

ARNUAL REPORT FY25

Partnerships. Power. Persistence.

Oct. 1, 2024 -Sept. 30, 2025

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Impact at a Glance

650 Bills Tracked



Reintroduced REAHYA

19

House sponsors

Senate sponsors

organization endorsements



Partnered with groups in 30 states to advance sex ed

states introduced 42 pro-sex ed bills

pro-sex ed bills passed

states defended against regressive legislation.



Powering a movement

new coalition partners

microgrants awarded, Totaling \$10,000



Reshaping the narrative

16K media mentions

SIECUS's work in 2025 was defined by

Partnerships. Power. Persistence.

Impact in Detail

The State of Sex Ed

In 2025, SIECUS confronted an unprecedented assault on sex education. With the national rollout of the Heritage Foundation's Project 2025, sex ed has become a central target in efforts to dismantle public health, education, and reproductive rights infrastructure. SIECUS tracked over 650 bills—nearly 25% of which threaten young people's access to quality sex education.

The Trump Administration escalated this rollback through a series of executive orders dismantling diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) efforts across federal agencies, restricting gender-affirming care, attacking abortion access, and pushing to eliminate inclusive curricula under the guise of ending "radical indoctrination."

In alignment with these orders, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issued directives demanding that the grantees of the Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP) program and the Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP)—two federally funded sex education programs—censor inclusive, evidence-based content on gender and sexual orientation and other topics, jeopardizing decades of progress. Although federal courts have since blocked these directives, the push to eliminate comprehensive sex education remains a key agenda item for Project 2025.

For years, sex ed has often been a back-burner issue in national politics, overshadowed by other reproductive health and education debates. With the current attacks, sex education has been thrust into the hot seat, underscoring both its vulnerability and the urgent need to defend it at every level of government.

In the face of these challenges, SIECUS's work in 2025 was defined by Partnerships. Power.

Persistence. Through investment in strategic partnerships with national allies and state advocates, SIECUS strengthened a united front capable of confronting coordinated national attacks. Even in the face of relentless opposition, SIECUS's persistence has ensured that comprehensive sex education remains a national priority.

To meet this moment, SIECUS—the only national organization exclusively dedicated to sex ed policy and advocacy—has employed a three-pronged strategy to hold the line and advance comprehensive, inclusive sex education nationwide:

- 1) Championing bold federal policy for sex ed
- 2) Transforming sex ed policy across the states
- 3) Building a national movement for sex ed



Championing bold federal policy for sex ed

Despite a challenging federal landscape, SIECUS has continued to champion sex education on the Hill. SIECUS, and the Sex Ed Coalition that SIECUS leads, supported Rep. Alma Adams (NC-12), Rep. Pramila Jayapal (WA-07), Sen. Cory Booker (NJ), and Sen. Mazie Hirono (HI) to reintroduce Real Education and Access for Healthy Youth Act (REAHYA) in both chambers.

To amplify this work, SIECUS conducted strategic bipartisan outreach to nearly a dozen congressional offices and led a congressional briefing, sharing the latest research on the state of sex education in their states and the need for federal support. As a result of SIECUS' efforts, more than 30 organizations, both national and state partners, signed on in support, and the legislation secured 19 cosponsors in the House and six in the Senate, alongside an endorsement from the Reproductive Freedom Caucus.

In addition, SIECUS worked with Rep. Jayapal to formally recognize May as Sex Ed for All Month through <u>House Resolution 445</u>, elevating awareness of the urgent need for inclusive sex ed.

SIECUS has also been at the forefront of the national response to threats to federal sex ed **funding.** SIECUS drafted and submitted a FY26 appropriations letter calling for increased funding for Centers for Disease Control's Division of Adolescent and School Health, the Teen Pregnancy Prevention program, and the Personal Responsibility Education Program. The letter also demanded eliminating funding for the <u>failed Sexual Risk Avoidance Education</u> program. The letter was circulated by Rep. Alma Adams and Sen. Cory Booker, demonstrating growing leadership in Congress. SIECUS also issued a public statement, mobilized Sex Ed Coalition partners, and helped State Education Policy Action Council (SEPAC) members understand what was happening at the federal level and the implications for their funding and work.

Transforming sex ed policy across the states

The 2025 State Legislative Sessions were marked by intense battles over education, parental rights, and gender expression and sexual orientation. Across the country, censorship efforts continued to surge alongside escalating attacks on transgender youth, reproductive freedom, and comprehensive sex education. 80% of the bills SIECUS tracked this year have been regressive and seek to restrict the rights of young people across the United States.

Snapshot of Persistence: Alabama

For the past two years, SIECUS has stood with Alabama advocates to defend the state's basic requirement that sex education be ageappropriate and medically accurate—pushing back against repeated attempts to revive discredited "Abstinence Only Until Marriage" policies. In 2025, SIECUS provided analysis of SB 277 and crafted talking points, legislator briefs, and testimony that helped defeat this measure. SIECUS convened a legislative strategy briefing with Alabama sexual and reproductive health advocates and drafted amendment language in preparation for any version of the bill that may return in 2026. As Alabama <u>returns CDC</u> funding for evidence-based surveys and local organizations lose critical sex ed funding, SIECUS persists. We remain committed to strengthening partnerships and ensuring Alabama communities continue to have champions for inclusive, accurate sex education.





Despite this hostile environment, the sex ed movement persisted. This past year, **16 states introduced 42 bills that would advance sex education.** Through state-level policy tracking, intensive technical assistance, and state-wide, cross-movement coalition work through SEPAC, SIECUS played a pivotal role in helping advocates, parents, and legislators prepare for and defend against attacks and identify opportunities to advance comprehensive sex ed.

In 2025, SIECUS' technical assistance program helped SEPAC partners in six states to advance pro-sex ed legislative efforts. SIECUS also provided in-depth assistance to partners in eight states to push back against harmful and restrictive legislation, including "Baby Olivia bills" that require showing children an inaccurate fetal development video that contains anti-abortion propaganda. In response to the uptick in fetal development education bills, SIECUS developed a "Baby Olivia" toolkit to equip advocates with proven strategies to drive progress, even in hostile environments. As a result, such legislation was defeated in four states. SIECUS also helped one state improve the language of one such negative bill, to lessen its consequences.

Snapshot of Partnership: Arkansas

In 2025, Arkansas lawmakers introduced a bill that would have required schools to show "Baby Olivia"—style fetal development videos. SIECUS quickly supported its partner in Arkansas by providing talking points to inform witness testimony during committee hearings. This testimony helped stop the bill in committee. Although a related, weaker bill later passed, it only recommends consideration, rather than mandates, such instruction. Thanks to timely intervention and strong advocacy, harmful and misleading materials were kept out of Arkansas classrooms.

Turning Lessons into Legislation

To facilitate cross-state learning and rapid response, SIECUS developed the **State Policy Playbook**, a collection of proven strategies to advance sex ed in a range of different state contexts.

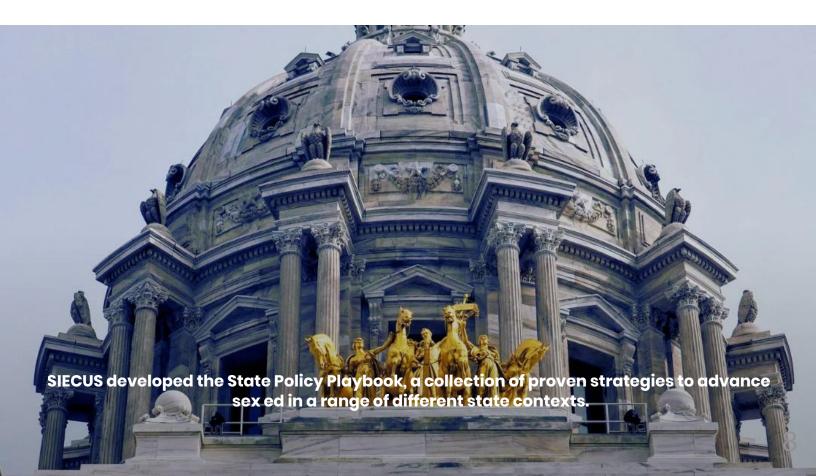
SIECUS utilized the State Policy Playbook when partnering with Delaware's Senate Majority Caucus to advance legislation aimed at making the state's health education standards more comprehensive. Drawing on lessons from a similar 2024 effort in Minnesota, SIECUS provided bill language, suggested edits, and strategic advice—emphasizing the importance of early engagement with the state Department of Education (DoE). In response to opposition, the Caucus began working with the Delaware DoE to draft a Senate Resolution, set for introduction in January 2026, which directs the agency to assess the current state of K-12 health education and gather data to support future updates. SIECUS' interventions have helped position Delaware for long-term progress on comprehensive sex education.

Setting a New Standard for Minnesota's Students

SIECUS partnered with the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MNCASA) for several years to modernize the state's sex education laws. In 2024, these efforts led to the approval of new health education standards—a major step forward for comprehensive, inclusive instruction.

This year, SIECUS and MNCASA worked to refine and implement these standards, supporting legislation that directs the Minnesota Department of Education to create its first mandated statewide K-12 Academic Standards in Health, replacing locally developed guidelines.

SIECUS also submitted public comments advocating for inclusive, evidence-based health education and later co-hosted a webinar with Honest Sex Ed Minnesota and the University of Minnesota's Center for Healthy Youth Development to explore opportunities for improving the state's sex ed policy and public health outcomes.





Building a national movement for sex ed

Federal and state-level policy change is essential to achieve universal access to comprehensive sex education, but it gains momentum and staying power when supported by a groundswell of public will and an aligned movement demanding sex education as a vehicle for social change. The final pillar of SIECUS' strategy is building a national movement for sex education—one grounded in long-term culture change. SIECUS advances this strategy by building crossmovement coalitions to amplify national momentum, developing research-driven resources to inform and mobilize advocates and the public alike, and reshaping public narrative around sex ed through strategic media engagement.

Over the past year, SIECUS has focused on expanding the reach of its two coalitions—SEPAC and the Sex Ed Coalition—by bringing in new partners from aligned movements such as HIV prevention, reproductive justice, and public health.

As a result, SIECUS offered technical assistance to a new partner, Advocates for Trans Equality, in response to federal attacks such as the "Say No to Indoctrination Act," helping ensure sex education is defended as part of a broader movement for LGBTQIA+ equality and reproductive justice.

2025 Sex Ed Week of Action

SIECUS' Sex Ed Week of Action is a national initiative that supports SEPAC partners to take coordinated action in support of quality sex education and to reshape public narrative and local support around it. This year's week centered on health equity, responding to the persistent threats facing public health policy across the country. To support this work, SIECUS awarded 13 microgrants totaling over \$10,000 to SEPAC partners. These microgrants supported a wide range of activations across 11 states with partners organizing data collection, social media, and in-person activities that highlight the need for supportive sex ed policies. In Texas and Alabama, partners organized advocacy days at their state capitols, bringing more than 50 young people to engage in legislative advocacy—many for the first time.

Publications

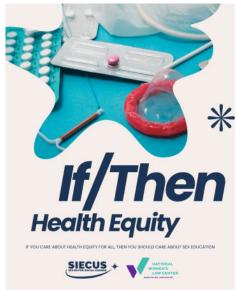
SIECUS' publications drive all three strategic aims—they provide critical data and legislative intelligence to advance strong policy and defend against harmful policies, they are used by partners far and wide to advance sex ed as part of a broader movement, and they are used by media to increase public awareness and reshape the narrative around sex ed. In the past year alone, SIECUS' research has informed over 300 scholarly publications.













TAP TO EXPLORE

SIECUS in the News

Media engagement around sex ed advances public awareness and support, helping to build a broader, more diverse movement for sex education. Tap the images below to view these articles that feature SIECUS. Visit <u>www.siecus.org/news-updates</u> to follow the latest news!





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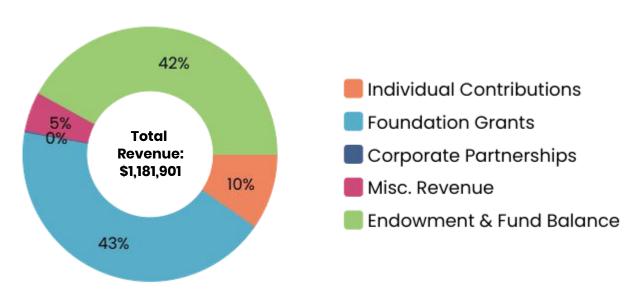


1,158 MEDIA MENTIONS 4.3 BILLION GLOBAL REACH

Financials

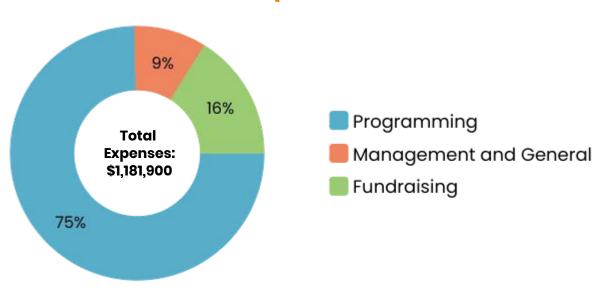
Fiscal Year 2025

Total Revenue



*SIECUS' fiscal year 2025 runs from October 1st, 2024 to September 30th, 2025 All data is preliminary and unaudited

Total Expenses



*SIECUS' fiscal year 2025 runs from October 1st, 2024 to September 30th, 2025
All data is preliminary and unaudited

JOIN US IN OUR MISSION

There are so many ways to support the fight for comprehensive, inclusive sex ed. Check out different ways below, or visit our new Ways to Give portal at www.siecus.org/ways-to-give, and explore how you can power SIECUS' work in 2026 and beyond.

Donate Today

Your gift means we can continue to fight for universal access to comprehensive sex ed. Consider a monthly gift to help sustain our work or ask your employer if they will match your contribution to SIECUS.

Give Through Your DAF

A donor-advised fund (DAF) makes charitable giving easy and flexible. You'll receive an immediate tax deduction when you contribute to your DAF, and you can recommend a grant to SIECUS at any time—now or in the future.

Planned Giving

You can help safeguard quality sex ed for future generations at no cost to you now by leaving an estate gift, such as a bequest or other planned gift, and become a member of our legacy society, the Culture Shift Circle. If you have already included SIECUS in your estate plans, please let us know by emailing development@siecus.org so that we may recognize you as a member.

Donor Spotlight: Ensuring Quality Sex Ed for Future Generations



"The need for SIECUS continues, particularly given the current challenges sexuality educators and organizations face. To continue, SIECUS needs support: mine and yours. That is why I have chosen to include SIECUS in my will. SIECUS has been instrumental in advancing sexual health in so many ways, and I want to do my part in assuring that will not end."

Dr. William Yarber first discovered SIECUS decades ago when he was a high school health teacher showing his class a sexuality education film featuring SIECUS founder Dr. Mary Calderone. That early inspiration grew into decades of research, service, and leadership. Bill went on to serve as President of the SIECUS Board of Directors and chaired the National Guidelines Task Force that created the Guidelines for Comprehensive Sexuality Education, Kindergarten through 12th Grade, a resource now used around the world.

Today, through a gift in his will, Dr. Yarber is ensuring that SIECUS's work advancing sex ed policy and research continues to benefit generations to come.

Learn how you can leave your legacy with SIECUS: www.siecus.org/planned-giving

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

SIECUS' work would not be possible without the generous support and partnership of its sponsors, funders, and donors. Thank you for powering the policy, advocacy, and coalition-building work behind the movement for comprehensive sex ed!

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