges, cover images, thank you ecards & more!**

Bowlathon.nnaf.org/flair.html

**Last year, 80% of organizations beat their fundraising goal despite undergoing a cyber attack.**

**Fund Abortion, Build Power.**

Bowlathon.nnaf.org

**Bowlathon**

2016

2015

2014

- **Total Fund**
- **Goal**

2,000+ PARTICIPANTS

20,000+ DONATIONS

$47 AVERAGE DONATION

2016

TOTAL $940k

GOAL: $800k

2015

TOTAL $740k

GOAL: $600k

2014

TOTAL $570k

GOAL: $600k

**2015**

**Goal: $600k**

**Total: $740k**

**2016**

**Goal: $800k**

**Total: $940k**

**2014**

**Goal: $600k**

**Total: $570k**
I was 22, about to graduate from college with a 4.0 GPA and an acceptance letter into my top choice for graduate school when I found out that I was pregnant. Immediately, I knew I wanted an abortion. I remember being so frustrated that I needed to make two appointments because I couldn’t have the procedure the same day due to the Ohio’s mandatory delay requirement. The day that I walked into Planned Parenthood for my appointment, four white men were standing outside shouting at me. Even my boyfriend called me selfish and tried to talk me out of making the decision every chance he had. Luckily, I had a gang of friends who were on my side. People who had abortions were there to assure me that everything was going to be okay—and it was. When I walked out of the health center after having my abortion, for the first time in my life, I felt like I had power.

Now, as the president of the DC Abortion Fund (DCAF), I work with another gang of friends, over 500 volunteers and 75 case managers, to make sure everyone in the Washington, DC area is able to have the compassion and funding to receive the abortion care they need. I know what it’s like to face unsupportive loved ones and strangers when having an abortion, and at DCAF we hope to be an unconditional loving ear on the other end of a hotline. As an abortion storyteller with We Testify, I want to share my story to assure others that they will be okay, that their decision is valid, and that they are valued, and feels a whole lot of love.

You are part of a grassroots fundraising uprising.

We’ve always relied on you—our supporters, our base—to make our work possible. Since the election, we’ve seen a groundswell of support, welcoming in four times as many new donors and three times as many dollars, and doubling the amount we raised by this time last year!

You gave at all levels, but the sharpest increase we saw was in gifts between $1 and $100. We are honored to affirm the many ways that donors, activists, and fundraisers are showing up meaningfully for abortion access. Whether you gave $50 or $5,000, you are a key partner in our movement! The work ahead is considerable and with your continued support, we are up for the challenge.

Grassroots fundraising is a vital piece of the puzzle for organizations like ours, and it’s also a powerful way to build community. Here are three things you can do to strengthen abortion funds today:

- Make a donation to the National Network of Abortion Funds at abortionfunds.org/donate.
- Start fundraising for a member fund through the National Abortion Access Bowl-a-Thon at bowlathon.nnaf.org.
- Become an individual member and be a part of national and local communities taking action for abortion access at abortionfunds.org/member.

In 2009, the National Network of Abortion Funds created the George Tiller Memorial Abortion Fund, also referred to as the Tiller Fund, after Dr. George Tiller, an abortion provider, was assassinated by anti-abortion extremists.

Our new report in partnership with Dr. Gretchen Ely from the University of Buffalo School of Social Work presents research comprised of 3,999 administrative cases, showing how the Tiller Fund has been used from 2010 to 2015. The report includes demographic information, circumstances at play in the lives of people who called the Tiller Fund for abortion funding, and changes over time that demonstrate how abortion restrictions are discriminatory, burdensome, and trauma-inducing.

For example, we show that over the years, those who received funding pledges from the Tiller Fund anticipated traveling over 140 miles on average to access their abortion. The distance to be traveled doubled for callers to the Tiller Fund from 2010 to 2014. People seeking second trimester procedures traveled three times farther than people in their first term to access the procedure.

As clinic expenses continue to increase, it is expected that abortion costs will also rise. The results of this research suggest a need for repeal of discriminatory abortion policies and for abortion to be fully covered by all health insurance, both public and private. The report shows that the effects of restrictive policies have combined to create a class-based gap in the reproductive health system that often cannot be bridged by people who are struggling to get by. In short, paying for abortion is an undue burden on anyone who is seeking one.

Everyone loves someone who had an abortion.