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Positive Alternatives helped to save lives, reduce taxpayer funded abortions in 2007

But Planned Parenthood shows another increase in abortions, says Minnesota DHS report

ST. PAUL – Fewer abortions were performed on low-income women in 2007, the first full year of the Positive Alternatives program, reported Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life (MCCL), the state’s oldest and largest pro-life organization. According to an [annual report](#) from the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS), taxpayer funded abortions declined compared to 2006.

[Positive Alternatives](#) was passed by the Legislature in 2005 to establish a grant program through the Minnesota Department of Health. Grants are given to life-affirming organizations offering essential services in the following areas: medical attention for the woman and the unborn child, nutritional services, housing assistance, adoption services, education and employment assistance, child care assistance, and parenting education and support services. A total of 37 organizations received \$4.75 million in two-year grants in 2006. The second round of grants was awarded in July 2008.

“Positive Alternatives is making a real difference for pregnant women in need,” said MCCL Executive Director Scott Fischbach. “The DHS report is more proof that women are receiving the help they need to successfully face the challenges of unexpected pregnancy without resorting to abortion.”

Taxpayers have been forced to pay for abortions since the Minnesota Supreme Court’s 1995 Doe v. Gomez ruling found a “right” to abortion in the Minnesota Constitution and also required taxpayers to fund abortions for low-income women.

Even as total abortions decline, Planned Parenthood manages to increase the number of abortions it performs on low-income women. Its 10 percent increase in 2007 is part of a 125 percent increase since 2000, demonstrating once again that Planned Parenthood targets poor women for abortion. The abortionist even argues heartlessly that these abortions save money for the state.

“It is long past time for Planned Parenthood to end its exploitation of low-income and minority women,” Fischbach said.

Taxpayers paid for 28.3 percent of all abortions performed in Minnesota in 2007.

Minnesota abortionists filed claims for 3,914 abortion reimbursements totaling \$1,582,193 for the year 2007, the DHS reported. In 2006, abortionists filed 3,937 claims for abortion reimbursements of \$1,652,977. Since the Doe v. Gomez ruling, taxpayers have paid \$14,126,689 for a total of 47,115 abortion procedure claims. Prior to the court decision, taxpayers were charged about \$7,000 per year for about 23 abortions.

“Polls continue to show that most Minnesotans and most Americans are opposed to taxpayer funded abortions, yet they continue to be forced to pay for them,” Fischbach said.

MCCL is working to pass a ban on taxpayer funded abortion, H.F. 1059 / S.F. 906, authored by Rep. Mary Ellen Otremba, DFL-Long Prairie, and Sen. Claire Robling, R-Jordan.

MCCL is Minnesota’s oldest and largest pro-life organization with more than 70,000 member families and 240 chapters across the state. For more information about MCCL, visit www.mccl.org.

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Minnesota’s oldest and largest pro-life organization, MCCL has been dedicated for 40 years to the single issue of life itself.