



**Abortion Care Network**  
WE ARE STRONGER TOGETHER

## **Abortion Care Network Announces 2019 Person of the Year and Lifetime Achievement Awards**

At their 2019 Annual Conference, Abortion Care Network awarded their Person of the Year award to Hope Medical Group for Women in Louisiana and a Lifetime Achievement award to Francine Thompson of Emma Goldman Clinic in Iowa.

**Hope Medical Group for Women** is an independent abortion clinic located in Shreveport, Louisiana. Founded in 1980, they are one of only three clinics remaining in Louisiana, and they serve patients who are forced to travel from Mississippi, Texas, and Arkansas for care.

The state of Louisiana imposes a staggering number of politically motivated, medically unnecessary restrictions on providing and accessing abortion care. Undeterred and unafraid, Hope Medical Group for Women helps patients navigate these burdensome and unjust barriers -- including forced waiting periods, mandatory ultrasound and parental consent laws, and bans on insurance coverage.

At the time of award announcement, the clinic was in the middle of one state and three federal court cases – all of which have enormous implications for the future of abortion rights and access in Louisiana and throughout the United States.

**Francine Thompson** is The Executive Director of Emma Goldman Clinic in Iowa City, Iowa, where she has served for over 30 years. Francine is recognized as a pioneer and leader in the reproductive health, rights, and justice movements.

Her colleagues describe her as a courageous, thoughtful, and innovative leader, dedicated to ensuring dignified, equitable access to care. Thompson has been a fierce advocate both for the people of Iowa and for independent abortion clinics nationally, as well as a mentor and champion for emerging leaders. During her time at Emma Goldman clinic, Francine oversaw the development and implementation of cutting edge services including: HIV screening and counseling, Emergency Contraception, health services for men, second trimester abortion, and transgender health services.

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***Abortion Care Network** is a national, member-based nonprofit association dedicated to serving independent abortion care providers and their allies. ACN works to ensure the rights of all people to experience respectful, dignified abortion care.*

For more information, visit [www.abortioncarenetwork.org](http://www.abortioncarenetwork.org)  
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