

Cecile Comes to Charlottesville!



Cecile Richards in Charlottesville

Cecile Richards, President of Planned Parenthood Federation of America, addressed our donors and supporters in Charlottesville with all the energy and flair that we have come to expect from her. The September 21 fundraising luncheon was held at the Farmington Country Club to accommodate the large and enthusiastic crowd.

Cecile began her remarks by paying tribute to the tireless efforts of local volunteers, such as **Dr. Jim Turner** and his wife, **Alice**. She offered praise to Planned Parenthood Health Systems (PPHS) and the leadership of our President/CEO, **Walter Klausmeier**. She cited our affiliate's 10% growth in patient visits and noted that our affiliate posted a 100% increase in STD-testing during Planned Parenthood's "Get Yourself Tested" Campaign – more than any other affiliate in the nation.

Yet, most of her remarks focused on

positive and progressive change by and for women – young and old, both here and across the globe. Healthcare reform is the latest opportunity for change. Cecile indicated that healthcare reform legislation could serve to either advance medical care for women or else place it in further jeopardy.

Cecile was adamant that women can't be worse off after healthcare reform than before. She went on to describe the vast efforts of Planned Parenthood to ensure that all women will be able to get full reproductive healthcare from their provider of choice.

Following her presentation, Cecile had time to speak with our long-standing supporters and to meet with local staff. Cecile also toured our Charlottesville Reproductive Health and Education Center where the ideals she espoused are carried forth each day.



Dr. Jim Turner and Amanda Megargel. Cecile honored Jim as a Board member, donor, advocate, fundraiser, physician and friend.



Walt and Cecile with Charlottesville Board members Elizabeth Muse (left) and Al Stricker and Elizabeth Hacking (right).

PPHS Foster Care Program Showcased at Congressional Hearing

On July 16 in the Russell Senate Office Building, PPHS Community Educator **Shannon Heintz** and one of her peer educators, **Darius Pulley**, appeared before the Congressional Roundtable on Preventing Teen Pregnancy and Promoting Healthy Relationships Among Youth in Foster Care. The hearing was led by **Senator Mary Landrieu** (D-LA) and provided an opportunity for experts, practitioners and those who have lived in foster care to discuss the need for better sex education and healthcare services for foster youth.

Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) President **Cecile Richards**, who participated in the hearing, called the statements by Shannon and Darius, “especially moving.” During the hearing, PPFA and other national organizations announced the formation of a new working group to help reduce the disproportionately high teen pregnancy rate among those in foster care and those aging out of the system.



Left to right: PPHS peer educator Darius Pulley, Community Educator Shannon Heintz and peer educator Jamal Campbell with Senator Mary Landrieu during Congressional hearing.

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