

# Alternatives to Abortion



## What Is The Alternatives To Abortion Program?

- The Alternatives to Abortion Program was codified in statute in 2007 through Section 188.335 RSMo, however, the program has been in existence through appropriations since 1996.
- Appropriations have ranged from \$500,000 to \$6 million annually.
  - **FY '22 Funding: \$6,400,000**
- The program is designed to assist women in carrying their unborn child to term instead of having an abortion, and to assist them in caring for their child or placing their child for adoption.
- Services are available during pregnancy and for one year following birth.
- The Department of Social Services currently manages nine contracts with community-based, non-profit organizations to provide these services to eligible women and their children. The current contract expires on 6/30/22.

# Goals of the Program

- Reduce abortions and improve pregnancy outcomes by helping women practice sound health-related behaviors, including decreasing the use of tobacco, alcohol, and illegal drugs and by improving their nutrition.
- Improve child health and development by helping parents provide more responsible and competent care for their children, and
- Improve families' economic self-sufficiency by helping parents develop a vision for their own future, continue their education and find jobs.



# How does the program achieve these goals?

- The program provides the following services:
  - Prenatal care
  - Medical and mental health care
  - Ultrasound services
  - Parenting skills
  - Drug and alcohol testing and treatment
  - Child care
  - Newborn and infant care
  - Housing
  - Utilities
  - Educational services
  - Food, clothing and supplies related to pregnancy, newborn care and parenting
  - Adoption assistance
  - Job training and placement
  - Establishing and promoting responsible paternity
  - Case management services
  - Domestic abuse protection
  - Transportation
  - Other services

# Eligibility

The Alternatives to Abortion Program is available to women who:

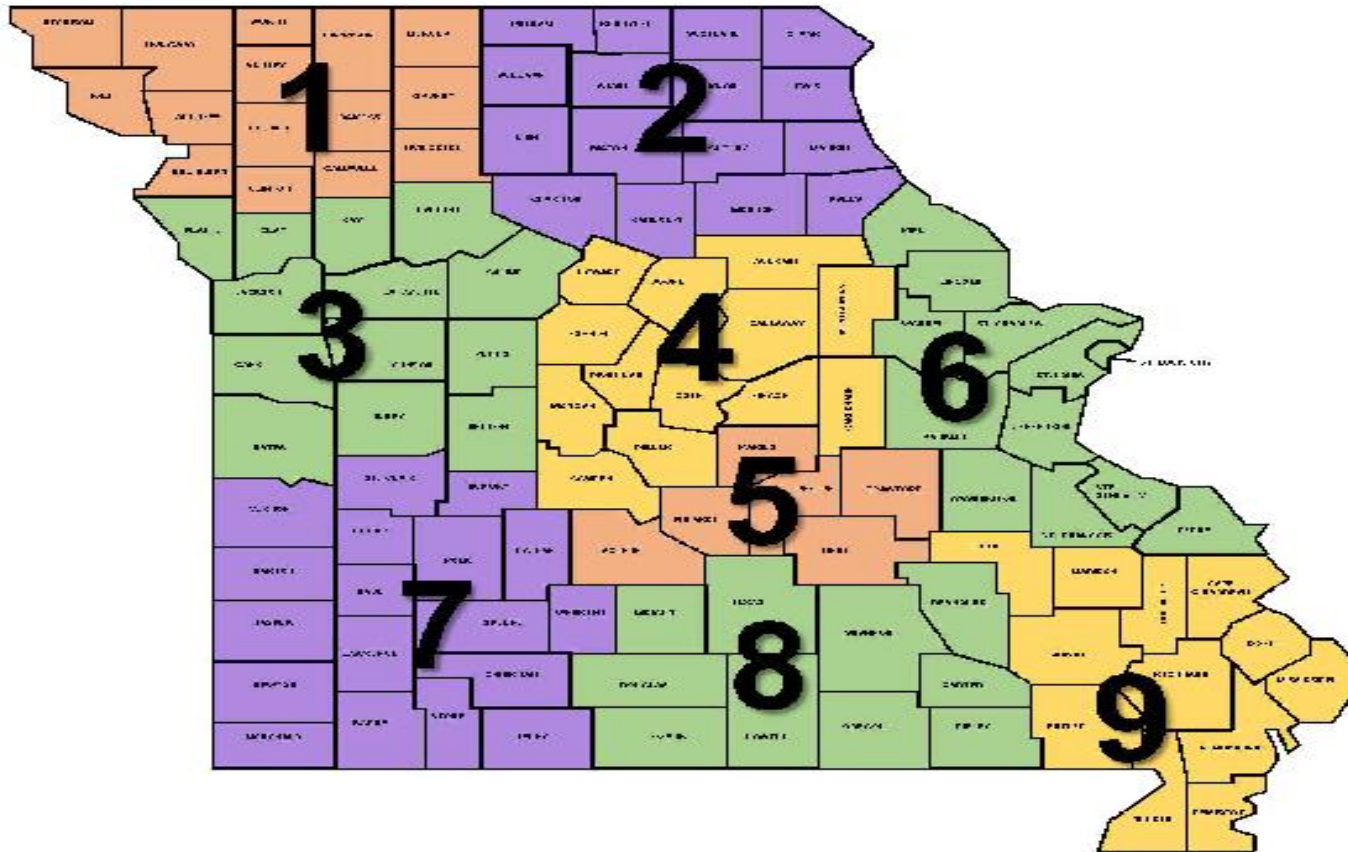
- are Missouri residents
- who are at or below 185 percent of the federal poverty level based on the client or family income
- and are pregnant and are choosing to carry their child to term instead of having an abortion.

# Who are the A2A Contractors?

- Alliance for Life - Missouri Inc.
- Catholic Charities of Southern MO
- Faith Maternity Care
- The Haven of Grace
- Laclede Co. Pregnancy Support Center
- The LIGHT House Inc.
- Lutheran Family & Children's Services of MO
- Mothers Refuge
- Nurses for Newborns



# A2A Geographic Regions



# How can a client get help?

She can reach out to any agency that helps in her county to get started. The county listing can be found at:

<https://dss.mo.gov/fsd/a2a/>



# Program Contact Info:

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