The UCSF Bixby Center for Global Reproductive Health leads research and training around the world to improve reproductive and sexual health. We work to ensure that people have the power to plan and care for their families through access to safe and effective birth control, abortion services, sex education, and childbirth and HIV care—regardless of their age, race, ethnicity, income, or where they live. This mission feels more important now than ever.

Our Impact
We’re proud that our work this year contributed to state, national and international care and policy advances, directly improving the lives of millions of people.

Abortion

We provided critical data informing the Supreme Court’s decision on Whole Woman’s Health v. Hellerstedt, striking down groundless restrictions on abortion and changing the legal landscape.

- Our research found that women who received a wanted abortion were more likely to have and achieve aspirational goals compared to women denied an abortion.
- We debunked an Ohio law purporting to improve women’s safety by requiring out-of-date medication abortion care, proving it actually led to worse outcomes.
- We found that a simple tool called Lifewrap reduced bleeding resulting from unsafe abortions—a substantial cause of maternal deaths worldwide.

Adolescent Sexual Health

- Our research affirmed that we can further reduce accidental pregnancy among adolescents through strategies like sex education and improved access to birth control.
- We found that migration due to seasonal jobs, economic changes and housing transitions affects adolescents’ access to health systems, highlighting the need for services in immigrant communities.
Contraception

Since we showed that providing a one-year supply of birth control is safe and reduces accidental pregnancy, six states have required insurance plans to cover this service.

- Our research showed demand for simpler ways to access birth control, such as self-administered birth control shots, which one in five US women were interested in using.
- We proved that public funding expands young women’s access to birth control, especially for methods with high up-front costs like intrauterine devices and implants.
- We found that patients who received compassionate care from their health care providers were more likely to keep using their chosen birth control method.

Education & Training

We are training providers in Puerto Rico to offer women the full range of birth control care—a critical way to reduce the impact of Zika virus—and helping to develop US guidelines for family planning care in the context of Zika.

- Our training programs have prepared more than 5,800 providers to offer evidence-based abortion care, creating the next generation of US women’s health care experts.
- To reduce illness and death among mothers and babies in Bihar, India, we partnered with PRONTO International and CARE India to train over 2,200 providers in basic emergency care.
- Innovating Education in Reproductive Health’s course on abortion care has been viewed over 10,000 times by learners in 150 countries.

HIV & STIs

We provided support for a study in Zimbabwe of a new vaginal ring with the antiretroviral drug dapivirine, finding that it reduced women’s risk of HIV by nearly a third.

- We developed a scalable training for health care providers in Uganda that increased the number of HIV-positive people who started and stuck with live-saving antiretroviral therapy.
- We explored how birth control, antiretroviral therapy and HIV interact, learning that HIV-positive women using efavirenz can safely use contraceptive implants and that some forms of injectable birth control may increase women’s risk of HIV.
- We reached new groups for HIV testing with the SEARCH study in Eastern Africa, dramatically increasing testing in young people and uncovering new ways to engage men.
- To prevent bacterial vaginosis (BV)—a common condition that makes women more likely to get other STIs—we began testing a treatment made with healthy natural vaginal bacteria.

Pregnancy & Childbirth

We helped to identify evidence-based practices for prenatal, birth and postpartum care, as well as unsafe or unnecessary practices, and published them in *The Lancet*.

- We developed new guidelines to help health care workers in low-resource settings identify when a woman is going into shock due to blood loss after giving birth.
- We began testing the best ways to help women and their families recover physically and emotionally after surgery to repair obstetric fistula.
- Our research showed that US health care providers are missing opportunities to offer pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) drugs to pregnant women facing increased risk of HIV.
Our Finances
The Bixby Center received $49 million in support in 2015-2016.

Bixby funds by topic (2015-2016), thousands of US $

- HIV & STIs $17,935 (36%)
- Contraception $5,608 (11%)
- Education & Training $15,067 (31%)
- Pregnancy & Childbirth $2,031 (4%)
- General Support $552 (1%)
- Adolescent Sexual Health $3,089 (6%)
- Abortion $5,159 (11%)

Bixby funds by donor (2015-2016), thousands of US $

- Other sources $7,859 (16%)
- Foundations $22,722 (46%)
- Government $18,861 (38%)

Foundations
Anonymous (2)
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Children's Investment Fund Foundation
David & Lucile Packard Foundation
Fred H. Bixby Foundation
Greenwall Foundation
Hellman Family Foundation
JPB Foundation
Marty Tombberg Charitable Fund
Mary Wohlford Foundation
Wallace Global Fund
William & Flora Hewlett Foundation

Government
Alameda County Health Care Services Agency
California Department of Public Health
California Health and Human Services Department of Health Care Services
Centro de Investigación Epidemiológica en Salud Sexual y Reproductiva
National Institutes of Health:
- Fogarty International Center
- National Cancer Institute
- National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute
- National Institute on Alcohol Abuse & Alcoholism
- National Institute of Allergies & Infectious Diseases
- National Institute of Arthritis & Musculoskeletal & Skin Diseases
- National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
- National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases
- National Institute of Mental Health
- Office of the Director
- Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute
- US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- US Office of Adolescent Health

Other Sources
FHI 360
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Ibis Reproductive Health
Micronutrient Initiative
National Health Law Program
Public Health Foundation Enterprises, Inc.
Social & Scientific Systems, Inc.
Society of Family Planning
The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy
UC-Mexico Initiative
UCSF Resource Allocation Program
University of California, Los Angeles
University of Chicago
University of New Mexico
University of Texas at Austin
University of Zimbabwe-UCSF Clinical Trials Unit

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Join us in improving sexual and reproductive health around the world by making a gift to the UCSF Bixby Center.
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