

Statewide Continuum of Care Program

SL 2023-134, Section 9H.12.(d)



**Report to the
Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human
Services**

and

Fiscal Research Division

By

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

May 7, 2025

Reporting Requirement

Session Law 2023-134, Section 9H.12.(d) requires the Department to submit a report on the status and operation of the continuum of care program authorized by subsection (a) of this section to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services and the Fiscal Research Division. The report shall include at least all of the following:

- (1) A detailed breakdown of expenditures for the program.
- (2) The number of individuals served by the program and, for the individuals served, the types of services provided to each.
- (3) Any other information requested by the Department of Health and Human Services as necessary for evaluating the success of the program.

Background

In Session Law 2017-57, Section 11E.13.(a), the North Carolina General Assembly appropriated \$300,000 in nonrecurring funds for each year of the 2017-19 biennium for use by the Human Coalition to develop and implement a continuum of care pilot in Raleigh, NC to support women experiencing crisis pregnancies so they might carry them to term.

In Session Law 2021-180, Section 9G.6.(a), the North Carolina General Assembly appropriated \$3,200,000 in nonrecurring funds for each fiscal year of the 2021-23 biennium to the Human Coalition, through the NC Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, to expand the continuum of care pilot statewide as defined in subsection (b).

In Session Law 2023-134, Section 9H12.(a), the North Carolina General Assembly appropriated \$1,500,000 in nonrecurring funds for each fiscal year of the 2024-25 biennium to the Human Coalition, through the NC Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, to fund the operation of their statewide Continuum of Care Program (as expanded pursuant to Section 9G.6 of S.L. 2021-180).

Services Funded by the Human Coalition Continuum of Care Program

The Human Coalition shall use funds allocated to fund operation of the Human Coalition's statewide Continuum of Care Program, as expanded pursuant to Section 9G.6 of S.L. 2021-180. These funds shall be used for non-religious, nonsectarian purposes only. The referred section states that the Human Coalition's Continuum of Care Program is to provide community outreach, consultations, and support and care coordination for women experiencing under-supported pregnancies and is designed to (i) encourage healthy childbirth, (ii) support childbirth as an alternative to abortion, (iii) promote family formation, (iv) assist in establishing successful parenting techniques, and (v) increase the economic self-sufficiency of families.

The continuum of care program shall consist of existing locations of the pilot program authorized by Section 11E.13(b) of S.L. 2017-57 and expansion to other locations around the State to be determined by the Human Coalition (as authorized in Section 9G.6.(b) of S.L. 2021-180). All providers rendering services under the program for which they are compensated with funds allocated pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be physically located in the State of North Carolina.

Continuum of Care Program Components as detailed in NC Session Law

The continuum of care program shall provide direct services, supports, social services case management, and referrals to biological parents of unborn children and biological or adoptive parents of children under the age of 2 and shall consist of at least all of the following components:

1. Outreach to at-risk populations eligible for the program.
2. The use of licensed nurses to perform the following functions:
 - a. Assessment and evaluation of needs related to pregnancy or parenting.
 - b. Provision of medically accurate, pregnancy-related medical information to program participants.
3. The use of licensed social workers, or other individuals of equivalent experience, to perform the following functions:
 - a. Development of a care plan, resources, and supports for program participants to address identified needs.
 - b. Referrals to appropriate local resources, including State and federal benefits programs and local charitable organizations.
 - c. Assistance in applying for State and federal benefits programs.
 - d. Assistance in accomplishing elements of the care plan.

To be eligible to receive services under the continuum of care program, an individual shall, at the time of initial contact with the program, be (i) a resident of North Carolina and (ii) a biological parent of an unborn child or a biological or adoptive parent of a child under the age of 2. Participants of the original pilot program authorized under Section 11E.13(b) of S.L. 2017-57, who terminated a pregnancy prior to birth, are eligible to continue to receive continuum of care program services for a period of six months from the date of termination of pregnancy.

Services Provided

Human Coalition's initial continuum of care pilot, funded by S.L. 2017-57, included one pregnancy care center in Raleigh. The statewide expansion of the program funded by S.L. 2021-180 added a second Human Coalition pregnancy care center in Charlotte. In addition to in person visits at these two care centers, Human Coalition may contact clients by phone or text message for virtual visits or refer clients to other pregnancy care centers across the state.

Human Coalition states their goals for the activities supported by these funds as "to fill in medical, social service, and resource gaps to parents in need. The expected results are to increase a woman's likelihood to parent her unborn child successfully and equip those who are already parents to do so well."

The Human Coalition reports using funds to support the following services and activities since July 1, 2023:

<u>Item (Number of)</u>	<u>Total Reported to Date (through 9/30/2024)</u>
clients	1,053
pregnancy counseling sessions	10,328
parenting counseling sessions	1,100
adoption counseling sessions	387
pregnancy education materials	1,413
parenting education materials	432
adoption education materials	367
enrolled in Medicaid	43

enrolled in TANF	1
enrolled in SNAP	4
enrolled in WIC	27
touchpoints to coordinate care*	12,812

*Human Coalition defines a touchpoint as any correspondence made with a client to coordinate care and referrals. The number of touchpoints include each text message and phone call to a client.

Human Coalition reported providing services in the following forty-five (45) North Carolina counties: Alamance, Brunswick, Burke, Cabarrus, Catawba, Chatham, Cleveland, Craven, Cumberland, Duplin, Durham, Edgecombe, Forsyth, Franklin, Gaston, Granville, Greene, Guilford, Halifax, Harnett, Henderson, Harris, Hertford, Hyde, Iredell, Johnston, Jones, Lee, Lenoir, Lincoln, Martin, Mecklenburg, Moore, Nash, New Hanover, Northampton, Onslow, Orange, Person, Pitt, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Sampson, Union, Vance, Wake, Warren, Warren, Washington, Watauga, Wayne, Wilkes, and Wilson.

Payments and Expenditures for the Human Coalition Pilot Program

Payments to Date (July 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024):

Payment Period	Amount
July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024 (SFY23-24)	\$ 1,500,000
July 1, 2024 – Sept. 30, 2024 (Q1 SFY24-25)	\$ 375,000
Oct. 1, 2024 – Dec. 30, 2024 (Q2 SFY24-25)	\$ 375,000
Payments Requested and Paid to Date	\$ 2,250,000
Total Allocated	\$ 3,000,000
Remaining	\$ 750,000

Expenditure Summary to Date (July 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024):

<u>Expenditure Category</u>	SFY 23-24	Q1 SFY 24-25	Total to Date
Personnel/Contracted Services: Personnel	\$1,198,800.00	\$267,037.97	\$1,465,837.97
Supplies and Materials:	\$0	\$0	\$0.00
Non-Fixed Operating Expenses:	\$0	\$0	\$0.00
Fixed Operating Expenses: Rent	\$63,836.00	\$30,000.00	\$93,836.00
Property and Equipment:	\$0	\$0	\$0.00
Services/Contracts: Google advertising	\$101,000.00	\$43,871.12	\$144,871.12
Other Expenses: Indirect Cost	\$136,364	\$34,090.91	\$170,454.91
Total Expenses:	\$1,500,000	\$375,000.00	\$1,875,000.00

Sources

All information and data reported herein is solely from Human Coalition's SFY 23-24 End of Year Report covering July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024 and SFY 24-25 Q1 Quarterly Report covering July 1, 2024 – September 30, 2024.