

HEALTHFIRST NETWORK



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Healthfirst Network Celebrating 50 Years of Service

Healthfirst Network, originally incorporated as Family Planning Health Services of Marathon County, is celebrating 50 years of service! Healthfirst is a nonprofit network of ten reproductive health clinics that provide low to no cost services to the community.

Incorporated on May 19, 1973, the organization was rebranded to Healthfirst Network on June 1, 2017. In 1973, the organization began offering services to community members in Marathon County. At the time, Healthfirst did not provide any on-site services, instead giving clients service vouchers. The vouchers could be redeemed with partner organizations for the services specified. Once on-site services started they were so successful that the organization pivoted to an on-site service model. 50 years later, Healthfirst has successfully opened 10 clinics across the state.

In the previous year, Healthfirst's ten clinic locations have assisted individuals from more than 69% of Wisconsin's counties, 16 states, and 23 countries! These individuals received services such as STI testing and treatment, pregnancy testing, birth control, PAP smears, annual exams, and much more. The services Healthfirst provides are all low to no cost, with private insurance accepted, and a sliding fee scale available for individuals without coverage.

In addition to the reproductive health services, in 1978 Healthfirst began offering the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program. Healthfirst WIC has since grown into four counties, Marathon, Langlade, Lincoln, and Taylor. WIC is a supplemental nutrition program that provides pregnant women and children up to the age of 5 with supplemental foods, health care referrals, and nutrition education for their family's goals.