

Spring/Summer 2013

Medical Care for Men

This year, Planned Parenthood Health Systems (PPHS) supported legislation in West Virginia allowing clinicians to provide STD-infected patients with an additional prescription to cure their patients' partners. The "expedited partner therapy" bill is necessary since in many instances the partner (typically male) does not seek STD treatment after learning of the positive diagnosis. He then re-infects her and possibly others.

Male complacency is a common concern. A 2012 study from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality found that 74 percent

of women had seen a doctor in the previous year as compared to only 57 percent of men. This problem is more acute when it comes to sexual health and birth control, where the burdens and responsibilities are usually assumed by women. Only 7.2% of our medical clients are male as compared to 4 in 10 of our education clients.

PPHS is working to change this. We increasingly market our medical services to both genders for everything from sports physicals to birth control counseling. We were among the first to begin providing HPV vaccines to young males in order to prevent

cervical cancer among their future partners. A quarter of our health centers recently received funding that will help double the number of male patients we serve by early 2014.

In the coming years, we will consider adding additional male services such as colon, testicular, and prostate cancer screenings; vasectomies; and an array of sexual and routine physical examinations. Males come to us as activists, donors and education clients. Increasingly, they are turning to Planned Parenthood to improve their physical health and wellbeing.



Planned Parenthood supporter during a counter-protest at a PPHS health center.



Charlottesville (VA) Health Center Manager **Gloria Farmer** provides medical services to a male client

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Planned Parenthood Health Systems is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization operating in four states and headquartered in Raleigh, NC. Our organization is an accredited affiliate of Planned Parenthood Federation of America, the world's largest and most trusted voluntary reproductive healthcare organization.

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Message from Bonnie

Several months have passed since our CEO Walt Klausmeier began his sabbatical. I am pleased to report that PPHS continues to further the mission of Planned Parenthood everyday despite his absence. I credit our stability to our affiliate's strong leadership, dedicated supporters and terrific staff.

We've even managed to make important strides in securing Planned Parenthood's future. In May, during our 35th anniversary celebration in Asheville (featuring actress Kathleen Turner), I announced the purchase of a medical office building that will become our new home later this year. From the podium, I told our longstanding supporters, "For 35 years in Asheville, we have leased and rented and moved from one facility to another. Only now will we have the permanence and stability that comes from owning a health center. Our new center will enable us to expand our medical and education services. It will enable us to meet the challenges of health care reform. Most importantly, it will ensure that – together – we will continue the Planned Parenthood promise for generations to come."

Furthering our efforts and our mission in any of our communities serves to advance our progress in all of our communities. I am thrilled to have a role in an organization with such a proud past and such a promising future.



Bonnie Smith

Bonnie Smith, Interim CEO

P.S.—I also had the privilege of attending Planned Parenthood's 2013 National Conference in April. President Barack Obama gave an enthusiastic speech at the Washington, DC conference in front of 1,200 Planned Parenthood supporters. This was the first time in history that a sitting president has spoken at a Planned Parenthood event!



Struggle for Women’s Healthcare Continues

The Guttmacher Institute has issued a state-by-state comparison of abortion restrictions enacted since *Roe v. Wade*. Virginia and South Carolina have each passed 20 restrictive laws – surpassed only by Oklahoma (22) and Utah (21). North Carolina has 12 and West Virginia has seven. PPHS continues to oppose passage of additional restrictions while supporting greater access to preventive health care and education.

In Virginia...

Though we succeeded in defeating all restrictive measures during the regular legislative session, Governor McDonnell pushed through an amendment during the subsequent “veto session” that further restricts insurance coverage for reproductive health care. The governor also approved final regulations that impose hospital architectural standards on women’s health centers. PPHS will need to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to renovate our existing Charlottesville and Roanoke health centers in order to comply with these regulations.



March 26: PPHS and its coalition partners organized West Virginia’s Lobby Day for Women’s Lives.

In West Virginia...

PPHS worked with its coalition partners to pass two new West Virginia laws in 2013. The first, known as the “Maternity Coverage for Dependent Daughters” law, requires that insurance coverage for maternity care and contraceptive services be extended in employee health insurance plans to also cover dependents. The second law repeals an antiquated statute allowing for the involuntary sterilization of people with mental illness. We also helped to defeat 15 restrictive measures this year. Most notably, West Virginia has agreed to a state expansion of Medicaid under federal health care reform. This will extend medical coverage to tens of thousands of low-income families.

In North Carolina...

With the legislature still in session, outcomes of this year’s session remain a moving target. The state has already passed a measure that rejects Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act. We are working to defeat measures that undermine sexuality education and restrict insurance coverage for reproductive health care. It appears unlikely that any of our pro-prevention proposals will be enacted in 2013.



In May, Planned Parenthood supporters and staff dressed in early-1960s “Mad Men” attire during a North Carolina legislative hearing to demonstrate concern that the legislature is rolling back women’s progress in society.

In South Carolina...

PPHS has worked to gain passage of the Cervical Cancer Prevention Act in the House by a 63-49 vote. The measure authorizes the state to offer the HPV vaccination, which prevents cervical cancer for adolescent girls and boys enrolling in the seventh grade. The measure has since moved from the House to the Senate. We are also working to defeat several extreme measures to ban access to reproductive healthcare.

Planned Giving: A Legacy of Caring

Sandy Light has made PPHS a beneficiary of her individual retirement account (IRA). Here is her story:

"While raising my three children and working at a crisis intervention center I tried to help tragic victims of accidental and/or unwanted parenting. Education, contraception, and counseling would have saved countless precious lives. The same problems exist today of course, which is why I feel that Planned Parenthood is an absolutely essential component in our society. PPHS will receive a substantial portion of my IRA. Leaving these distributions to my heirs would result in significant tax burdens, whereas this donation will be tax-free!"

Please consider supporting our mission and our future by making a planned gift to Planned Parenthood Health Systems. For information on planned giving options, please call Joyce Mitchell-Antoine (919-833-7526, extension 46138) or visit our website: www.pphs.org/plannedgiving. Thank you.



Sandy Light, PPHS supporter

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