



CHOICES

we stand for answers | choice | the future | sexual health care

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From the Desk of Carole Brite

When the Health Care Reform bill passed, we never could have anticipated that just eight months later, we would have 916 anti-choice, anti-family planning, anti-Planned Parenthood bills to fight across the nation – not to mention seeing the federal government come precariously close to shutting down over our funding.

We are facing attacks from extremists at the state and federal level who want to shut Planned Parenthood down.

Speaker of the House John Boehner, Representative Mike Pence, and others want to cut off all federal funding to all Planned Parenthoods – funding that pays for cancer screenings, well woman exams, birth control

and treatment for sexually transmitted infections.

These attacks on Planned Parenthood do nothing to improve the economy. In

fact, for every dollar that is invested in family planning, \$3.74 is saved in Medicaid-related costs.

In Illinois, opponents have attacked reproductive rights from all angles. This year, anti-choice legislators in the Illinois General Assembly have:

- Fought against a bill that would provide comprehensive, medically accurate and age appropriate sex education in our public schools.
- Introduced legislation to impose unneeded – and cost-prohibitive – standards for our health centers where abortion services are provided.
- Proposed a bill that would require an unnecessary waiting period between having an ultrasound and undergoing an abortion procedure.



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My Story: Jacqueline Schaefer



Jacqueline Schaefer, a PPIL patient, has shared her story about why Planned Parenthood is so important to her. Jacqueline spoke at the Truth Tour rally in Geneva on behalf of PPIL.

My name is Jacqueline Schaefer. I am a 33 year old, recently divorced mother of two beautiful children. Staying home to raise them while I was married had tremendous rewards, yet proved a great sacrifice in more ways than I am able to convey. Finding the strength, courage, and capacity to begin an independent life as a single mother is a daunting path fraught with many challenges.

I have been out of the work force since 2002 and years ago I left college to have my first child. I found myself without the financial ability to sustain a family of three. However, with the encouragement of loved ones, I set goals, made a plan, and enrolled in a community college close to my home in Rockford. I will be graduating with my Associate's degree this summer then transferring to Northern Illinois University in the fall.

Upon my divorce, I lost my medical insurance and have relied on PPIL for my medical care since that time. The dedicated, caring staff at the Aurora health center have provided me with the preventive care I need to maintain my health; birth control, annual exams, and close monitoring of a condition I have called Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome. In fact, Planned Parenthood is my only source for safe, trusted medical treatment.

The level of warmth and respect in the care I receive at Planned Parenthood is unparalleled. I am extremely thankful for the services this organization provides. I have been a proud supporter since my early twenties and now Planned Parenthood is supporting me as I rebuild my life.

Thank you for your commitment to patients like me.

How has Planned Parenthood affected you?

To submit your Planned Parenthood story, email mystory@ppil.org

From the Desk of Carole Brite

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Fortunately, we have been successful – so far. We have written letters to the editor, made phone calls, sent letters to our legislators and attended rallies to ensure that women's health care is protected. Thanks to the outpouring of support we have received from women and men of all ages and backgrounds, we have made our voices heard in Illinois and across the nation.

But the legislative session is not over yet. And the attacks against Planned Parenthood funding have not ceased in other states, including our neighbor Indiana.

With your support we can continue to work together to protect women's health care. The time is now to stand with Planned Parenthood.

Carole R. Brite, President and CEO

Inspirational Women

Over the past months, the reproductive rights community has lost two champions in Amy Coen and Ruth Dunbar Davee.



Amy Coen served as President and CEO of Planned Parenthood/Chicago Area for thirteen years. Known for her infectious energy, passion, innovation, and insight, Amy dramatically expanded PPCA during her

tenure: building five new health centers, offering HIV testing, launching PPCA's first website, growing sex education and counseling programs, and fighting back many anti-choice bills in the Illinois legislature. Amy went on to advocate for women's health and rights in the national and international arenas—but left a legacy here in Illinois.



Ruth Dunbar Davee spent her life affecting change. A renowned professor, author, Chicago Sun-Times reporter and education editor, Ruth is best remembered for her series "Why Johnny Can't Read – Or Can He?" She went on to serve as Assistant Director of

the Illinois Department of Education where she managed the Title One program for educationally deprived children in low-income areas. Ruth, and her husband Ken, supported Planned Parenthood for more than two decades. She was dedicated to the principle that every child ought to be a wanted child, and she affected the lives of many people through her social conscience and generosity.

Amy and Ruth were true champions of Planned Parenthood. They will be missed.

SPECIAL: The War on Women's Health Care

Over the past few months, women's health care has come under unprecedented attack. We have faced attacks from all angles on both the federal and state level. Although women's health care has come out victorious in many of these battles, the war is not over yet. Here is a timeline of what has happened so far and what Planned Parenthood has done to protect women's health care.



November 2, 2010

Under the guise of creating new jobs, a sweeping number of anti-choice legislators are elected into office. Fortunately, Illinois celebrates a victory when Governor Pat Quinn defeats anti-choice candidate Bill Brady in the Governor's race.



February 1

Planned Parenthood launches an online petition urging legislators to stand with Planned Parenthood. More than 800,000 supporters across the country sign the petition in the next two months.

February 8

Anti-choice organization Live Action releases highly edited videos of hoax sex workers who visited Planned Parenthood centers across the country in an attempt to discredit Planned Parenthood. The videos are denounced by news outlets across the country.



November 23

Representative Mike Pence (R-IN) declares war on Planned Parenthood in a message to his anti-choice supporters. "I'm ready to prevent Planned Parenthood from receiving a single dime."

February 9

A bill that would implement comprehensive sex education in public schools is introduced in Illinois. Planned Parenthood fully supports the bill sponsored by the Campaign for Reproductive Justice.



January 20

Representative Chris Smith (R-NJ) introduces the No Taxpayer for Abortion Funding Act, which threatens to raise taxes on millions of businesses and people whose health insurance covers abortion. Illinois Representative Lipinski co-sponsors the bill.



February 9-10

PPIL begins a phone and postcard campaign to urge legislators to support Title X funding and Planned Parenthood.

ILLINOIS ACTIVITIES BY THE NUMBERS

34,361
petition signatures

5,920
volunteer hours

1,030
event attendees

2,317
calls to congress

1,102
postcards to legislators

30,000+
new supporters

Interested in keeping up with the latest reproductive health news?

Sign up for action alerts at www.ppiaction.org to receive emails about reproductive health care and what you can do to help. We're on Facebook and Twitter too! Search for Planned Parenthood Illinois Action.



February 17

The Ultrasound Opportunity Act and another anti-choice bill targeting abortion providers are introduced in Illinois. A few days later they are assigned to the House Agriculture Committee.

February 18

The U.S. House of Representatives passes the FY11 Continuing Resolution, which would completely eliminate Title X. The resolution includes Representative Pence's amendment to bar Planned Parenthood from receiving federal funds for any purpose.

February 23

A bill that would require abortion providers to become fully licensed Ambulatory Surgical Treatment Centers is introduced in Illinois. This medically unnecessary legislation was designed to drive abortion providers out of business. A few days later it is assigned to the Illinois House Agriculture Committee.



March 7

PPIL board chair Randall Doubet-King, Legislative Affairs Director Brigid Leahy, Clinician Sarah Williams and PPIL patients speak at the rally.



March 29

A Texas-based anti-choice group posts anti-abortion billboards targeting black women in Chicago's south side. Planned Parenthood releases a statement calling the billboards offensive and condescending.



March 8

Planned Parenthood activists across the state gather for a Telephone Town Hall Session to learn more about the anti-choice events in the Illinois General Assembly and kick off a postcard campaign to members of the Illinois House of Representatives.



February 25

100 Planned Parenthood supporters gather in Chicago's Federal Plaza to thank our senators for standing up for women. Congressman Mike Quigley, Carole Brite, and Associate Medical Director Kai Tao speak at the rally.



March 15

Women's health supporters rally in Springfield with "Women are not Livestock" t-shirts to object to anti-choice bills and their assignment to the House Agricultural Committee. The next day, Planned Parenthood campus groups organize a photo petition to protest the bills. Photos of students with "We are not Livestock" signs are sent to their Representative.



March 30

Nearly 100 people join the Campaign for Reproductive Health and Access in Springfield to lobby in support of the comprehensive sex education bill.

Top: Dr. Joycelyn Elders, Carole Brite, and Julia Sweeney

Bottom right: Renee Mosley, Joanne Howard, and Tammy Spriggs

Bottom left: Barbara Potter and Margaret Wiley Carr, honoree





April 9

A victory for women's health! Congress rejects the proposal to defund Planned Parenthood in the final budget deal, averting a government shutdown. Planned Parenthood applauds the members of Congress and millions of supporters who stood up for women's health care.

April 8

Congress threatens to shut down the federal government over Planned Parenthood funding. Millions of women risk losing access to their main source of health care. During negotiations, Senator Jon Kyl (R-AZ) incorrectly states that abortion is over 90 percent of what Planned Parenthood does. He later releases a statement saying his remark was "not intended to be a factual statement."

April 14

The U.S. Senate votes to reject the free-standing proposal to cut federal funding for Planned Parenthood. Another victory for women's health!



April 15

All anti-choice bills introduced in Illinois fail to have a vote by the by the deadline for final passage. The bills are considered stalled.

May 4

The U.S. House passes the No Taxpayer for Abortion Funding Act. Planned Parenthood releases a statement calling the extreme proposal unacceptable.

May 10

Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels signs legislation that cuts off federal funding to Planned Parenthood of Indiana into law. Thousands of Indiana women lose access to critical preventive health care. Kansas, Texas and other states follow suit.



April 7

Thousands of Planned Parenthood supporters attend a rally in Washington D.C. to lobby in support of Planned Parenthood. Carole Brite, Pam Sutherland, Kai Tao, Randall-Doubet King, Lyn Schollet and Babette Salus meet with Senator Mark Kirk and Representatives Judy Biggert, Robert Dold, Jan Schakowsky and Mike Quigley.



April 8

Planned Parenthood joins the Erie Family Health Center and Southern Seven Public Health at a press conference hosted by Senator Dick Durbin to talk about the potential effect of a government shutdown. Pam Sutherland speaks on behalf of PPIL.

May 18, 2011

Planned Parenthood joins Black Women for Reproductive Justice at a speak out against the anti-abortion billboards in Chicago. Board member Joanne Howard speaks on behalf of PPIL.

HAPPENINGS

Generations Gala: A Celebration of Healthy Families

On Thursday, May 5, PPIL celebrated generations of support for Planned Parenthood and women's health care at the first-ever Generations Gala. Nearly 400 friends and supporters of Planned Parenthood attended the event at the Chicago History Museum.

Co-hosts Hedy Ratner and Lisa Fiore kicked off the evening by welcoming the generations of supporters who have fought for reproductive justice. Carole Brite, President and CEO, then addressed the crowd, emphasizing the need to stand together to protect women's health care. As she stated, "Our collective mission – which we renew tonight – is to make sure that nothing stands in the way of women receiving the health care that they need and deserve."

Guests joined in honoring longtime Planned Parenthood supporters Margaret Wiley Carr and her son Walter Stanley Carr with a tribute video. The soon-to-be renovated Wicker Park health center lobby and conference room will be dedicated to the Carrs in honor of their commitment to Planned Parenthood.

Christina Santiago, who works at the Lesbian Community Cancer Project (LCCP) at the Howard Brown Health Center was honored with the Margaret Wiley Carr Bright Horizons Award. The award honors the next generation of influential activists in the reproductive rights movement.

Actress and comedienne Julia Sweeney – who was on the cast of Saturday Night Live from 1990 to 1994 – delivered a hilarious monologue about teaching her curious daughter about sex for the first time.

Former U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Joycelyn Elders then gave a powerful speech about how her generation fought for the reproductive freedoms we enjoy today, yet the battle still rages on.

"We have come a long way to ensure access to comprehensive health care for all women in America," said Dr. Elders. "However, conservative extremists across the country have launched the most aggressive assault on women's health care in American history. It is now more critical than ever to stand strong to protect the rights we fought so hard to achieve."

Thanks to the generous support of our donors, sponsors, and host committee, the Generations Gala was a great success. The event raised nearly \$300,000 which will directly benefit PPIL's mission and services.

Make a Difference >>

\$50 provides birth control consultation and a first prescription for a woman in need.

\$100 sponsors a comprehensive sex education presentation to a class of teenagers.

\$250 provides preventive cervical cancer screening and treatment for one woman.

\$500 subsidizes an IUD for a woman who cannot afford this reversible, reliable, long-term contraception.

\$1,000 provides testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections for twelve teens.

\$2,500 provides routine annual Pap exams for twenty women without insurance.



Stand with Planned Parenthood. Donate today.

Since 1947, PPIL has promoted a commonsense approach to women's health and well-being, based on respect for each individual's right to make informed, independent decisions about reproductive health care. Our 17 health centers deliver vital health care services, sex education and sexual health information to more than 60,000 women, men and teens each year.

To learn more, contact the development office at 312.592.6800 or contact a member of our team directly:

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Take Advantage Gifts of appreciated securities, stocks and bonds often benefit the donor as well as the recipient. Ask your broker to call us for delivery instructions.

Sustain Contact us or visit www.ppil.org/donate to set up a monthly donation. We will acknowledge your contribution at the end of the year.

Leave a Legacy Deferred gifts such as bequests and charitable gift annuities allow you to secure our future while leaving a legacy. Planned gifts often provide significant tax advantages to the donor. Contact us to learn more.

Take the Lead Demonstrate your commitment to PPIL by making a leadership gift of \$1,000 or more. Payments can be made all at once or in installments over a period of time.

Multiply If your employer offers a matching gift program, notify them of your gift to us. Doing so can double or even triple the value and impact.

Honor, Celebrate, Remember Honor your friends and loved ones with a gift that gives again. Make a tribute gift for birthdays, anniversaries or just because.

Spread the Word Host an event to introduce new supporters to PPIL. Trivia nights, cocktail parties and email campaigns can be fun and educational. Our staff would be happy to assist you with ideas, planning and materials to ensure success.

Administrative Office

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