

A vibrant, stylized illustration of diverse people in a tropical setting. In the foreground, a woman with braided hair and large hoop earrings looks forward. To her left, a man with a short haircut is partially visible. In the background, two women are talking, and another woman is walking. The scene is filled with colorful foliage in shades of purple, green, and blue.

Antigua and Barbuda

CAPACITY STATEMENT

Antigua Planned Parenthood Association (APPA)



The Antigua Planned Parenthood Association (APPA) has been pioneering family planning in Antigua & Barbuda since 1970. To this day, it continues to meet the demand for sexual and reproductive health services — particularly among marginalised and excluded communities— by providing a full range of services that includes contraceptives, gynaecological care, pregnancy tests, breast exams, pre-and post-abortion counselling.

During 2015, APPA commenced the strengthening of efforts to mainstream the delivery of sexual and reproductive health services to members of various marginalized and excluded communities, inclusive of migrants, sex workers, and members of the LGBTQI communities.



APPA has played a key role in making sexual and reproductive health services available to all residents of Antigua & Barbuda and is a major advocate of school-based comprehensive sexuality education and the need for health professionals to embrace youth-friendly services. The association's school program equips young people with the knowledge and resources to make informed choices as well as to avoid unintended pregnancy. It also empowers adolescents to take responsibility for their choices and their lives.

VISION

Optimal quality of life enjoyed by every individual by offering information, education, and sexual and reproductive health services, family planning and counselling at an affordable cost to ensure access to these services

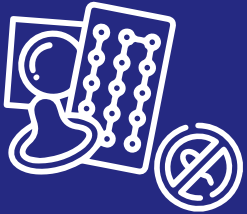
MISSION

To ensure that the community is afforded good sexual reproductive health through education, counselling, and affordable family planning services.



COUNTRY STATISTICS

The biggest challenge for Antigua and Barbuda is youth. Teenagers 13-15 who are sexually active cannot access birth control without their parents or guardians' consent.



In 2020 the teenage birth rate was 15.37%, with a total of 107 deliveries.



There are still religious and cultural barriers surrounding SRH access for young people, as it is posited that this will encourage sexual activities.



Antigua and Barbuda is one of the Caribbean countries that has eliminated mother to child transmission of HIV. In 2020 only 29 new HIV cases were registered.

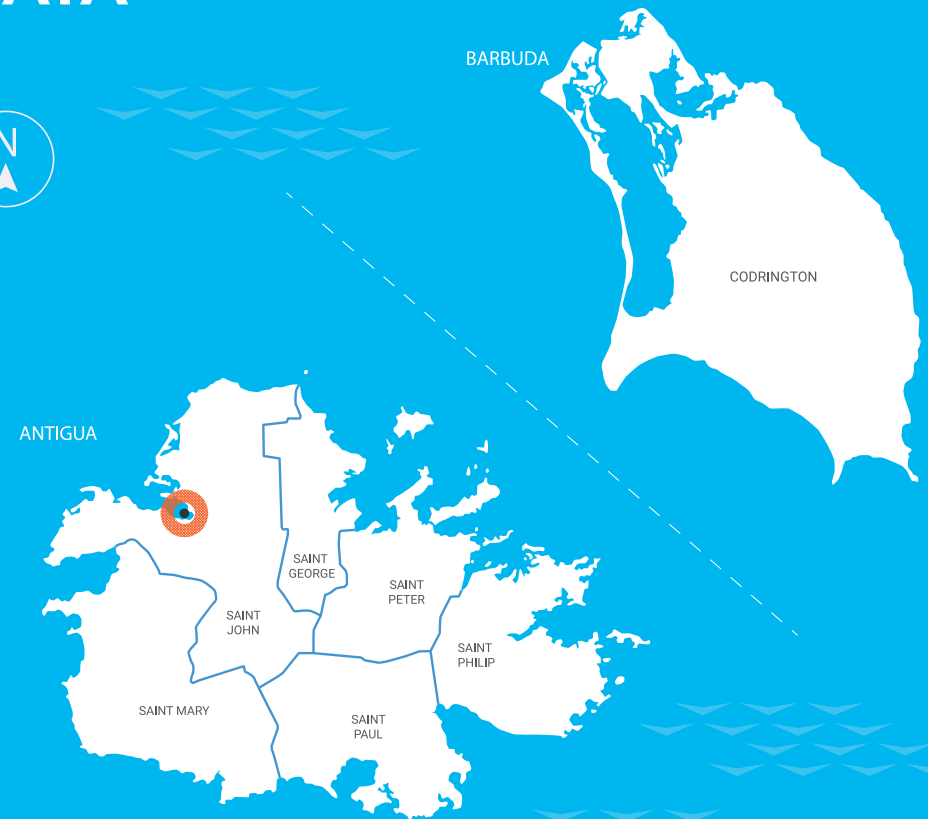


There is limited access to safe abortion. The law in Antigua and Barbuda only allows abortion if the life of the mother is threatened.

Sexual Education is provided in a limited way through the Health and Family Life Education curriculum. This is mostly taught in Primary Schools and seldom extended to Secondary Schools.



ORGANISATION DATA



The Antigua Planned Parenthood Association has **one static clinic** in St. John's.



PROGRAMMES

APPA provides an Integrated Package of Essential Services (IPES) promoting service provision for the most pressing sexual and reproductive health needs of the population. It places its clients at the very centre of everything and provides them with eight essential services: counselling, contraception, safe abortion care, STIs/RTIs, HIV, gynaecology, prenatal care, and gender-based violence. It focuses its services mostly on people from 16 to 59 years old.



1 SERVING PEOPLE

- APPA provides information and access to family planning services.
- Screening for cervical and breast cancer.
- Antenatal and postnatal services.
- Family health services: screening for blood sugar levels, blood pressure, weight, and promoting healthy lifestyles.
- Community-based distribution services: birth control, pills, condoms, and delivery of other contraceptives to pharmacies.
- HIV/STI information and testing, counselling (online and in-person), treatment and management.
- Offers LGBTI training, anti-discrimination facilitation, sexual and reproductive health (SRH) for the LGBTI community.
- In alliance with the government and other civil society organisations, coordinates community caravans. APPA goes to communities to provide services that include information, prevention, and treatment. Social partners accompany the caravans to educate on breast and cervical cancer; nutritionists provide information about healthy eating and exercise. The Fire department, Police, Substance Abuse Prevention and Sexual Assault Response Centre give talks about illicit drugs, alcohol, fire prevention and gender-based violence.

2 YOUTH-CENTRED CARE

- APPA delivers comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) and services to both in and out of school young people.
- APPA delivers afterschool programmes and information to youth through community outreach activities, with the support of a youth officer.



@ appa_youth



ADVOCACY

- APPA collaborates with other NGOs in advocating for SRH policy changes.
- Collaboration in the decriminalization of abortion and related laws.
- Destigmatising abortion and LGBTI issues.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

DURING THE PAST 4 YEARS

Recognized contraception provider in the country.

In alliance with the government, APPA provides contraceptives to people with disabilities, mental hospitals, and to young mothers.

58,344 services (2017-2020)

- 7,869 STI / HIV services.
- 8,168 couple years of protection.
- 200,231 first time users (unique clients).
- 32.15% services delivered to young people under 25 years old.



KEY PARTNERS

Breast Friends, Directorate of Gender Affairs, Government of Antigua and Barbuda, Meeting Emotional and Social Needs Holistically (MESH), Mill Reef Fund, National AIDS Program, and Women Against Rape (WAR).

CONTACT INFORMATION

Lyndale Weaver-Greenaway
Executive Director

appa.antigua@gmail.com
edappa.antigua@gmail.com

 www.plannedparenthoodab.org

 +1 (268) 462-0947

 Corner of Mahico Drive and Sir Sidney Walling's Highway (formerly Factory Road) P.O. Box 419, St. John's, Antigua

 @AntiguaPlannedParenthood

 @appa_antigua  @appa_youth

 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uC6i537ZiPY>

