

## How can I help?

### 1. Give:

Return the enclosed envelope for your donation and this response form:

- Here's a donation to the IMAF matching grant.
- I'd like to contribute to the Ely Endowment to ensure future funding.

### 2. Spread the word:

- I know another person or group that would like to hear about IMAF:

Name of person/group \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email:\* \_\_\_\_\_

Address:\* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- Please send IMAF information via email.
- Please remove me from your list
- Please note my change of address:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email:\* \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone:\* \_\_\_\_\_

\*optional

[www.imafund.org](http://www.imafund.org)

## In the words of some who have been helped by IMAF:

I just got off welfare and am opening a day care center in my home so I can be with my little boy. I can't afford another child right now. I have some money to pay for an abortion, but not enough. My appointment is next week; if I miss this appointment, it will cost \$200 more! — Christina\*

**"Thanks so much for helping me out. I didn't know where else to turn. I thought I'd have to drop out of school. I really want children someday, but I know I'm not ready now."** — Mary\*

*Thank you for everything. Thank you for helping me and my girlfriend out. I have enclosed the last of the amount we owed you. Thank you once again.* — James\*

Dear Iowa Medical Aid Fund,  
This . . . check is paying off half of the amount borrowed by — for her appointments at the Ely Golduan Clinic on (dates). I will try to have the other half . . . when my next paycheck comes. Thank you for your help. I wish I had known about you sooner. — Anon.

"I just wanted to share with you and whomever is staffed with this organization my appreciation of your availability to fund me with money when I was in need. On behalf of women who have been in similar situations, I thank you."

— Anon.

*\* names have been changed to protect the privacy of our clients.*

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# imaf



iowa medical  
aid fund

Making a  
difference in  
women's lives.

[www.imafund.org](http://www.imafund.org)

Iowa Medical Aid Fund (IMAF) is dedicated to the belief that women are entitled to the right of reproductive choice, and respects the wisdom of each woman to know what is best for her in the life she is living right now. IMAF helps fill the financial gap when women seek an abortion but lack the resources to pay for it.

**The Iowa Medical Aid Fund** is the second-oldest such fund in the United States. IMAF provides interest-free loans to women who choose to have an abortion but can't afford the full cost. Founded in 1978 by a group of concerned teachers, social workers, clergy and lay people, IMAF is the only independent fund serving all of Iowa and the Quad Cities. It's a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization; contributions are tax deductible. Over 90% of all contributions are used to provide direct financial assistance to clients. IMAF does not advertise and has one employee. From November to December in 2006, IMAF received nearly 70 requests for financial assistance and was able to provide a loan to each woman. They represent a variety of racial, ethnic, and religious backgrounds. Some are married, some are single. Their ages range from 11 to 45. Their situations are desperate.

**Legal, but out of reach:** All women, but especially low-income women, have been the focus of continuing legislative attempts to limit access to abortion. Iowa women on Medicaid can't receive financial assistance for abortion unless afflicted by critical life-threatening conditions. No federal help is available for women with serious medical or mental health problems . . . no help is available for women suffering from addiction to drugs or alcohol . . . no help is available for women who are in prison or homeless . . . no help is available for very young girls who are trying to finish school . . . no help is available for families who can't afford another child . . . no help is available for women in a relationship which can't support parenthood . . . no help is available for women who are battered, or are victims of rape or incest. Abortion access is a matter of justice.

## Did you know –

- That a “simple” first-term abortion procedure now costs \$550?
- Because women who receive IMAF loans are asked to repay them, each dollar has the power to help many women. Your money does not go away, but continues to provide help.
- The average loan award is \$150 - 200.
- Each year, funds fall short and women requesting loans are turned away. Although IMAF assists women from across Iowa, a majority of donors are from east central Iowa. It is crucial that the IMAF donor base expand to meet the rising costs of procedures. We ask you, our community, to do all you can to let others know about IMAF and keep abortion services available to all women, regardless of their income level.
- Public funding is available for abortion only in cases of life endangerment, rape, incest or fetal abnormality.

*“ I need help desperately. I have heart disease and my doctor told me that I could not go through another pregnancy. My husband and I have four children that need me. I have Medicare, but it doesn't cover abortions.”*

— Michelle \*

A partnership with the medical community: the urgent and growing need for assistance in paying for abortions has created a partnership in health care between women, the medical community and IMAF. Clinics, doctors, social workers and hospitals refer clients to IMAF. If a referred client qualifies for a loan, IMAF sends the payment in her name to the appropriate clinic. Every client is reminded that the payment is a loan and is encouraged to pay the money back, even in a small amount, over a long period of time. Many clients try to repay IMAF, but most cannot. Most understand that their repayment will be used in turn to help other women.

IMAF relies upon the support and generosity of the pro-choice community. Periodically, IMAF has no money available, and requests must be turned away. Many women in Iowa need your help. *There are few contributions you will ever make that will have such a direct impact on a woman's life.*

Please send your tax-deductible contribution today:

IMAF iowa medical aid fund  
P.O. Box 721  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-0721

[www.imafund.org](http://www.imafund.org)