

Testimony
Health & Human Services Interim Committee Testimony
Representative Weisz, Chairman
August 5, 2010

Chairman Weisz and members of the Health & Human Services Interim Committee, I am Carol Cartledge, Director of Public Assistance of the Department of Human Services. I am here today to provide you with information requested on Alternatives to Abortion services.

The term 'Pregnancy Testing' is on the form used by the Alternatives to Abortion service providers to bill the department for services provided and to code the activity. The term means staff's time to administer the test which includes the intake, education and administration of the test by the staff/nurse. The cost of the test is not included as a reimbursement to providers. The term will be changed on the request for reimbursement for services provided to clearly state the activity.

According to the data collected from Alternatives to Abortion service providers for state fiscal year 2010:

- 179 pregnancy tests
- 401 pregnancy tests and pregnancy counseling
- 3 pregnancy tests and prenatal education/classes
- 4 pregnancy tests and parenting education/classes
- 28 pregnancy tests and two or more services

Alternatives to Abortion services provided by age (see attached graph):

State Fiscal Year 2010

- Age range between 14 and 49
- Average age between 22 and 23
- Most recorded age 19

State Fiscal Year 2007 – 2009

- Age range between 9 and 50
- Average age between 22 and 23
- Most recorded age 19

State Fiscal Year 2006

- Age range between 12 and 47
- Average age was 23
- Most recorded age 18

Proposed evidence-based program. DHS is working on collaboration with Alternatives to Abortion service providers and will be reporting on this effort during the next Health and Human Services Interim Committee hearing.

This concludes my testimony. I would be happy to answer any questions.