

VOICES

AUTUMN '08 NEWS FROM PPCP

VICTORY FOR CHOICE! YES, WE DID! The Planned Parenthood Action Fund (PPAF) endorsed, for the first time ever, a candidate for President, Barack Obama. In PA, we worked hard on the presidential, US House, and targeted state house and senate races through PPAF and through our state PPPA PAC.

PPCP sends a special thanks to all the volunteers who took part in one (or all) of our 9 phone banks, which targeted women voters who were interested in choice/women's health care all across strategic races in the Commonwealth. It's not easy to cold call, especially when folks are just sitting down for dinner and are annoyed by all the political calls they have received!

PPCP protested Sarah Palin speaking in York and took part in canvasses in Harrisburg and Chester counties. PPCP held a GOTV (get out the vote) phone bank election night and did GOTV canvassing in a targeted Senate race in Harrisburg. We participated in the state-wide election protection project by monitoring 9 sites in Lancaster county to ensure everyone's ability to participate equally in democracy.

ENDORSEMENTS PAY OFF IN LOCAL ELECTIONS!

We are pleased that PPCP's endorsed candidates **Representative Eugene DePasquale (D) and Representative Ron Miller (R)** were re-elected to the PA General Assembly!

The work doesn't stop now – we must hold our newly elected president and state officials accountable. We need to make sure President-elect Obama keeps his promise to repeal, via executive order, the **Global Gag Rule**. We must work with the PA General Assembly to make **birth control more affordable**, encourage **comprehensive sex education** be taught in schools and create legislation that requires **uniform emergency treatment of rape victims in hospitals**.

To find out how you can get involved, contact Abby, abigail.sherwood@ppfa.org.



Rep. DePasquale



Rep. Miller



PPCP board members Beth Gill-MacDonald and Judy Woods standing up for choice and women's health at the Sarah Palin rally in York on Oct. 31, 2008.

A TALE OF TWO VOLUNTEERS.....

We were lucky to have **Miesha Hill** as an intern from May through August as part of her Human Development and Family Studies Bachelors work at Penn State, York.

Meisha dedicated her time to helping with medical services, patient education and working with **THE CURVE**, where she enjoyed the diverse group of young people getting together in a safe place where they feel supported and can just be themselves.

Even though her internship ended, Miesha continues volunteering with PPCP. Her time is limited; she's a mom, student, manager of the Downtown Club at the Yorktowne Hotel and is heavily involved in the community.

She gives her time to protect reproductive freedom for her peers' and for her daughter's generation.

PPCP would like to formally recognize the dedication and spirit of young volunteers like Miesha Hill.



After more than **EIGHT** years of **patient escorting**, the infamous **Ira Hochman** is leaving York and moving to New York where he has already signed up to volunteer at the local Planned Parenthood near where his wife, Kim Heller, will be practicing medicine. Prior to moving to York from Pittsburgh in 1996, Ira and Kim were familiar with anti-choice activity, but he was **"appalled by what I saw here"** regarding the protester activity at PPCP. He knew he had found a place where he was needed and immediately began escorting. Ira states passionately, **"It's hard work, but the rewards are many."**

Ira also served two terms on the PPCP board and helped with the Jazz Night Committee, but he is most proud of providing comfort and safety to many women on the difficult day that they exercise their freedom to choose. His sense of humor, good nature and loyalty will be greatly missed and we know that PP Mid-Hudson Valley is very lucky to be getting such a special volunteer!

We'll miss you, Ira!

"Volunteering is hectic, but worth it. You get more back from volunteering than you put in".

Miesha Hill, PPCP Volunteer



The moments Ira treasures most are when ".....a patient's mother or father comes over to me and says 'thank goodness you're here'."

Ira Hochman, PPCP's Head Escort

Planned Parenthood of Central PA is proud to welcome **Melissa Hughes** as our new Regional Health Educator. Melissa moved from Cleveland, Ohio to Gettysburg, PA.

One of her first projects is launching a **needs assessment project in Franklin County, focusing on empowering Latina women**. The project has been underwritten by a grant received from the **Franklin County Community Foundation** and **The Foundation for Enhancing Communities (TFEC)**.

The study will include focus groups with Latina women, resulting in training programs specifically tailored to meet the needs of the community. Melissa will provide updates of her progress.



Oh what a night!

PPCP supporters and sponsors of Jazz Night '08 had plenty to celebrate on November 7th!

- **Barbara Rosene and Her New Yorkers** set the stage with traditional jazz while we danced, shopped at the Annual Lee Glatfelter Memorial Auction, enjoyed good company, fine food and an all around fun evening at the Out Door Country Club.
- Proceeds from Jazz Night support all facets of our mission: education, health care, prevention and affordable family planning, helping us keep our communities healthy as we serve women, men and teens across our four-county region



SAVE THE DATE
NOVEMBER 6TH - JAZZ NIGHT '09

"I want to take abortion out of politics. I want to keep the Republican Party focused on the vital economic and foreign policy issues — and leave moral issues such as abortion to the conscience of the individual. I believe abortion is an issue to be decided by women — not by big government."

U. S. Senator Arlen Specter (R-PA)

The Republican Party was founded on a commitment to individual liberty and freedom. The party has a proud history of defending individual rights — from fighting to end slavery and working to secure equal protection and voting rights for African Americans, to leading the way in achieving women's suffrage.

Too often only the anti-choice Republicans are heard in national and state politics.

Republicans for Choice gives voice and strength to our great **pro-choice cause**. If you are interested in joining or would like more information, please contact Abby Sherwood at abigail.sherwood@ppfa.org or 717.845.9683 x 211



MURAL BRIGHTENS YORK HEALTH CENTER VESTIBULE

On September 16, 2008, Suellen Craig welcomed community members to our mural dedication. The project was made possible through a grant from the **Cultural Alliance of York County's Arthur J. Glatfelter Venture Fund**.

Local artist **Ophelia Chambliss** was commissioned to create this welcoming diptych, entitled **"Health Happiness and Humanity,"** which is filled with symbols representing Planned Parenthood's mission of promoting access to health care, responsibility, prevention and education for all who seek it.

Planned Parenthood of Central Pennsylvania is a 501 (c)(3) organization and a 501 (c)(4) - the political arm of the organization. Our official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling tollfree within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

If you have comments, questions or would like to suggest features for future issues, please contact Abby at 717-845-9683 x 211 or abigail.sherwood@ppfa.org.