

Friendship Bridge

Stance on Contraception

<https://www.friendshipbridge.org/microcredit-plus/health-for-life/>

Through their “Health for Life” program, Friendship Bridge promotes birth control for women in Guatemala.

Friendship Bridge says that two common misconceptions about health in Guatemala are: “1) Birth control can cause cancer and/or permanent sterility; 2) Birth control pills can accumulate in your body leading to complications.”

Friendship Bridge also presents what their “General Health Service Package” includes:

- ◆ Papanicolaou exam
- ◆ Cervical exam
- ◆ Breast exam
- ◆ Diabetes screening
- ◆ Hypertension screening
- ◆ Pregnancy test
- ◆ STI screening and treatment for pregnant women
- ◆ **Family planning consult with a choice of methods: injections, implants, pills**

<https://www.friendshipbridge.org/six-climbs-changed-lives/>

As an ask to donors, Friendship Bridge promoted that one could provide two birth control implants to women for just \$50.

https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00Z8BP.pdf

This handout, published by USAID but put together by IBP Network, shows the partnership between IBP and Friendship Bridge. The IBP Network states:

For the past five years, our partnership with Friendship Bridge enables our program to reach their clients and provide this preventive health care exclusively to them. By doing so, Friendship Bridge provides connections to an existing network of rural underserved women, **the population with the**



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highest unmet need for contraception in Guatemala... Clients who have been part of Friendship Bridge for three or more years do not pay for contraceptives, but a small number of clients pay a nominal fee equivalent to US\$19 for one year of the contraceptive of their choice” (p.2).



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