Ipas U.S. Program

A strategy for change

Building a Sustainable Abortion Ecosystem in the United States

Ipas UNITED STATES

LOCALLY LED · GLOBALLY POWERED

Our Mission

As part of a global reproductive justice network, Ipas U.S. builds a resilient ecosystem to advance abortion care — in partnership with communities, institutions, advocates, and allies

Our Vision

A globally connected community where all people can realize their reproductive aspirations with autonomy, dignity, and care.



Ipas U.S. within the Reproductive Health, Rights, and Justice Ecosystem

The U.S. reproductive health, rights, and justice ecosystem is made up of many essential and interdependent actors, including abortion funds, clinics and providers, doulas and accompaniment networks, organizers, researchers, and legal advocates, each advancing access to abortion care in distinct and interdependent ways. Within this ecosystem, Ipas U.S. sits alongside and in service of these efforts, playing a bridge-building and ecosystem-strengthening role. Leveraging 50+ years of global expertise in reproductive justice, Ipas U.S. strengthens the abortion ecosystem by connecting locally led efforts with global networks to overcome systemic barriers to abortion access, especially in hostile and highly restrictive environments.

Here's how we do it!

OUR STRATEGIC APPROACH

1 Strengthen Access to Abortion Care

We connect local efforts with regional, national, and global partners — equipping community networks and providers with the tools to support people through the entire abortion care journey by:

Training community, clinical providers and future providers in Southern states in person-centered abortion, early pregnancy loss and post-abortion care.

Establishing the Doula Knowledge Council with abortion doulas throughout the Southeastern region to exchange knowledge and co-create solutions to emerging needs in the region.

Training community health workers and allied movement partners to reduce abortion stigma and strengthen abortion referral networks, beginning in the Rio Grande Valley, TX in 2026 and now expanding to other regions.

2 Advance Protective State & Local Policy

We partner with local organizations and legislative champions to advance state and local policy, using a human rights legal framework and international human rights treaty monitoring bodies to build political momentum on a global stage. Some initiatives include:

Leading human rights resolutions and other policy measures in Congress and at the state and local levels that ground abortion in international human rights standards, creating new opportunities for local leaders to affirm abortion as a human right and translate those commitments into policy change. This includes the reintroduction of a Resolution sponsored by Rep. Nikema Williams (GA-5), the first to explicitly name abortion a human right in Congress. The resolution also recognized the leadership of legislators from over ten local jurisdictions that passed measures affirming abortion as a human right.

Coordinating working groups of experts, researchers, and reproductive justice organizations in Southern states to document human rights violations, grounding shadow reports and other evidence in lived experience, community knowledge, and research. This evidence informs engagement with international human rights mechanisms and can be leveraged by partners to strengthen their own state and local advocacy efforts.

Centering local and state movement leadership in global advocacy spaces, bringing partners' lived experience, expertise, and documented evidence directly to international human rights mechanisms to call attention to violations in their communities and advocate for accountability.

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3 Strengthen Local Network Capacity

We provide funding, technical support, and rapid-response grants to local organizations — sustaining their capacity to expand community-based abortion access through:

Issuing mini grants for community education efforts and to strengthen community-rooted abortion access, as well as rapid response sub-grants for grassroots partners as needs emerge. Our network structure enables us to respond quickly to emergent situations, and since 2022, we have provided over $300,000 to partners in the Southeast region.

Providing information and practical support to abortion care community networks throughout the South and Southeast, including virtual sessions on digital security, clinical protocols, and self-care

Creating safe, trusted spaces for community-rooted networks to convene in person, share best practices, and exchange resources. This includes bringing together cross-border networks through Green Wave gatherings and other convenings that connect the wisdom of our global community to support U.S. efforts for abortion access.

These spaces have brought together funds, clinicians, doulas, accompaniment networks, researchers, and human rights advocates from the U.S. South and the Global South to identify emerging needs and explore how Ipas can assist in addressing them.

3-Year Strategic Priorities

1. **Normalize and expand access to abortion** by strengthening local networks and equipping allied movement partners, with a focus on the South and Southeast
2. **Strengthen institutional pathways** to abortion care through provider education and training
3. **Use human rights advocacy** as an onramp to advance state and local policies that protect and advance abortion access
4. **Build a trusted, community-centered evidence base of abortion research** to strengthen abortion access and care
5. **Strengthen cross-border and regional movement bridging** through shared learning and strategic collaboration

Scan to read our 2026 Strategic Framework

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