



40th Anniversary Planned Parenthood of Maryland Anne Arundel County a Retrospective

“It is not enough to look backward with pride, justified as that pride may be. We must look forward with hope and confidence, too. The real lesson of the past is that it shows us what can be done for the future.”

-- Margaret Sanger

- 1916 Margaret Sanger opens the 1st birth control clinic in New York. Following the opening, she is jailed with her colleagues.
- 1921 The 1st American Birth Control Conference in NY results in the founding of the American Birth Control League.
- 1925 Margaret Sanger delivers a speech in Maryland. Her talk on “Rational Motherhood” given to the Hagerstown Halfway Homeowners is attended by more than 1,000 people.
- 1926 The Committee on Contraceptive Advice is formally organized in Baltimore by prominent Johns Hopkins physicians & other local citizens. Baltimore is one of the 1st cities to follow Margaret Sanger’s example. Dr. Bessie Moses, future Medical Director of Planned Parenthood of Maryland (PPM), meets with Margaret Sanger.

- 1927 The Bureau of Contraceptive Advice opens in Baltimore on November 2. In its first year, the clinic serves 168 patients.
- 1932 Operation of the Baltimore clinic switched from the Committee on Contraceptive Advice to the Baltimore Birth Control Clinic.
- 1936 Dr. Moses' book, *Contraception as a Therapeutic Measure* is published. It was based on the first 5 years of work done at the Bureau for Contraceptive Advice.
- 1937 The American Medical Association endorses birth control as an essential health service. A public opinion poll shows strong acceptance of contraception.
- 1938 The Baltimore Birth Control Clinic joins a national federation.
- 1940 The Maryland League for Planned Parenthood forms as an outgrowth of the Baltimore Birth Control Clinic.
- 1958 PPM offers routine cancer detection & pap smears.
- 1961 The birth control pill comes on the market, the first sign of the coming revolution of reproductive technology.
- 1962 PPM inaugurates a program of "educational teas," a forerunner of sex education. Later that year, PPM begins its first major effort in group education: A series of lectures given in Dundalk, MD Called "Education for Marriage for Teenagers."
- 1964 PPM sets up sex education programs in training schools, YWCAs, churches & other organizations.
- 1965 The Supreme Court rules that states may not prohibit married couples from using birth control devices.
Dr. Bessie Moses dies.
- 1966 Margaret Sanger dies.
PPM appoints a field director responsible for statewide activities & inaugurates human sexuality workshops for the community.
- 1967 PPM begins a period of organizational growth, forming educational chapters in Howard ('67), Anne Arundel ('69) & Frederick Counties ('70).** It also opens the first & only federally-sponsored clinic – Community Action Family Planning Center in Baltimore.
- 1969 Anne Arundel County PPM Chapter formed.**

- 1970 The U.S. Congress enacts Title X to provide federal grant funding for family planning services.
- 1971 PPM offers vasectomies.
- 1972 PPM is one of the 1st recipients of a contract for Title X regional training centers. It delivers direct clinical family planning training and later, sex education, to nurses from many local hospitals, and graduate & medical students from local universities.
- In *Eisenstadt v. Baird* the Supreme Court rules that the right to privacy includes an unmarried person's right to use contraceptives.
- 1973 As a result of *Roe v. Wade*, the Supreme Court establishes a woman's right to safe & legal abortion, overriding the anti-abortion laws of many states. Reproductive choice previability, a decision made by a woman & her doctor, becomes an ongoing, politically divisive issue in America.
- 1974 The Alan F. Guttmacher Clinic opens in Baltimore.
- PPM opens a Health Center in Salisbury.
- 1976 PPM opens a Health Center in Annapolis.**
- 1981 PPM opens a Health Center in Towson.
- 1982 PPM hosts Planned Parenthood Federation of America's (PPFA) Annual Meeting.
- PPM opens Health Center in Waldorf.
- 1983 PPM opens a Health Center in Owings Mills.
- 1984 PPM's Annapolis Health Center is bombed, reflecting the violence & growing turmoil surrounding the issue of a woman's right to choose.**
- The White House announces and enforces the Mexico City policy aka the "global gag rule" which restricts international NGOs that receive U.S. funding from providing or referring for abortions or advocating for abortion reform, even with their own non-U.S. Funds.
- PPM opens a Health Center in Frederick.
- 1986 PPM incorporates AIDS information in educational programs.
- 1988 PPM awards the first Betty Tyler Award for Outstanding Leadership in Advancing Reproductive Rights in Maryland.

- 1989 July 1, access to health care facilities for all Marylander's is assured with passage of the Clinic Assess Bill which becomes a model for subsequent federal law.
- 1990 Federal Food & Drug Administration (FDA) approves Norplant in December. PPM becomes one of the first medical providers in the country to offer Norplant to the public & training in its use.
- 1991 Dr. Bessie Moses, the first PPM Medical Director, is posthumously inducted into the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame.
- 1992 FDA approves the drug Depo-Provera for contraceptive use.
Planned Parenthood Federation of America awards PPM with the 1992 Affiliate Excellence Award for outstanding achievement in Public Affairs.
Maryland voters approve *Question 6*, spearheaded by PPM, codifying *Roe v. Wade* in Maryland.
- 1993 On the 20th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, President Bill Clinton kept his promises to pro-choice America by signing a series of executive orders that reversed the so-called "gag rule" & other Regan/Bush policies restricting family planning.
- 1994 The federal "*Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act*" (FACE) was modeled after Maryland's 1989 "Interference with Access to a Medical Facility" law, passed.
- 1995 Emergency contraceptives became available at PPM Health Centers.
- 1997 PPM participates in landmark FDA-approved study of Medical Abortion.
Supreme Court rules that anti-abortion demonstrators have a free-speech right to confront clinic patients & staffers on public streets as long as they stay more than 15' away from the clinic.
- 2000 The FDA approves mifepristone (RU-486), the medical abortion pill.
- 2001 The Bush administration reinstates the "global gag rule."
- 2003 Congress passes and Bush signs the so-called "Partial Birth" Abortion Ban prohibiting intact dilation and extraction as an abortion method. The bill does not include an exception to preserve a woman's health.
- 2004 The House of Representatives passes the Unborn Victims of Violence Act of 2003, which would for the first time establish in federal law a fetus as a legal "person," with individual rights separate from those of the pregnant woman.

PPM expands headquarters and Baltimore City Health Center.

- 2005 The U.S. Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (implemented in January 2007) prevented college health centers and many health care providers from participating in the drug pricing discount program, which formerly allowed contraceptives to be sold to students and women of low income in the United States at low cost.
- 2006 The Supreme Court upholds the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act, a federal law passed in 2003, the first to ban a specific type of abortion procedure since *Roe v. Wade*.
- The FDA agrees to make emergency contraception available without a prescription, but only to women 18 & older and behind pharmacy counters.
- PPM opens a Health Center in Easton.
- 2007 In *Gonzales v. Carhart* the US Supreme Court upholds "Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003" disregarding a health exception. Justice Ginsberg writes a dissent.
- 2009 Dr. George Tiller of Kansas became the 8th person & 4th physician murdered in abortion-related attacks. Though not a Planned Parenthood provider, he provided critical reproductive health care services to women facing some of the most difficult medical circumstances.
- 2009 October 4 -- PPM –Anne Arundel County celebrates 40th anniversary.**

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1. Timeline of Key Events in the American Women's Rights Movement, by Ann-Marie Imbornoni, <http://www.infoplease.com/spot/womenstimeline3.html>
 2. Annual report 1996-1997, 70th Anniversary, Planned Parenthood of Maryland
 3. A Tradition of Choice, Planned Parenthood at 75
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