

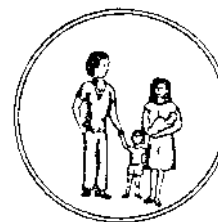


Dominica

CAPACITY

STATEMENT

Dominica Planned Parenthood Association (DPPA)



Dominica Planned Parenthood Association (DPPA) was founded in 1976 to address maternal and child health. It has since expanded its role as an advocate and provider of sexual and reproductive health services and education. The Organization aims to improve the health and the quality of life of the population through sexual and reproductive health rights education and enable access to appropriate medical and counselling services

DPPA is the leading provider of sexual and reproductive health services in Dominica.

DPPA is a member of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) and an associate member of the Caribbean Family Planning Affiliation (CFPA).

DPPA works with like-minded institutions to implement its activities to advance SRH.

VISION

To enable the people of Dominica to enjoy improved health and a higher quality of life through a better understanding of sexual and reproductive health matters, and easy access to appropriate modern medical and counselling services.

MISSION

The Association is a leading provider and enabler of sexual and reproductive health services and an advocate of sexual and reproductive rights.

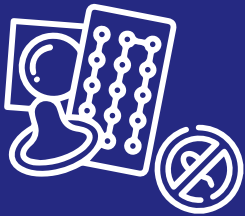


COUNTRY STATISTICS

47.1

(per 1000 women) is the adolescent fertility rate.

Schools cover the minimum curriculum of sexual and reproductive health (SRH) information. **They do not include LGBTI human rights issues or contraceptives.**



Access to abortion care is limited by laws and policies in the country. As a result, women, particularly young women, have unsafe abortions.

10%

Of DPPA's services are for migrant communities, predominantly from Haiti.



28.8%

Of the inhabitants of Dominica fall below the poverty line.



52%

One in four inhabitants of Dominica is of indigenous Caribs (Kalinago).



Of those living below the poverty line are **under 25 years of age.**



ORGANISATION DATA



The Association has **one static clinic in the capital Roseau.**

— Through a community-based distribution programme, contraceptives, specifically condoms are delivered to rural areas.



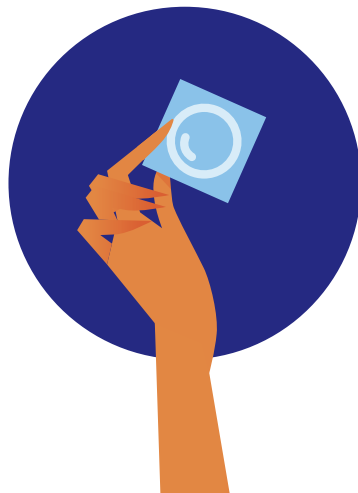
PROGRAMMES

1 OUTREACH

- There is an established community outreach programme. It provides family planning through volunteers and shop owners and an extensive programme of information and education activities. These include distributing pamphlets and posters, broadcasting short talks about family planning on radio and television and conducting community discussions.
- Youth Advocacy Movement (YAM) includes 15-20 young volunteers who do peer counselling and outreach in communities throughout the island.
- Before COVID-19, mobile clinics were held to provide communities with pap smears, blood glucose, pressure checks, counselling, identification of the need for contraceptives, and general health information.

2 COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION

- CSE is not included in the education curriculum and is only provided through DPPA. In preschools, topics include good and bad touches, while in primary schools, they also include puberty and hygiene. In secondary schools, the topics include sexuality, hygiene, STIs, contraceptives, and dealing with peer pressure.
- CSE in high schools also includes working with parents and guardians to talk to their children about sex.
- DPPA also facilitates life skills sessions at the state prison, and for out of school youth.



3 SRH SERVICES AND HEALTH SERVICES

- DPPA offers a range of services including, family planning, pregnancy tests, counselling, PAP smear screening, and family health services.
- DPPA's disaster relief programme was active, especially in 2017 with hurricane Maria. It provided contraceptives in shelters, and in alliance with UNFPA, they started working with women to provide income-generating activities and women's groups to develop technical skills.



- Their target population includes adolescents aged 14 to 17, women searching for contraceptives, and other individuals requiring basic health services such as blood pressure, blood glucose checks and counselling.
- DPPA considers mental health as important as any other health need and provides counselling services. Psychosocial support continued during Covid-19 with service delivery adaptations including online counselling and limited in-person services.
- DPPA also delivers condoms and contraceptives at reduced rates or free of charge.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

160,403 of services provided (2017-2020):

- 63,598 STI/HIV services.
- 10,080 couples provided protection.
- 14,270 first time users (unique clients).
- 565 youth provided access to CSE.
- 74.7% of services delivered to young people under 25 years.



DPPA has advocated within a coalition of CSOs for legislative change to amend the Sexual Offences Act to increase prison time from ten to 14 years and to include marital rape.

DPPA is working with other CSOs to advance the SRHR agenda to ease the restrictions, particularly on abortions, and to reduce the age of majority to sixteen, the same age of consent.

DPPA has provided services free of charge for 10% of their clients most in need, especially during COVID-19.

DPPA is working with the Ministry of Education to include CSE in the curriculum.

4,700 SRH services provided in humanitarian crisis settings, during Hurricane Maria (2017).



KEY PARTNERS

Equality Fund – Women's Voice in Leadership Caribbean, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

CONTACT INFORMATION

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 [Dominica-Planned-Parenthood-Association](#)

