

## **2023 ANNUAL REPORT**









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## Letter from our Executive Director

As a Black-led abortion fund in the Deep South navigating the post-Roe landscape, it feels like at every turn anti-choice crusaders have tried to put an end to our critical work. And yet, we've continued to show up for our community members day-in-and-day-out helping them overcome the barriers erected between them and abortion care. As we near the second anniversary of the Dobbs decision, we are working harder than ever to ensure we can continue to fund abortion care. And that is worth celebrating.

In 2023, LAAF supported our community members as they sought abortion care with over \$1 million towards the cost of procedures & practical support.

Today, our work gets ever more challenging as anti-choice crusaders continue their white supremacist, patriarchal, and queerphobic attempts to limit our bodily autonomy and chip away at our humanity. When they toppled Roe, they hoped that abortion bans and restrictions would put abortion care out of reach for most people as costs associated with securing a safe and legal abortion skyrocketed. That is a forced birth agenda, and the best way to fight it is to continue funding abortion, especially here in the Deep South.



We know that Louisiana is ground zero for reproductive justice not only due to our state's immediate closure of all abortion clinics following Dobbs, but also by our maternal mortality rates, our housing crisis, climate disaster, and extreme rates of poverty. We believe that in order to see reproductive justice within our lifetimes, it's essential to listen to and resource the folks on the frontlines in the fight for justice—especially Southerners for whom this country's legacy of genocide and chattel slavery is evident in everything from our gerrymandered voting districts to our laws restricting our right to determine when and how we reproduce.

While the work of Louisiana Abortion Fund, and abortion funds across the Deep South, grows in difficulty, so does our community's commitment to caring for each other as we forge the path towards reproductive justice. As an organization rooted in the principles of reproductive justice, a framework created by Black women who noticed the ways white-centered abortion justice organizations failed Black, brown, poor, and LGBTQ+ communities, we're dreaming of a world where everyone has the right to decide if and when to have children and where we can all live and raise children in thriving communities We're looking towards a future where everyone earns a living wage, has safe and affordable housing, attends inspiring schools, and has affordable healthcare.

### **Letter from our Executive Director**





As we dream of a more just future, we also reflect on the accomplishments of the past year that were a direct result of continued and dedicated community support:

- Over \$1 million dollars pledged in support of abortion care
- Nearly 1,500 community members supported with funds and accurate information

While I am in awe of the numbers, I am most humbled by what these numbers represent -our community members stepping up to care for each other day after day because we know that we deserve bodily autonomy, care, and compassion.

It's our hope that this report will remind you of our universal ability to care for each other and strengthen your resolve to see a more just future. Thank you for your support of the Louisiana Abortion Fund. We are so grateful, and we are hopeful that our community's commitment to this work will outpace the opposition's commitment to harm.





### **Letter from our Executive Director**

### With Care, **Chasity Wilson**

## DATA HIGHLIGHTS

## In 2023, LAAF pledged \$1,161,870 in support to folks seeking legal abortion care





## **Our access coordinators connected** 1488 community members\* with the information and resources they needed

## We provided direct support to 730

community members from the Gulf South



\*LAAF refers to its callers/clients as community members because that is who they are. Those who reach out for help securing abortion care are our friends, partners, and neighbors. Our work is rooted in mutual aid as opposed to charity, meaning that LAAF's work is done in solidarity and its purpose is to ensure the wellbeing of our community \*\*LAAF makes grants to partner orgs who provide direct support for flights, hotels, food, and other care costs.



## COORDINATING ACCESS, CENTERING OUR COMMUNITY, MOVING WITH COMPASSION

This is care work. Our team helped our community members overcome tremendous barriers to access care, but the need grows every day.



Coordinating Access, Centering Our Community, Moving with Compassion

## In 2023, our line staff talked to **1488 callers.**

That's over 1000 individual stories about unwanted pregnancies, desired pregnancies gone wrong, needing healthcare and being denied by the very people elected to work for your wellbeing.









Coordinating Access, Centering Our Community, Moving with Compassion

## This year, LAAF pledged...

\$939,350 towards the cost of procedures

Our average pledge size increased more than 45% from last year and over 3x more than before the Dobbs decision

2021:2022:\$308\$537



## \$222,520 in practical support

(through direct support to our callers & grants to partner funds serving callers from the Gulf South)

> 2023: \$1,316

## TRAVELING FURTHER WITH FEWER OPTIONS

With abortion bans, the number of clinics geographically accessible for community members has dwindled. As remaining clinics navigate increased service volumes, appointments are scheduled further and further out, often meaning that they must travel even further for care than expected. Although local callers often face a unique set of intersecting challenges, across the country folks seeking abortion care are facing unprecedented reduction in access to both care and information.

Our access coordinators partner with anyone who calls our support line to connect them with the information and resources they need.





**Traveling Further with Fewer Options** 

## In 2023, our community members reached out to us from **332 cities in 16 states**

LAAF provides direct support to folks traveling from the Gulf South for legal abortion care: Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi, Florida, Arkansas, Alabama, and Georgia.





### **Average Round Trip Travel for Lawful Abortion Care:**



## To recieve care, one of our callers traveled 5,344 total miles

**Traveling Further with Fewer Options** 









of our callers were able to travel far enough to access care in a location without any restrictions.

### **Traveling Further with Fewer Options**

## **Over 75%**

of our community members traveled from states where abortion care has been banned at all gestations.

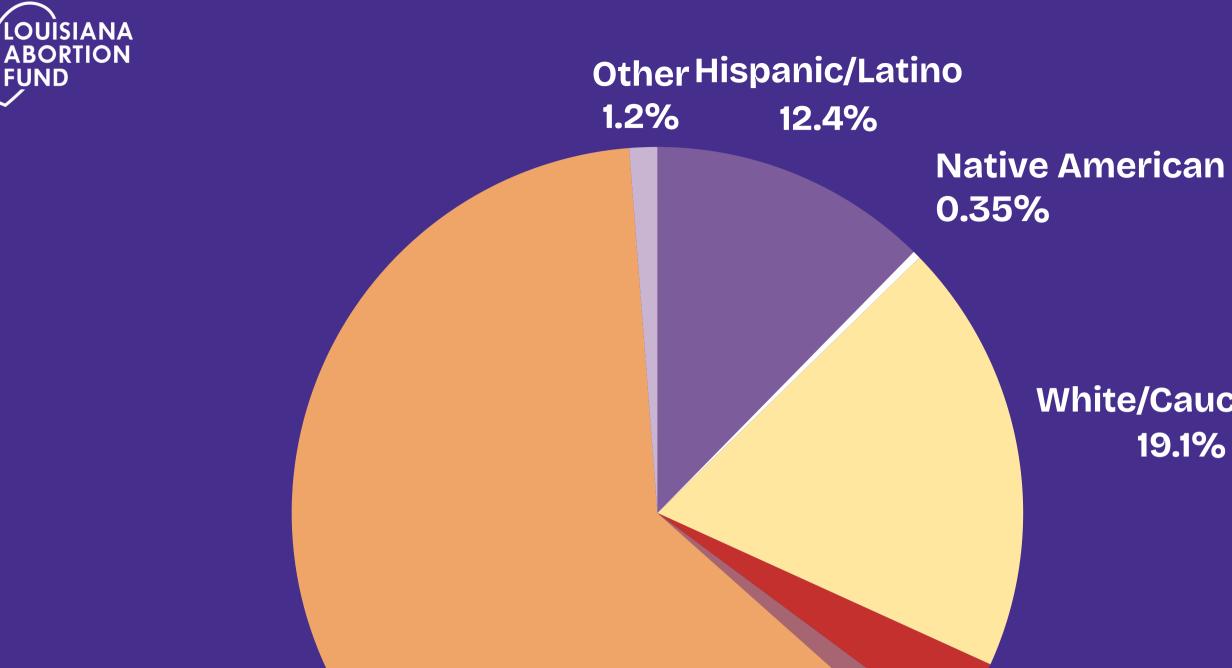
## Less than 37%





## COMMUNITY DEMOGRAPHICS

The majority of community members are Black between the ages of 18-34 and have more than 1 person at home needing care.



Black/African American 62.2%

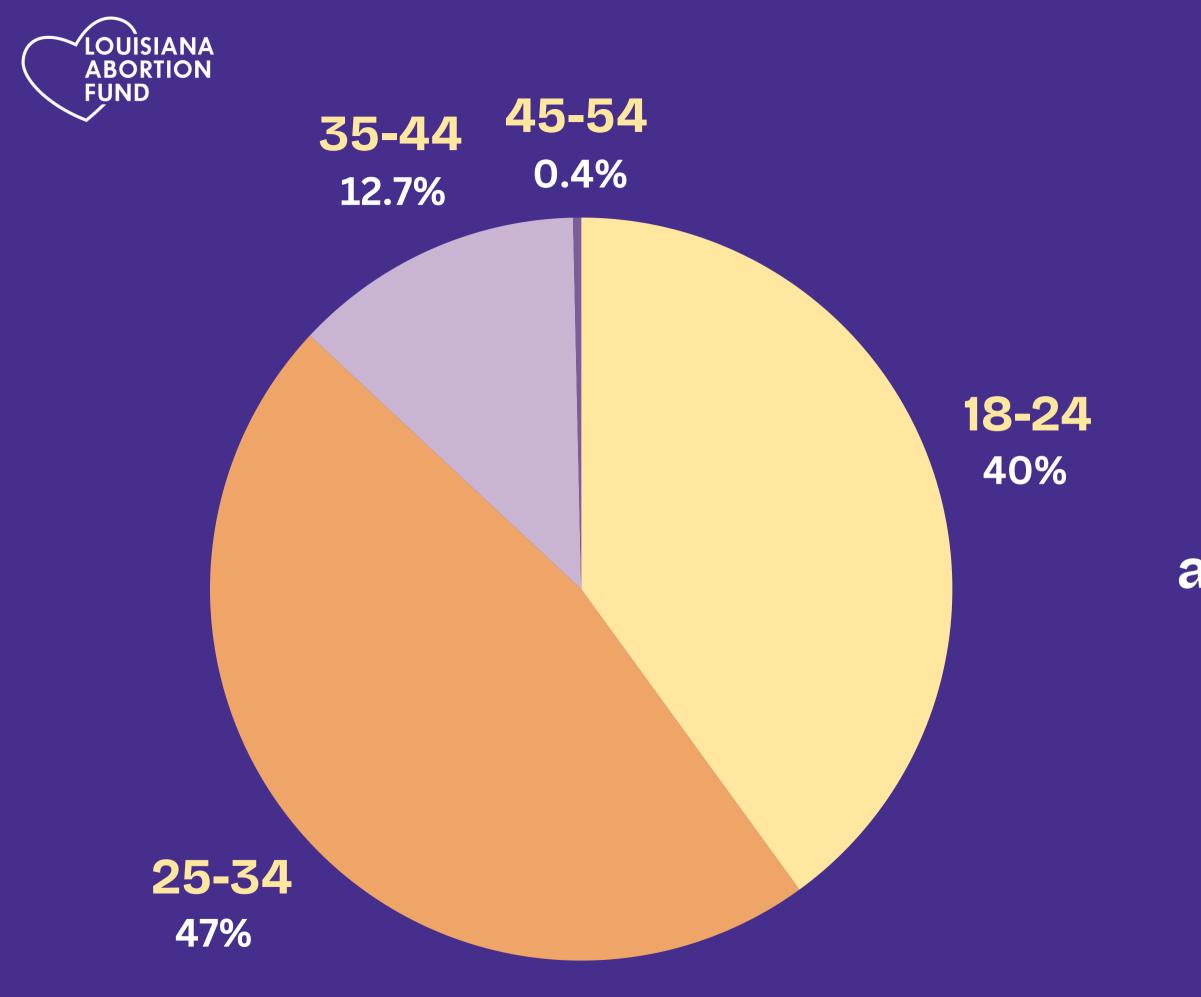
FUND

**Mixed Race** 3.4% Asian/South Asian 1.4%

### **Community Demographics**

## Race

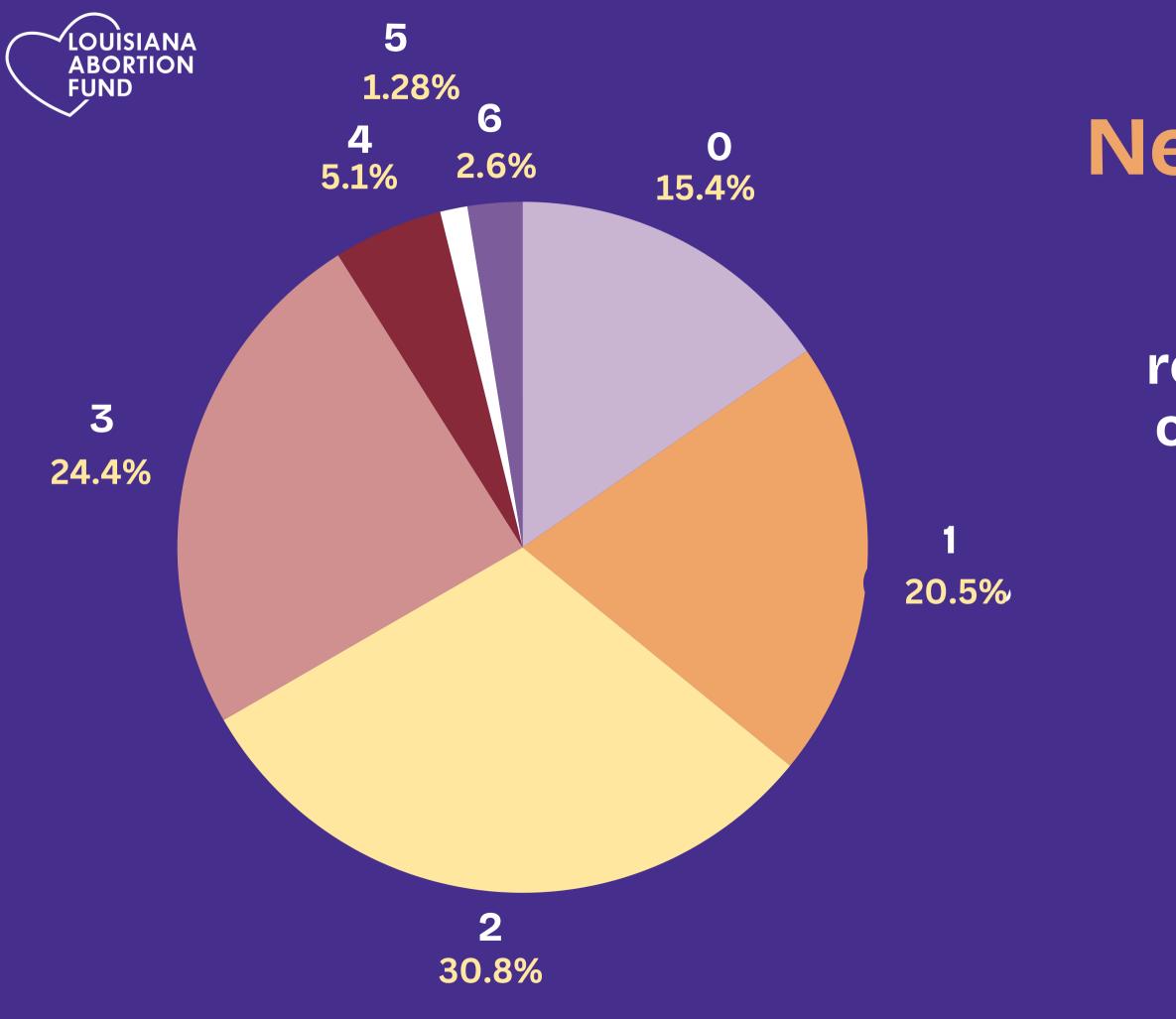
White/Caucasian 19.1%



### **Community Demographics**



# The majority of community members are between the ages of 25-34



Community Demographics Need Care at Home 85% reported having children or adults in need of care in their home



### **Private: Provided by Employer** 14.5%

**Private: Marketplace Plan** 

2.49%

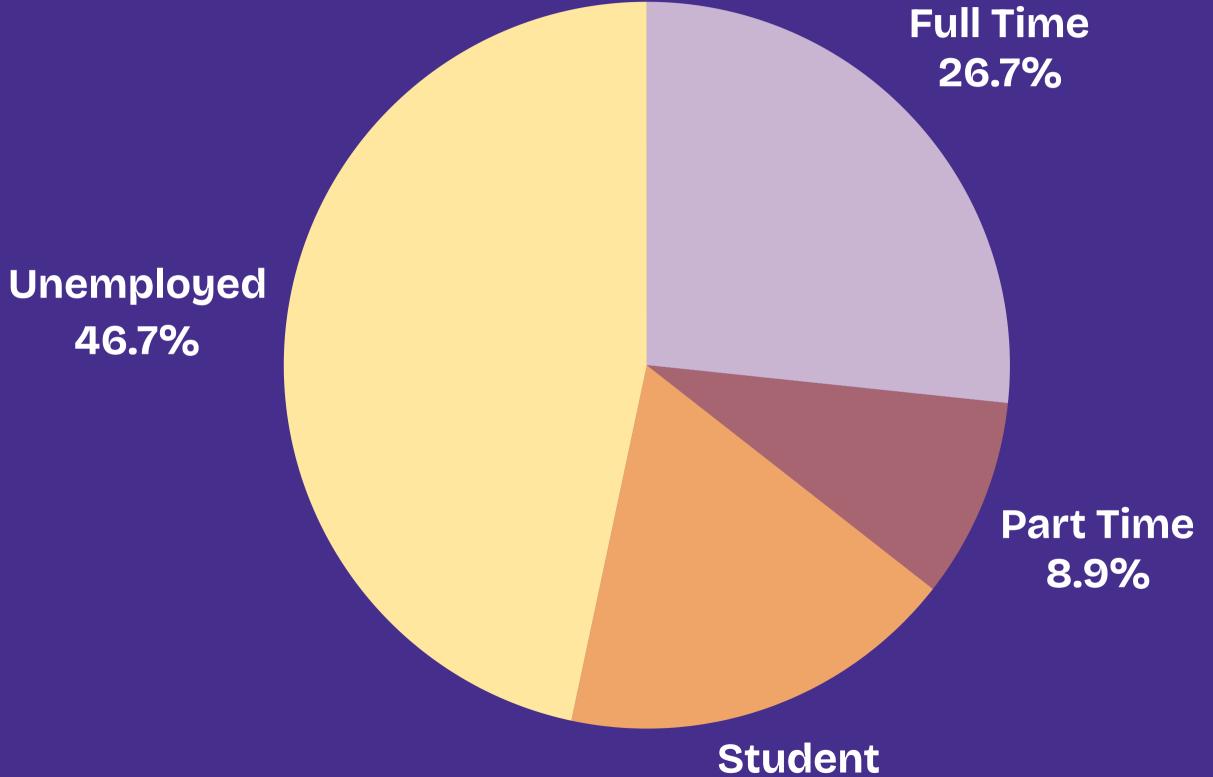
Unsure 2.5%

Uninsured 32.4%

## **Community Demographics** Insurance

Medicaid/Medicare 48.1%





17.8%

## **Community Demographics** Employment

## 

<u>Help our neighbors overcome the barriers erected between them</u> and abortion care by supporting the Louisiana Abortion Fund!

Your support reminds us every day that abortion access is just the beginning. Together, we will build a future filled with care, liberation, joy, and belonging!





