

# Crisis Pregnancy Centers: Idaho

## What are crisis pregnancy centers?

Crisis pregnancy centers (CPCs) are fake clinics that exist to keep people from accessing abortion care. They set themselves up to look like real health clinics – their websites, advertising, and office spaces look the same as real clinics; staff wear white coats and scrubs – but most CPCs provide no medical care whatsoever. They are religious organizations that spread false information about abortion.



The majority of CPCs at most offer free pregnancy tests, abortion and birth control “counseling,” “pre-abortion screenings,” and “abortion pill reversal” (a “treatment” that the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists rejects as unsafe and not supported by reliable medical research). However, their “counseling” is limited to fertility awareness (i.e. tracking ovulation to prevent pregnancy) and dangerously false information about abortion and contraception. Some even promote conversion therapy for LGBTQ+ youth, an abusive practice that has been banned in many states across the country.

## What risk do CPCs pose to patient privacy?

CPCs collect personal information about individuals who search their websites or contact them – names, birthdates, pregnancy status, etc.<sup>1</sup> At the same time, most CPCs don’t have to follow HIPAA regulations (a federal health privacy law) or any other state or federal privacy laws. This means CPCs can do whatever they want with that personal information. With 26 states poised to ban abortion, this information could become evidence in civil or criminal cases against pregnant people, anyone who helps them access abortion care, and healthcare providers.<sup>2</sup>

## What is Idaho’s relationship to CPCs?

Despite their deceptive practices and lack of privacy protections, many states support CPCs with tax-payer money and agency referrals.<sup>3</sup> The State of Idaho expressly promotes CPCs.<sup>4</sup> The search term “abortion” on the official state website leads to lists of CPCs<sup>5,6</sup> that offer free ultrasounds and “abortion pill reversal,” which, again, is a “treatment” with serious safety concerns.<sup>7</sup>

## How do I identify a CPC?

Unfortunately, it can be hard to tell these fake clinics from real clinics just by looking at their websites, advertising, or office locations. For a listing of crisis pregnancy centers see [www.exposefakeclinics.com](http://www.exposefakeclinics.com) or [www.crisispregnancycentermap.com](http://www.crisispregnancycentermap.com). **The best way to find a real abortion provider is at [www.abortionfinder.org](http://www.abortionfinder.org).**

## Where can I find real abortion providers?

Visit [www.abortionfinder.org](http://www.abortionfinder.org). Also see the resources here: [www.legalvoice.org/tools-health](http://www.legalvoice.org/tools-health).

## More information about CPCs:

[www.legalvoice.org/know-before-you-go](http://www.legalvoice.org/know-before-you-go)

[www.plannedparenthood.org/blog/what-are-crisis-pregnancy-centers](http://www.plannedparenthood.org/blog/what-are-crisis-pregnancy-centers)

[www.alliancestateadvocates.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/107/Alliance-CPC-Study-Designed-to-Deceive.pdf](http://www.alliancestateadvocates.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/107/Alliance-CPC-Study-Designed-to-Deceive.pdf)

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<sup>1</sup> [www.timesobserver.com/news/local-news/2022/05/pregnancy-privacy-bill-proposed-in-house/](http://www.timesobserver.com/news/local-news/2022/05/pregnancy-privacy-bill-proposed-in-house/)

<sup>2</sup> [www.time.com/6189528/anti-abortion-pregnancy-centers-collect-data-investigation/](http://www.time.com/6189528/anti-abortion-pregnancy-centers-collect-data-investigation/)

<sup>3</sup> [www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/health/millions-in-tax-dollars-flow-to-anti-abortion-centers-in-us/](http://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/health/millions-in-tax-dollars-flow-to-anti-abortion-centers-in-us/)

<sup>4</sup> <https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/services-programs/children-families/about-pregnancy-abortion-and-adoption-resources>

<sup>5</sup> <https://publicdocuments.dhw.idaho.gov/WebLink/DocView.aspx?id=3889&dbid=0&repo=PUBLIC-DOCUMENTS&cr=1>

<sup>6</sup> <https://publicdocuments.dhw.idaho.gov/WebLink/DocView.aspx?id=3892&dbid=0&repo=PUBLIC-DOCUMENTS>

<sup>7</sup> [www.acog.org/advocacy/facts-are-important/medication-abortion-reversal-is-not-supported-by-science](http://www.acog.org/advocacy/facts-are-important/medication-abortion-reversal-is-not-supported-by-science)