

ABOUT US...

We welcome your ideas, contributions, and questions. Please write to us at:

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PERSEVERANCE AGAINST THE ODDS

In the next 24 hours, nearly 150 people will turn to PPNNE for services. That's more than 52,000 local women, men, and teens per year. And PPNNE will help them all. We will run approximately 45 cancer tests and 150 screenings for sexually transmitted infections (STIs) today alone. We'll also provide 35 pregnancy tests, and hand out over 500 condoms. And we will counsel all of our patients on how to stay healthy and avoid an unintended pregnancy.

Against great odds, and in the face of a tough economy, PPNNE is able to help our patients because of the generosity of supporters like you.

We are uniquely qualified to fill this need in our community. But we can only do this with your support.

A patient once wrote to us, "I am glad to know that you are here." We feel the same way about our supporters. Whether someone comes to us for a pregnancy test, birth control, cancer screening, or just honest information, we can help them because you helped us.

PLEASE USE THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE AND MAKE YOUR TAX-DEDUCTIBLE GIFT TO PPNNE TODAY. Together we can make a real difference in the lives of so many!

Have you included PPNNE in your will? Please be in touch with Ellen Gitomer at 1-800-622-4122 or elleng@ppnne.org.

The Newsletter of Planned Parenthood of Northern New England
Serving Maine, New Hampshire & Vermont

MEET OUR NEW PRESIDENT AND CEO STEVE TROMBLEY

On February 2, Planned Parenthood of Northern New England (PPNNE) was excited to welcome Steve Trombly as our new President/CEO. Steve began his career at Planned Parenthood of Chicago in 1989, where he held several positions before being selected as President/CEO in 1998. Under his leadership, the affiliate merged with five other Planned Parenthood chapters to become Planned Parenthood of Illinois, nearly tripled its annual budget, and saw substantial growth in its medical services and abortion programs. We recently asked Steve to tell us a little more about himself and some of his plans for PPNNE.

WHY PPNNE?

PPNNE has a rich history as a leader in Planned Parenthood throughout the country and I am honored to be a part of continuing this tradition.

HOW DID YOU FIRST GET INVOLVED WITH PLANNED PARENTHOOD?

Shortly after the Supreme Court's *Webster* decision that granted states the limited right to regulate abortion, the Planned Parenthood in Chicago started to build a political operation. I had been doing political organizing for a different cause but was asked to come in and help them set up the department. And the rest is history...as they say.

WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES OF YOUR NEW JOB?

As a safety net provider, the services we provide are critical during this period of

enormous economic dislocation and the funding and policy environment is changing daily. Our greatest challenge is to be nimble and make sure we can adapt to the changing environment so we can be here for our patients.

WHAT DO YOU SAY TO PEOPLE WHO ARE FRUSTRATED AND CONCERNED ABOUT HEALTH CARE REFORM?

If you look at the history of major health care expansions and the development of a public safety net, each advance has come after long, hard-fought battles. The battles we are seeing today are no different. However, the reality right now is that we cannot survive the economic recession and build a thriving economy without major reform in health care. At the end of the day, this will drive change.

YOU RECENTLY WENT ON A WHIRLWIND TOUR OF PPNNE HEALTH CENTERS. WHAT DID YOU LEARN FROM THE EXPERIENCE?

I was extremely impressed with the dedicated and courageous staff and the quality of the care we give. As we move forward, we have an exciting opportunity to reinvest in the tools they need to continue to offer top-quality care.

WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR PPNNE?

Planned Parenthood has always been at the forefront of providing critical services and education that empowers young women and teens. As we look into the future, we need to continue to find innovative ways to engage young people in our work, our health services, and the advancement of our movement.



HOW ARE YOU AND YOUR FAMILY ADJUSTING TO THE TRANSITION?

I moved to Vermont with my wife and three kids. My wife loves it and the kids are adjusting (well maybe not my 12-year-old daughter – yet).

IF WE WERE TO TURN ON YOUR IPOD RIGHT NOW, WHAT WOULD WE HEAR?

It would be Kirsty MacColl's version of "They Don't Know."

WHAT ARE YOU CURRENTLY READING?

I love young adult fiction so I take turns reading books my kids give me. At the moment I am reading "Stormbreaker" by Anthony Horowitz.

Short Takes

Kind Thanks...

to the following businesses and individuals for their in-kind donations:

American Flatbread
 Bagel Works
 Barley House
 Boloco
 Fifth Element Associates, Inc.
 Hermano's
 Lake Champlain Chocolates
 Matt Conger
 Moe's Southwest Grill
 PowerHouse Consulting, Inc.
 Randolph Rowland
 Rapunzel Salon
 The Skinny Pancake
 Splash at the Boathouse
 The Common Man
 Three Tomatoes Trattoria
 Tiny Thai Restaurant

Hodes for U.S. Senate!

This fall's elections may seem light years away, but campaign season has already begun for the Planned Parenthood of Northern New England Action Fund, the non-partisan political arm of PPNNE. In January, the PPNNE Action Fund approved the Planned Parenthood Federation of America Action Fund endorsement of Congressman Paul Hodes for U.S. Senate, signaling to New Hampshire residents that Hodes is serious about making sure family planning and reproductive health care services are available to everyone who wants and needs them. Learn more at www.ppnneactionfund.org.



As a trusted provider of health care to millions of women, Planned Parenthood knows how critical it is for every woman to have good medical coverage that includes comprehensive reproductive health care. Despite numerous setbacks in Congress, the bottom line remains the same: women need health care reform, and they need it now. At press time, PPNNE has been working with PPFA to help ensure that women and families are able to get the health care they need at essential community providers like Planned Parenthood.

In addition to supporting national health care initiatives, PPNNE and our coalition partners have been busy supporting and defeating numerous bills across our three states. Here's a quick snapshot of our work:

- In Maine we have been laser focused on the state budget to reverse the governor's proposed cut of \$280,000 in family planning funds from the fiscal year '10-'11 state budget along with a 10% provider cut under Maine Care (the state's Medicaid program). Due to increased state revenue and incoming funds from the federal Job's Bill, the total amount of cuts has decreased to \$139,000. We will continue to work to fully restore funding for family planning.

- In New Hampshire we defeated a bill that sought to require parental, informed, and spousal consent before a patient can receive abortion services. We also worked hard to pass HCR 30, a resolution urging the attorney general to investigate the merger between Catholic Medical

HEALTH CARE REFORM: GET IT DONE, AND GET IT RIGHT FOR WOMEN



Center and Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center. The resolution will now be heard in the Senate.

- In Vermont we testified in support of a comprehensive chemical reform bill and a bill that would ban BPA from baby and food storage products.

Visit our new and improved Planned Parenthood Action Fund website at www.ppnneactionfund.org for more information on our issues and campaigns.

GROUNDS FOR HEALTH

In many countries where coffee is grown, cervical cancer rates are among the highest in the world. This past February, PPNNE's Medical Director Cheryl Gibson, along with nurse practitioners Susan Hollinger and Lisa Dimondstein, traveled to Tanzania as participants in the Grounds for Health program.

Grounds for Health is a non-profit supported by specialty coffee companies, national and regional ministries of health, and local coffee cooperatives. Its goal is to create sustainable and effective cancer prevention programs with a focus on early diagnosis and treatment of cervical cancer.



Grounds for Health volunteers and newly trained medical providers.

"A typical day started at 8 a.m. when women were driven in from their communities on coffee trucks," explained Cheryl. "We saw between 80 to 100 women a day and we used the 'Single Visit Screen & Treat Approach,' a simple, non-invasive screening method endorsed by the World Health Organization."

Cheryl also spoke about their efforts to train local providers – and the exponential benefits. "All they have is a room and a table. They are resource poor, but they are trying so hard. It was great to intervene, teach, treat, and then come back and see that it works. Now the trainers can train others in their communities."



Volunteers at Kendal at Hanover



PPNNE intern Jenna DiRusso, Volunteer Coordinator Erika Keith, and volunteer Ericka Bundy on our Mardi Gras float in Burlington, VT.

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!



It seems fortuitous that we can introduce PPNNE's new Volunteer Coordinator, Erika Keith, during April — National Volunteer Appreciation Month. Erika has already hit the ground running, organizing information, reaching out, and communicating with our volunteers in all three states. Don't be surprised to hear from her soon!

National Volunteer Appreciation Month is also a good time for us to express our appreciation to the many people who give a most precious resource — their time — to support our organization. We have a talented pool and a variety of "jobs"... everything from gluing condoms onto postcards for college outreach

Students at Middlebury College hosted a "Dress as Your Favorite Birth Control" event in celebration of Roe vs. Wade. This is Clare dressed as a condom.

and greeting our patients who have to pass by protestors, to making fundraising phone calls. We especially want to thank all of our volunteers at Kendal at Hanover in New Hampshire, Wake Robin in Vermont, and Piper Shores in Maine for their dedication and ongoing support.

A heartfelt thanks to all our volunteers who do it all so generously!

Interested in volunteering?

Fill out an application on www.ppnne.org or send an e-mail to volunteer@ppnne.org



SUMMER SEXUALITY INSTITUTE

For three intensive days at the 2010 Summer Sexuality Institute, held June 22-24 in Stowe, VT, participants will learn the foundations of human sexual development and adolescent brain development, review current research and recent trends on critical topics that relate to sexuality, and discuss innovative methods to advocate for sexual health. Organized by PPNNE's Education and Training Department, the Institute features panel discussions, skill-building sessions, and group

dialogue. Participants will increase their competence and confidence to address these critical topics with youth. Also this year: PPNNE has teamed up with the Vermont Higher Education Collaborative to offer the Summer Sexuality Institute as a hybrid course through the University of Vermont with the opportunity to earn two graduate credits.

Contact Heather Weinstein at heatherw@ppnne.org for more information.

Short Takes

Prevention Costs Less at Planned Parenthood

Real Simple magazine recently touted Planned Parenthood's high-quality, affordable health care as a good value! Help us spread the word that you can make appointments online at www.ppnne.org or by calling 1-800-230-PLAN.

Goin' Mobile

PPNNE is always looking for new ways to reach potential patients. With the help of Bluetooth wireless technology, students at the University of Southern Maine will soon have information about PPNNE services and locations right at their fingertips. With the students' permission, a coupon for \$10 off our services or supplies will appear on their mobile phone when they are within range of a Bluetooth-enabled "hot spot" on campus. We're looking forward to seeing the results of this brand-new outreach method.

Justice is Served

On January 29, a Kansas jury took just 37 minutes to reach a guilty verdict for Scott Roeder, the man charged with gunning down OB/GYN Dr. George Tiller at his Wichita church. Roeder's conviction sent a clear and resounding message to him and all anti-choice extremists: violence and murder cannot be justified by personal beliefs about abortion and will not be tolerated in this country.