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**SCOTUS Decision to Overturn Roe v. Wade Will Exacerbate Existing Inequities that Undermine Health and Well-Being**

*Reversing the 1973 Decision  
Will Leave Millions Without Access to Reproductive Health Care*

June 25, 2022, (Morristown, NJ) - Laura Landy, President and CEO of the Rippel Foundation, issued the following statement in response to the Supreme Court's decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade*:

“The Supreme Court’s decision to strike down *Roe v. Wade* has been characterized as a typical partisan matter with expected reaction from both sides of the aisle. At the Rippel Foundation, we believe that this decision should be viewed not through the lens of partisan politics or culture wars but as a population health issue. The end of *Roe v. Wade* will not only impact those who have to make a choice about their own pregnancy but will have a profound impact on society as a whole. It is a decision with far-reaching consequences that will severely worsen long-standing health inequities.

In states that curtail or deny access to reproductive health services, the health and well-being of those who are already struggling and experiencing health inequities—and, as a result, poor health outcomes—will be further jeopardized. In a country that already has [rising maternal mortality rates](#), greater difficulty accessing quality prenatal care—part of a full spectrum of reproductive health services—creates increased health risks for women and families and undermines basic needs for health and safety.

Additionally, anyone who cannot safely and easily access medical care experiences a sense of isolation, as they are unable to meet their immediate health needs in their own community. Many will choose to seek reproductive health care by traveling elsewhere, but financial barriers will make this impossible or dangerous for many. Others will seek underground options which, as history has shown, are often unsafe and even life-threatening.

It is for these reasons that the Rippel Foundation calls on those concerned with equity and well-being to come together to solve the wicked problems plaguing our health systems. Severely limiting access to quality reproductive care for millions of people across the country is just the latest symptom of our broken system. Caring for women's health has been a central pillar of the Rippel Foundation's mission since its founding in 1953. The practical, real-world consequences of this decision will exacerbate the already existing challenges to achieving a world where all people can truly thrive."

### ***ABOUT THE RIPPEL FOUNDATION***

*Rippel is a nonprofit operating foundation dedicated to fostering equitable health and well-being for all. Together with partners and co-investors, Rippel works with health care organizations, foundations, corporations, government institutions, and changemakers throughout the United States to guide thinking and action that inspire innovative system transformation and to promote shared stewardship as a rising norm. Rippel's flagship initiative, ReThink Health, continually explores how to achieve equitable system change in real-world settings.*