

# Investing in women where it matters most

The Women's Health Co-Lab focuses on three areas that we believe are core drivers of health inequity for women and girls and where philanthropy can have an outsized impact.

#### Maternal health

Every day, more than 800 women die from complications related to pregnancy and childbirth. Unequal access to care puts Black, Indigenous, women of color, and women in remote regions at the greatest risk.<sup>1</sup>

The Co-Lab's six maternal health grantees seek to strengthen maternal healthcare delivery systems, increase the uptake of maternal healthcare through technology and community engagement, and build the capacity of healthcare workers.

### Sexual and reproductive health and rights

At the current rate, an estimated **470M** women will lack access to sexual and reproductive healthcare in 2030.<sup>2</sup>

The Co-Lab's 10 sexual and reproductive health and rights grantees aim to expand access to safe abortion, provide accurate information about reproductive care, and change restrictive laws.

#### Gender-based violence

1/3 women will be subjected to violence in their lifetime, including attacks from sexual and intimate partners, trafficking, online harassment, female genital mutilation, and child marriage.<sup>3</sup>

The Co-Lab's six gender-based violence grantees seek to bolster policies and laws that protect women from violence, shift patriarchal norms among men and boys, support survivors, and drive awareness to empower adolescent girls.

<sup>[2]</sup> Population Services International

# Our \$100 million vision and an invitation to join

#### What \$100 million could achieve:

#### Improved health for millions of women and girls

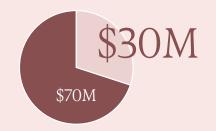
From providing cervical screenings that will reach 10 million women in Brazil to expanding culturally responsive birth centers serving thousands of BIPOC women across the US, the Co-Lab is expanding healthcare access at scale.

#### Enhanced agency and empowerment for women and girls

The Co-Lab is empowering women and elevating their place in society—from reaching nearly 33 million women by decriminalizing abortion in Mexico to expanding policies that support the financial independence of gender-based violence survivors in the US.

#### Strengthened women's health field for sustained lasting impact

We're not just funding programs, we're aiming to ensure that this work can be sustained beyond the lifespan of the Co-Lab by backing locally rooted organizations, advocating for better health policies at the national and state level, and improving care at hospitals and clinics to ensure health, security, and agency for generations.



We are inviting philanthropists to join this movement and help us raise an additional \$30 million to fully fund this critical work over the next three years.

# The Co-Lab methodology

Philanthropy with purpose, precision, and the power to drive lasting change

We deployed a rigorous grantee sourcing, diligence, and selection process to uncover the greatest opportunities to maximize the Co-Lab's impact. By pooling and strategically deploying capital, trusting grantees as experts, and investing in systems-level solutions where the need is greatest, we believe we can transform the health of women and girls—now and for generations to come.

#### We got here by:

• Gaining expert-driven, community-informed insight

Alongside more than 40 experts, beneficiary advisors, and philanthropists, we conducted a global landscape review to determine the top drivers of poor health for women.

Targeting root causes and high-need communities for outsized impact

We looked for solutions that addressed the root causes of health inequity and served groups most disproportionately impacted by health disparities, like Black mothers in the US and women in the Global South.

Selecting bold, equity-centered grantees

We reviewed more than 400 organizations, ultimately selecting 22 grantees that we believe offer the most catalytic opportunities to advance women and girls' health. Each organization was vetted for proven or promising impact, visionary strategy, strong financial health, and the ability to scale systemic change.

Each grantee will receive unrestricted multiyear funding, empowering them to strategically allocate resources as they see fit.

# The Women's Health Co-Lab experience

Donors stay close to the impact throughout the Co-Lab—engaging with grantees, tracking progress, and fueling meaningful change.

#### You'll receive:

#### Quarterly updates

See your impact in action with quarterly updates that highlight major grantee milestones and measurable progress across the portfolio.

#### An annual impact report

Gain a deep understanding of grantees' progress, challenges, and learnings through rigorous annual reports.

#### Dynamic ongoing learning opportunities

Learn from visionary leaders through virtual panels with grantees and other issue issue-area experts.

#### Invitations to intimate dinners and signature Co-Lab events

Build meaningful relationships with peer philanthropists, thought leaders, and the changemakers you support at our cross Co-Lab events and dinners.

# By joining the Women's Health Co-Lab, you can:

Leverage your capital for outsized impact: Pool resources with peers to amplify your giving and unlock systems-level change with exponentially greater impact than what you can achieve alone.

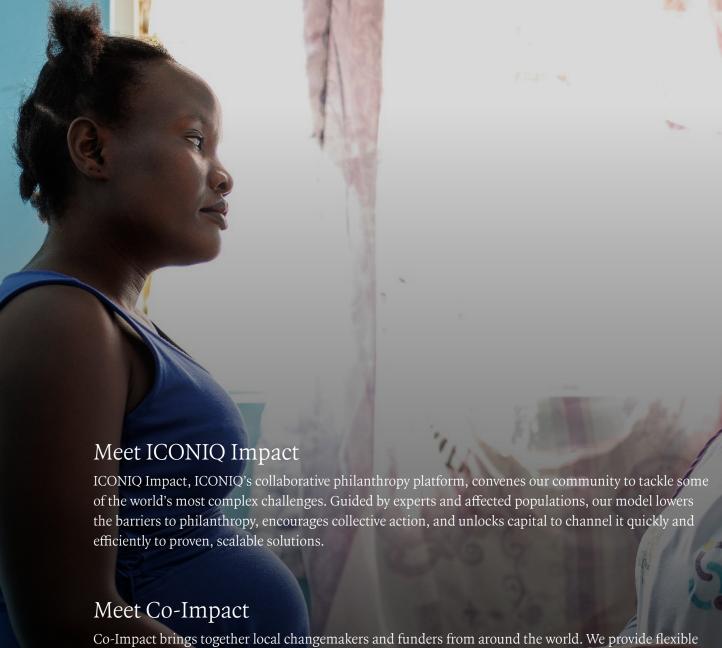
Build your expertise on critical issues: Gain access to expert-led learning and peer engagement opportunities that deepen your understanding of the issues you care about.

Eliminate the admin and experience the joy: Allow ICONIQ to manage the heavy lifting—from sourcing grantees to monitoring impact—so you can eliminate the burden of grantmaking and focus on the joy of giving.

Build community with peer philanthropists: Build lifelong bonds and partnerships with peers who share your desire to drive meaningful change.

Redefine philanthropy and advance trust-based giving: Trust grantees as experts and advance best practices like unrestricted multiyear funding and streamlined reporting to make philanthropy more equitable and empowering for the communities it serves.

Ignite a movement: Inspire others across the ICONIQ community and beyond to mobilize greater philanthropic capital with urgency and rigor, helping advance the growing field of collaborative philanthropy.



Co-Impact brings together local changemakers and funders from around the world. We provide flexible grants and strategic support to locally-rooted partners making health, education, and economic systems stronger and more inclusive—creating impact that lasts. Our commitment to advancing gender equality and women's leadership is central to this goal.

#### Meet the Women's Health Co-Lab donors:

Melinda French Gates, Phoebe Gates, and Jennifer Gates Nassar

Tricia Black and Patrick Brogan

Holly Fogle and Jeff Lieberman

Barrie Glabman and Adam Schwartz

Susan Long Hall and C. David Hall

Samantha McManus and David Karp

Diksha and Divesh Makan

Marie Dageville, Rachel Markham and

Cedric Dageville

Nancy and Rick Moskovitz

Susan and Erin Samueli

Glen Tullman and Cayley Tull



#### Anonymous Grantee

Health system strengthening for underserved communities



India

#### Why they exist

In India, maternal deaths and complications are especially high among rural and Indigenous women due to poor access to health facilities, sociocultural barriers, discrimination, and a lack of essential health information. Despite a large government-funded network of frontline health workers, these providers are often under-resourced and poorly trained, failing to effectively serve the country's most marginalized communities.

#### Their solution

This anonymous grantee empowers underserved women in Madhya Pradesh—particularly Indigenous women to demand better care. Through data and tools, the organization helps local women and frontline workers identify at-risk pregnancies, address barriers to care, and advocate for systemic improvements. The organization is not named publicly due to sensitivities in their work.

#### Birth Center **Equity**

BIPOC-led birth centers



**Q** United States

#### Why they exist

Birth center facilities provide a homelike birth environment and have been proven to improve birthing safety and reduce racial and ethnic bias. Despite this, only a small share of birth centers are led by Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC), who have expertise in providing respectful, high-quality care to the communities they represent (which experience the highest maternal mortality in the US).

#### Their solution

Birth Center Equity provides capital to BIPOC leaders looking to open birth centers. It additionally advocates to health system and government leaders to increase the funding for birth centers across the US.

#### Every Mother Counts

Maternal health regranter



**Q** United States

#### Why they exist

The US has the highest maternal mortality rate of any highincome country, with 80% of deaths classified as preventable. Maternal mortality is particularly high for Black and Indigenous women, as well as women living in rural areas.

#### Their solution

Motivated by the intrinsic human right to maternal health, Every Mother Counts (EMC) is dedicated to ensuring that all people, everywhere, experience a safe, respectful, and equitable journey through pregnancy, childbirth, and the postpartum period. EMC started by spotlighting stories told by those closest to the issue. Over time, these personal accounts have shone a spotlight on the global imperative to transform maternal health. Since 2010, EMC has invested tens of millions of dollars to advance system-wide change through the development of professional, dedicated, and compassionate providers in every setting who are focused on respectful care that centers mothers.

#### **HealthConnect** One

Culturally responsive maternal healthcare



• United States

#### Why they exist

In the US, Black mothers die at rates three times higher than white women. While there are multiple drivers, women of color are more likely to experience mistreatment and poor communication during care.

#### Their solution

Doulas are maternal health workers who advocate for birthing mothers' needs and have been shown to improve maternal safety and reduce racial disparities. HealthConnect One is strengthening the community-based doula workforce in three ways: conducting doula training, publishing research that informs policymakers about the benefits of doulas, and working with hospitals to incorporate more doulas into their workforce.

#### **ImpulsoGov**

Maternal healthcare technology



Brazil

#### Why they exist

Despite Brazil's expansive public health system, more than one million women missed essential prenatal care in late 2024, contributing to preventable maternal deaths and high rates of untreated conditions like STIs, cervical cancer, and chronic diseases.

#### Their solution

ImpulsoGov uses data and technology to improve access to prenatal and preventive care for historically underserved women in Brazil, particularly low-income and Black women. Its mobile app, Impulso Previne, helps community health workers identify patients with overdue appointments and send reminders via WhatsApp, making care more accessible.

#### Maternal and Reproductive Health Research Collective

Health system strengthening for underserved communities



Nigeria

#### Why they exist

Nigeria has the world's highest number of maternal deaths, with low-income women facing the greatest risks due to financial barriers, cultural norms, poor-quality care, and discrimination within the formal health system.

#### Their solution

The Maternal and Reproductive Health Research Collective is strengthening Nigeria's public health system through training, facility upgrades, and community outreach. We believe the organization's approach addresses key barriers such as a shortage of skilled health workers, inadequate facilities, low antenatal care uptake, and limited patient data.



reproductive care, and change restrictive laws.

#### Americans for Contraception

Media campaigns for reproductive health



• United States

#### Why they exist

Despite widespread public and religious support for contraception, efforts to protect access through federal legislation failed in 2022, leaving birth control vulnerable to state-level restrictions.

#### Their solution

Americans for Contraception Education Fund uses media campaigns to build support for contraceptive access, focusing on the issue's broad popularity across political and religious lines. It targets unexpected and movable audiences—like young men and Evangelicals—through strategic partnerships, influencers, and platforms such as ESPN and Joe Rogan's podcast.

#### <u>Anis – Instituto</u> de Bioética

Access to medication abortion



Brazil

#### Why they exist

In Brazil, abortion is legal only in limited cases, and even then, access is severely restricted, leading to approximately 500,000 unsafe abortions and 250,000 hospitalizations each year. These unsafe abortions disproportionately impact Black, Indigenous, very young, older, and rural women.

#### Their solution

Anis – Instituto de Bioética (Anis) expands access to safe, legal abortion in Brazil by increasing the availability of abortion pills, expanding the types of providers and settings where abortion can be offered, and advocating for regulatory changes in partnership with key stakeholders like the Ministry of Health and regional allies. Anis also supports national litigation to decriminalize abortion in the first 12 weeks, aiming to make abortion more accessible, especially outside of hospital settings.

#### Girl Effect

Sexual and reproductive health education technology



#### Why they exist

In Kenya, adolescent girls face a range of barriers to sexual and reproductive healthcare (SRH), from stigma and misinformation to a lack of youth-friendly services. Although they account for nearly one-third of new HIV infections and nearly half report unwanted pregnancies, young girls can access services that meet their needs at only 10% of Kenyan health clinics.

#### Their solution

Girl Effect is partnering with Kenya's Ministry of Health to build a one-stop digital health platform tailored to meet the needs of adolescent girls. Nicknamed Wazzii, meaning "cool" in Swahili slang, this interactive, AI-powered chatbot aims to provide comprehensive sexual education information and connect girls to SRH services in their area.

#### Grupo de Información en Reproducción Elegida

Litigation and advocacy for abortion access



#### Why they exist

Despite Mexico's 2023 Supreme Court decision that decriminalized abortion, access remains uneven due to conflicting state laws, weaknesses in the healthcare system, and ongoing stigma.

#### Their solution

Grupo de Información en Reproducción Elegida increases access to safe abortions by ensuring states uphold the federal decriminalization. The organization monitors abortion access, provides legal representation for those denied services, and works with legislators and health leaders to improve policy and service delivery.

#### **INeedAnA**

Abortion access technology



#### Why they exist

Across the US, abortion seekers—especially those in restricted states—face misinformation, stigma, and deceptive antiabortion tactics, making it difficult to find accurate information about where and how to legally access abortion services.

#### Their solution

INeedAnA.com provides abortion seekers with accurate, upto-date information about in-clinic and medication abortion options, tailored to their location and pregnancy stage. The site also helps people plan their abortions by providing vetted provider links, travel details, costs, information about legal risks, and resources such as abortion funds.

#### Karnataka Health Promotion Trust

Community-led sexual and reproductive health



# Reproductive Health Network Kenya

Abortion and reproductive health service provider



#### Why they exist

In Karnataka, India, adolescent girls—especially those in rural and lower-caste communities—are subject to poverty, patriarchal norms, and early marriage, which limits their opportunities. Their lack of voice and agency in families, communities, and local governance leads to underinvestment in adolescent health.

#### Their solution

Karnataka Health Promotion Trust (KHPT) seeks to improve adolescent girls' health by creating girl-led subcommittees within local governments to advocate for resources tailored to their needs, such as funding for adolescent-friendly clinics. Through its Girls Empowerment Project, KHPT educates marginalized girls in sexual and reproductive health advocacy skills—building their self-esteem and collective power. These subcommittees could enable girls to influence local government decisions, ensuring public funds address their unique health and sanitation needs.

#### Why they exist

Women and adolescent girls in Kenya face major obstacles to reproductive health services—including limited abortion access, provider shortages, and contraceptive supply gaps—leading to high unintended pregnancy rates and frequent hospitalization for abortion complications.

#### Their solution

Reproductive Health Network Kenya (RHNK) is a leading local organization providing comprehensive abortion and reproductive health services, especially to rural and marginalized populations. RHNK is the largest provider of comprehensive abortion care in Kenya and provides technical and capacity-building support to a broader network of clinics and pharmacies. It additionally supports the national-level supply chain management of contraceptive supplies.

#### Resources for **Abortion Delivery**

Abortion provider support



• United States

#### Why they exist

Independent providers deliver the majority of abortion care in the US, but their numbers have dropped sharply, down 29% since 2012. Following the overturn of *Roe v. Wade*, independent providers in states with restricted access are facing closures due to financial strains. Meanwhile, states that have not reduced access are facing a deluge of patients from out of state.

#### Their solution

Resources for Abortion Delivery (RAD) supports independent abortion providers in the US with funding, technical assistance, and strategic guidance to help them adapt to shifting laws and regulations. RAD also educates and mobilizes funders by identifying urgent needs and creating targeted funds, such as for medication stockpiles.

#### Sashakt Initiative (Ekjut & Piramal Swasthya)

Sexual and reproductive health for underserved communities



India

#### Why they exist

Tribal adolescent girls ages 10–19 are among the most marginalized populations in India. They face a complex web of barriers related to their social status, including harmful and patriarchal social norms, poverty, and discrimination. As a result, one million adolescent girls face high rates of early marriage, school dropout, and teenage pregnancy.

#### Their solution

The Sashakt Initiative, led by Ekjut and Piramal Swasthya, seeks to improve sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) through a multilevel approach. At the community level, Ekjut facilitates peer-led groups to empower girls with knowledge and co-develop local solutions. At the public health system level, Piramal Swasthya supports government programs by strengthening adolescent-friendly clinics, improving sexual education, and ensuring coordination across stakeholders.

### The Lawyering

Pro bono legal support for abortion



**Q** United States

#### Why they exist

Abortion and contraception restrictions in the US impact millions of women. Litigation is a powerful tool to protect reproductive rights, as state courts are increasingly upholding access under constitutional privacy protections.

#### Their solution

The Lawyering Project (TLP) provides pro bono legal support that helps to protect interstate travel for abortion care, safeguard free speech, hold harassers accountable, and expand access by removing barriers. TLP also advises providers and support organizations on how to navigate new restrictions and operates the Abortion Defense Network to connect them with legal help.



#### Anonymous Grantee

Gender-based violence regranter



• United States

#### Why they exist

Gender-based violence (GBV) impacts millions of women and girls in the US, with nearly one in four married or partnered women ages 15–49 reporting intimate partner violence.

#### Their solution

This anonymous grantee provides grants to grassroots, survivor-led organizations that focus on both prevention and support within communities that are disproportionately affected by GBV, including: adolescent girls; Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC); and immigrants. Organizations it supports provide women and girls with cash assistance, housing, legal aid, and skills training to increase confidence and autonomy. Its grantees additionally advocate for policies that prevent violence and work to shift the cultural beliefs that normalize and enable GBV. This anonymous grantee is the largest philanthropic entity focused on gender-based violence and is widely viewed by experts as a leader in the field. The organization is not named publicly due to sensitivities in their work.

#### FreeFrom

Financial independence for gender-based violence survivors



**Q** United States

#### Why they exist

In the US, up to 99% of women who survive intimate partner violence experience economic abuse, with average costs exceeding \$100,000 per survivor. Financial dependence is a major reason women stay in abusive relationships, and those who leave often struggle to access essentials like housing, food assistance, and health insurance.

#### Their solution

FreeFrom is a survivor-led organization that aims to create pathways to financial independence for survivors of genderbased violence. It does this by supporting survivors directly through savings match programs and peer-to-peer financial coaches—and advocating for policies that support survivors, such as petitioning for workforce GBV leave.

#### Serenas

Gender-based violence education



O Brazil

#### Why they exist

In Brazil, a femicide is reported every six hours and sexual violence every six minutes. This violence often starts in childhood. In fact, 60% of the country's GBV victims are under age 14 and report the highest incidents of harassment in schools.

#### Their solution

Serenas works within Brazil's public education system to implement anti-sexist practices that prevent violence and support survivors. It trains teachers, administrators, and educational policy leaders on new protocols, including how to recognize signs of violence among students and tactics to prevent further violence. In addition to direct intervention, Serenas is collaborating with Brazil's Ministry of Education, Ministry of Women, and Ministry of Health to integrate mandatory GBV prevention into national curricula.

#### Sexual Violence Research Initiative

Sexual violence research and data



• Global South

#### Why they exist

The rapid expansion of technology has facilitated new forms of gender-based violence, including stalking, cyberbullying, grooming, and the sharing of intimate photos without consent. Technology-facilitated gender-based violence (TFGBV) has quickly become widespread, with 58% of young women reporting they've experienced some form of online harassment. Despite this, there is a dearth of public data on its causes, perpetrators, and what works to deter online abusers.

#### Their solution

Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI) is one of the largest global networks of experts advancing research on the causes, prevalence, and consequences of GBV, including TFGBV, in the Global South. SVRI prioritizes building capacity among Global South researchers and helps ensure governments and service providers use their findings to improve laws and policies around TFGBV.

#### Tahirih Justice Center

Support for immigrant survivors of gender-based violence



**Q** United States

#### Why they exist

Female immigrants experience intimate partner violence at nearly three times the national average. Despite legal protections, immigrant GBV survivors face unique obstacles to accessing support, such as language barriers and fear of deportation.

#### Their solution

The Tahirih Justice Center provides direct service to immigrant GBV survivors, including free trauma-informed legal representation; trains frontline workers, such as attorneys, judges, and police officers, on how to better support immigrant survivors; and advocates for more protective federal, state, and local laws and policies.

#### Ujamaa Africa

Gender-based violence education



Q Kenya

#### Why they exist

In Kenya, 49% of girls have experienced physical violence and 11% have experienced sexual violence. Rates of GBV are disproportionately higher in and around schools and are driven by entrenched gender roles, insufficient prevention programs, and a limited number of bystanders reporting instances of violence.

#### Their solution

Ujamaa's evidence-based training program helps boys and girls ages 10-18 learn how to recognize and prevent GBV in their schools. The Empowerment Self-Defense program teaches girls to recognize danger, assert boundaries, and defend themselves physically and verbally. Meanwhile, the Hero in Me program helps boys challenge harmful gender norms, learn bystander intervention, and become allies.

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