

# NEWS SOURCE

**2012** / Fall  
Winter

 Planned Parenthood®  
of Northern New England

[www.ppnne.org](http://www.ppnne.org)

# IN THIS ISSUE

- Election Results
  - Presidential P. 1
  - New Hampshire P. 2
  - Vermont P. 3
  - Maine P. 4
- Honoring Longtime Planned Parenthood Supporter Ellie Hapgood P. 5
- Join the Cash Mob P. 6
- Update on the Patient Safety Zone P. 7
- New Health Center and Telemedicine Coming to St. Johnsbury, VT P. 7
- YOPI Summit Teaches Young Activists Skills for Change P. 8
- Employee Profile: Sara LaShay P. 9
- Planned Parenthood Saved My Life P. 10

## ELECTION RESULTS: A NUMBER OF VICTORIES FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH

---

*While Planned Parenthood was founded and is supported by those who believe in reproductive freedom, personal responsibility, and social justice – beliefs that are shared by Republicans and Democrats alike – this election we faced the very real threat of watching the progress we've made to advance reproductive health and rights in this country come undone.*

---

### PRESIDENT OBAMA'S REELECTION WAS A VICTORY FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH

Overwhelmingly, voters chose to protect a woman's ability to make her own personal medical decisions, without interference from politicians.

President Obama won in great part because of his strong positions on women's health and the prominence of these issues in the campaign. His victory was a rejection of the anti-women's health agenda that some in Congress have pursued for the last two years.

During President Obama's next term, the implementation of the Affordable Care Act will ensure that millions more people will have insurance that covers well-woman visits, birth control, and other preventive care with no co-pays or deductibles. This will dramatically expand the number of people who can receive high-quality, affordable health care from Planned Parenthood of Northern New England.

We're thrilled that the biggest winner on November 6th was actually women's health.

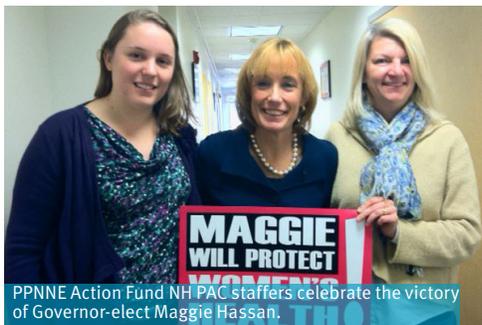
## NEW HAMPSHIRE

This election season, PPNNE celebrated its greatest victories for women's health in New Hampshire. Just two years ago in our Fall/Winter News Source, we wrote of how a wave of ideological Tea Party candidates had swept the New Hampshire Legislature, with Republicans capturing 293 seats in the House, 19 seats in the Senate, and all five Executive Council seats. That legislature went on to introduce one anti-women's health bill after another, including multiple attempts to defund Planned Parenthood. After witnessing two years of relentless attacks, New Hampshire voters spoke loud and clear this November: they want leaders who will protect women's health and rights.

### GOVERNOR

Former state Senate Majority Leader **Maggie Hassan (D)** defeated Ovide Lamontagne (R) in the New Hampshire gubernatorial race. Lamontagne opposed funding for Planned Parenthood and supported a ban on safe, legal abortion with no exceptions. The **PPNNE Action Fund NH PAC** endorsed Hassan and worked tirelessly, phoning voters, canvassing neighborhoods, sending out mailings, and attending rallies to get Hassan elected.

Their hard work paid off and Hassan made



PPNNE Action Fund NH PAC staffers celebrate the victory of Governor-elect Maggie Hassan.

history becoming the only female Democratic Governor currently serving in the United States.

### HOUSE

**Carol Shea-Porter (D)** reclaimed the 1st House District from Representative Frank Guinta, who won it from her two years ago. During his tenure in Congress, Guinta was a consistent opponent of women's health, serving as a co-sponsor of the federal bill that aimed to defund Planned Parenthood health centers across the nation.

In a rematch, **Ann McLane Kuster (D)** was victorious this time around, defeating Charlie Bass (R) for the 2nd House District. Because of these two wins, New Hampshire became the first state in U.S. history to have an all female congressional delegation...and a female governor!

### EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

All four candidates for Executive Council endorsed by the PPNNE Action Fund NH PAC won their races. With **Ray Burton (R), Colin Van Ostern (D), Chris Pappas (D), and Deb Pignatelli (D) joining incumbent Chris Sununu (R)**, all 5 members of the Executive Council are now pro-women's health and pro-Planned Parenthood.

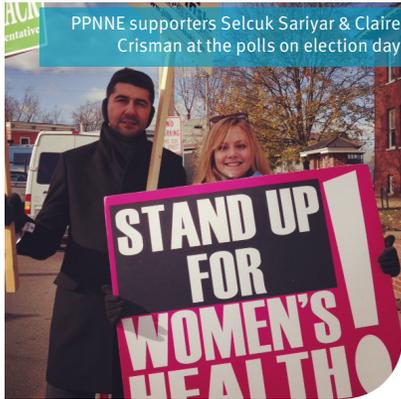
### STATE HOUSE AND SENATE

With the newly elected House candidates, we are confident we now have a pro-women majority. In the Senate, 11 of the 15 candidates endorsed by the PPNNE Action Fund NH PAC were victorious, giving women's health a bipartisan majority in the Senate chamber.

### THIS ELECTION MADE HISTORY:

- NH became the first state to have an all female congressional delegation and governor.
- Maggie Hassan became the only current female Democratic Governor in the U.S.

# ELECTION RESULTS (continued)



PPNNE supporters Selcuk Sariyar & Claire Crisman at the polls on election day



Governor Peter Shumlin at the PPNNE Action Fund VT PAC endorsement press conference

## VERMONT

Vermonters showed an outpouring of support for strong, pro-women candidates. The **PPNNE Action Fund VT PAC** and **its volunteers**, who made phone calls, wrote letters, knocked on doors, and got out the vote, were victorious in several key races.

### GOVERNOR

**Governor Peter Shumlin (D)** defeated challenger Representative Randy Brock in the Gubernatorial race. Governor Shumlin was endorsed by the PPNNE Action Fund VT PAC in 2010, and again in 2012, and he will be an important partner as the state undergoes major health care reform implementation.

### STATEWIDE

Three of the four statewide candidates endorsed by the PPNNE Action Fund VT PAC won their races: **Doug Hoffer** for Auditor; **Bill Sorrell** for Attorney General; and **Beth Pearce** for State Treasurer. The State Treasurer's victory was considered an especially big win, as Pearce's opponent was backed by a super PAC.

### HOUSE

**Congressman Peter Welch (D)** easily defeated his opponent Mark Donka with 72% of the vote.

### SENATE

**Senator Bernie Sanders (I)** earned 71% of the vote for U.S. Senate, easily defeating John MacGovern. Sanders has been an outspoken advocate for women's health care, and held a Town Hall Meeting on women's issues this election cycle.

### STATE HOUSE AND SENATE

Eleven of the thirteen House candidates endorsed by the PPNNE Action Fund VT PAC were victorious. **Michelle Fay** (Caledonia 3), **Maida Townsend** (Chittenden 7-4), **Mike McCarthy** (Franklin 3-1), and **Anne Gallivan** (Rutland-Windsor 1) all ran for the first time and won. PPNNE's Public Affairs Director, **Jill Krowinski**, was also victorious in a 4-way race for Chittenden 6-3.

In the Senate, three of the five PPNNE Action Fund VT PAC-endorsed candidates won their races, including an extremely close race in Franklin County with winner **Don Collins (D)**.

## MAINE

### SAME SEX MARRIAGE

At PPNNE, we believe all people should be able to marry who they love. In 2009, a Maine law legalizing same-sex marriage was overturned. When we learned that same-sex marriage would be on the ballot in November, we joined the coalition **Mainers United for Marriage** to help ensure marriage equality passed this time around. Together with our volunteers, we made phone calls, we knocked on doors, and we hosted an important training on how to talk about same-sex marriage with friends and family. These efforts paid off, and on November 6th, Maine made history by becoming the first state ever to pass same-sex marriage by popular vote!

Voters also approved same-sex marriage in Maryland and Washington, and in Minnesota voters rejected a ballot measure to define marriage in the Minnesota Constitution as between a man and a woman.

### SENATE

Former Governor **Angus King (I)** defeated Charlie Summers and Cynthia Dill, securing the Senate seat in Maine.

### HOUSE

Both **Chellie Pingree (D)** and **Mike Michaud (D)** won reelection in their districts. Pingree took nearly two-thirds of the vote in the 1st District, while Michaud earned nearly 60% of the vote in the 2nd.

### STATE HOUSE & SENATE

58 of 66 House candidates endorsed by the PPNNE Action Fund ME PAC were victorious.

In the Senate, 17 of 22 endorsed candidates also won, including **Richard Woodbury (I)** and **John Cleveland (D)**. After a recount, **Colleen Quint (D)** was defeated by just 28 votes. [P](#)





Elaine "Ellie" Prentice Hapgood  
Longtime Planned Parenthood Supporter  
(June 27, 1917 - October 26, 2012)

## HONORING LONGTIME PLANNED PARENTHOOD SUPPORTER **ELLIE HAPGOOD**

The Planned Parenthood family recently lost a longtime supporter and advocate. In October, Elaine "Ellie" Hapgood passed away peacefully at her home in Delray Beach, Florida at the age of 95. Ellie generously supported several Planned Parenthood affiliates and Planned Parenthood Federation of America. She and her brother Richard began supporting PPNNE's Abortion Fund, now called the Laura Fund, in 1986. For more than two decades, she provided annual support to this important program that provides financial assistance to help women in need afford abortion care.

Ellie was a charter board member of the Educational Foundation of America, the philanthropic trust started by her father, Richard Prentice Ettinger. Mr. Ettinger believed overpopulation was the most serious problem facing the world and used his foundation's assets to address the issue. Similarly, Ellie's personal commitment to addressing human population growth was ignited after attending an International Planned Parenthood Foundation Conference in what was then East Pakistan, and is now Bangladesh. In the 1960's, Ellie volunteered to assist the U.S. delegation to the United Nations Population Commission. She also served on the boards of the Population Crisis Committee and the Population Institute.

Ellie chose to dedicate her life to ensuring access to reproductive health services for all men and women, regardless of age, race, religion, or economic status, and to environmental preservation and conservation. Long before it was the social norm to think "green," Ellie requested that all communication to her be sent on recycled paper and both sides of the paper be used. She was generous, kind, passionate, and worlds ahead of her time. She leaves behind a loving family of children and grandchildren, and a long-lasting legacy of championing important causes. [P](#)

## JOIN THE CASH MOB

Last month something pretty amazing happened. In response to a highly publicized protest campaign, citizens of Portland, Maine showed their support for Planned Parenthood by organizing a Cash Mob.

They marched together to our Portland health center – past the throngs of protestors that our patients have to walk by every day – and made donations in support of our work. More than 60 people came out and donated more than \$2,400.

**You, too, can join the Cash Mob. Please take this opportunity to use the enclosed envelope to support PPNNE – before the year comes to a close.**

We need your support! Whether we have protestors outside our doors or not, one thing always remains the same – PPNNE provides life-saving care each and every day.

In the next 24 hours, more than 120 women, men, and teens will walk through the doors of one of our 20 health centers. That is more than 44,000 people every year.

And, with your support, we'll help them. Each year we provide more than 7,800 Pap tests, 59,500 tests for sexually transmitted infections (STIs), 12,500 pregnancy tests, 11,400 breast exams, and more than \$10 million in free and subsidized care.

Each and every day we counsel all of our patients on how to stay healthy and avoid unintended pregnancy. We provide medically accurate, age-appropriate sex education to teens and young adults throughout our region. And we work with local lawmakers to ensure your rights and privacy remain protected in our state legislatures in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont.

Please use the enclosed envelope to make your tax-deductible gift before the end of the year. Together we can make a real difference in the lives of so many. **You can also make your gift online at [www.ppnne.org/donate](http://www.ppnne.org/donate).**



Cash Mob organizer Mike Miles and his wife Grace Cleaves march to the Portland Health Center

## UPDATE

# PATIENT SAFETY ZONE IMPLEMENTED AT THE BURLINGTON HEALTH CENTER



In the Spring/Summer News Source, we informed readers that our patients and staff at the Burlington Health Center were experiencing increased verbal and physical harassment from protestors. A Patient Safety Zone Ordinance was proposed as a solution to the problem.

We're happy to share that over the summer the Patient Safety Zone Ordinance was approved by the Burlington City Council and has since been implemented. The Zone now provides a 35-foot protest-free area around entrances and driveways of all reproductive health centers in Burlington—including our Planned Parenthood health center. Since implementation, patients have been able to access critical reproductive health care services without harassment and fear. We thank the Burlington City Council and all of those who came out in support of our patients. [P](#)

## NEW HEALTH CENTER & TELEMEDICINE COMING TO ST. JOHNSBURY, VT

In December, PPNNE will open a new health center at 501 Portland Street in St. Johnsbury, Vermont. This brings the total number of health centers in Vermont up to 11, with three located in the Northeast Kingdom.

Thanks in part to some generous donors, PPNNE will pilot a new telemedicine program in conjunction with this opening. At both the Newport and St. Johnsbury health centers, patients will be able to receive non-exam services via video conferencing. This will allow us to easily see even more patients without needing to drive long distances, especially in rural areas. Many Planned Parenthood health centers across the country have successfully used this telemedicine model and we are excited to introduce it in northern New England. [P](#)

## YOPI SUMMIT TEACHES YOUNG ACTIVISTS SKILLS FOR CHANGE

On September 21st–23rd, more than 80 young activists between the ages of 18 and 24 attended the Youth Organizing and Policy Institute (YOPI) at the University of New Hampshire. With a monumentally important election just around the corner, this inspiring group of tomorrow’s leaders spent the weekend learning how to mobilize their communities around reproductive justice and sexual health access issues.

One of eight youth summits across the country, the New Hampshire YOPI was organized by Planned Parenthood Federation of America and PPNNE, and young people from eight states and sixteen campuses attended. The programming featured hands-on workshops, engaging speakers, and team-building exercises designed to equip participants with tangible work plans and the confidence to hit the ground running.

Jaqueline Brink, a Vermont participant, reports, “YOPI was a great opportunity to connect with other activists from around the region and come together to make real plans for addressing important issues in our communities. We had the interest, now we have the skills!”



*“YOPI was a great opportunity to connect with other activists from around the region and come together to make real plans for addressing important issues in our communities.” -Jaqueline, YOPI participant.*

Attendees left the conference equipped with new ideas and skills to speak up on behalf of causes they are passionate about, advocate for justice, and make serious change in their communities. [P](#)

## EMPLOYEE PROFILE: SARA LASHAY

Position: Regional Site Manager Health Centers: Bennington & Brattleboro, VT

### Why do you work for Planned Parenthood?

I truly support every part of our mission and believe that the work we do is important. This organization really empowers women and men to make their own choices about their reproductive health, and I'm proud to be a part of that!

### What is the most gratifying thing about your job?

We see patients from all walks of life, and knowing that we have helped each of them with something so important makes for a great day. A smile and thank you from a grateful patient is usually all I need. I can't imagine being as satisfied with my job anywhere else.

### What gets you out of bed in the morning?

My alarm clock. But, I can honestly say in my 9 years with PPNNE, there have been very few days that I didn't want to go to work. Each day brings new challenges, and you never know what might crop up. We have amazing, capable, dedicated staff at both health centers, and I feel honored to work with them each day.

### What do you like to do for fun?

I really enjoy camping with my family, or going out for a day on the water in the kayak! I also enjoy music, reading, cooking, and of course, spending time with my husband and our two pugs. 🐾



**Bennington Health Center in 2011:** 793 patients 1,211 visits \$143,766 in discounted or free health care

**Brattleboro Health Center in 2011:** 1,606 patients 2,505 visits \$273,660 in discounted or free health care

On September 9th, PPNNE held an event and auction at the Hallett Barn in Peru, Vermont, where more than \$30,000 was raised for our Southern Vermont health centers. Thanks to everyone who hosted and attended this wonderful event!

# PLANNED PARENTHOOD IN BIDDEFORD SAVED MY LIFE!

We wanted to share this email we received from a PPNNE patient:

*At 41 years old, I was neglecting my health. It wasn't by choice. I was without health insurance for many years. I knew I couldn't continue to do so. I called Planned Parenthood for some help. I was given an appointment within days of my call.*

*Most women dread their annual visits, I was no exception. However, the staff was fantastic. My immediate interaction with Caren confirmed I had made the right decision.*

*Caren was kind and informative, but most importantly she was thorough. It was in this visit she knew something wasn't quite right. Caren arranged appointments for a mammogram and sonograms.*

*Throughout this entire process, she remained in contact with me, sharing results and supporting me. When my sonogram results came back with a problem, Caren was quick to refer me to an amazing gynecologist.*

*I had surgery and was diagnosed with borderline ovarian cancer. I am fortunate to only need to undergo another surgery.*

*I believe it is Caren and Planned Parenthood who began the process of ensuring I am healthy and alive to raise my son. I am thankful for Planned Parenthood.*

*Sincerely,  
L.B.*

Just a few days before going to print with this edition of News Source, this patient was in touch with us again. She had received a phone call stating: "We got it all. You are cancer FREE!" She again thanked PPNNE for being there for her, diagnosing her, pushing her to take care of herself, and said she is forever grateful.

This patient's story is a reminder to all of us of how important our work is, and why you support this vital organization. Your support makes the work we do each and every day possible.

## THANK YOU!

From all of us at PPNNE, we wish you a happy and healthy new year. 📧

### Contributors

#### Nick Carter

Grassroots Organizer (VT)

#### Meagan Downey

V.P. of Development & Marketing

#### Megan Hannan

Public Affairs Director, Maine

#### Amy Lafayette

Manager of Marketing & Communications

#### Jennifer Dextradeur

Director of the Annual Fund

#### Jennifer Frizzell

Senior Policy Advisor (NH)

#### Jill Krowinski

Public Affairs Director (VT)

#### Sonja Solberg

Foundation Relations Manager