



Since 1938, Planned Parenthood of the Texas Capital Region has served as a trusted, nonprofit provider of high-quality, affordable reproductive health care in the Austin area. Planned Parenthood's three clinics provide valuable education and preventive health care services to more than 28,000 clients in Austin each year.

## LOBBY DAY TURNS CAPITOL HOT PINK!

Thanks to more than 100 Planned Parenthood supporters from Austin, and nearly 600 advocates from across Texas, Planned Parenthood's day at the Capitol was a tremendous success! You couldn't turn a corner without running into a Planned Parenthood booster in hot pink!

Planned Parenthood Federation of America President Cecile Richards took part in the March 12 activities and was joined at a mid-day rally by Senator Kirk Watson, Senator Jeff Wentworth, Representative Mark Strama, Representative Valinda Bolton and other legislators.

Supporters visited more than 100 legislative offices to promote the Prevention Works and Education Works bills and other legislation advancing health and education. Check out the story below for more information about these bills.



*(Above, right) Betsy Rosenbaum accompanies special U.S. Department of State visitors from Afghanistan, Kazakhstan and Pakistan at the Planned Parenthood Lobby Day. The international guests were in the U.S. to meet with women's health experts.*

*(Right) Senator Kirk Watson with Cecile Richards outside the Texas Capitol.*



The Prevention Works Act of 2009 (HB 1694/SB 1100) authored by Senator Kirk Watson and Representative Mark Strama would increase access to affordable health care and cancer screenings, help prevent unintended pregnancies and increase parent involvement in sex education. Learn more about the bill at [www.prevention-works.org](http://www.prevention-works.org).

The Education Works Act of 2009 (HB 741) authored by Representative Joaquin Castro and Senator Rodney Ellis would provide teens with age-appropriate, medically-accurate sexual health education to keep them safe and healthy. Learn more at the Education Works website, [www.educationworkstexas.org](http://www.educationworkstexas.org).

### REJECT FUNDING FOR FAILED FEDERAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Representative Eddie Rodriguez introduced HB 1371 to require Texas to reject federal funding for failed abstinence-only-until-marriage education programs. Texas is the top recipient of funding for these unsuccessful programs yet has one of the highest teen birth rates in the U.S. and is getting worse.

## Planned Parenthood Launches TALK F!RST Parent Education Program



A stork unveils the "Top 10 List of What Kids Shouldn't Hear About Sex" at the launch of the TALK F!RST parent education program.

Planned Parenthood is excited to announce the launch of a new educational program for parents, TALK F!RST. The program consists of free 45-60 minute workshops that provide tools and resources parents need to start having conversations about sexuality and health with their children. TALK F!RST helps improve parents' knowledge about sexual health issues, expanding their personal comfort levels to begin and continue vital discussions about sexuality. The program has been featured on News 8, KLBJ radio and in the *Austin Chronicle*.

Parents are the first and primary educators of their children. As such, they have a unique opportunity to talk with them early and often about sexuality, before they get information from other sources that may be inaccurate and contrary to their family values. Teens consistently report that they would prefer to get information about sex from their parents.

TALK F!RST is funded with generous support from the Wright Family Foundation, the Topfer Family Foundation and another anonymous family foundation. Workshops can be held in homes, schools, churches, synagogues, PTA meetings, moms' nights out, brown bag lunches at the office – or anywhere eight or more parents are gathered.

To schedule a workshop, send an email to [parents@ppaustin.org](mailto:parents@ppaustin.org) or call 276-8078.

### 2009 Leadership Donor Appreciation Party

Held on March 12, 2009, this year's event featured PPFA president, Cecile Richards.

(Left to right) Joe Pinnelli, Cecile Richards, Carl Stuart, Janis Pinnelli and Claire Stuart



## Breast Exams Funded by Austin Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure

Planned Parenthood is partnering with Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation to provide affordable, prompt breast health education and evaluations for low risk women ages 18 to 34. This year, the Komen Foundation increased its funding for breast health screenings to \$19,000.

Many women cannot tell the difference between normal breast tissue and suspicious masses. Fearing the worst, they often seek out complex diagnostics, creating an unnecessary expense for themselves as well as the health care system. Planned Parenthood promotes appropriate, affordable breast health care by providing breast cancer risk assessments, breast exams, breast education with nutrition and health counseling, follow-up exams and referrals when needed.



## Planned Parenthood Partners with SafePlace to Help Screen for Abuse

Intimate partner violence (IPV) is a pattern of assaultive behavior that may include physical injury, psychological abuse, sexual abuse, coercion, stalking, deprivation, intimidation and threats. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, IPV causes about 1,200 deaths and two million injuries to women each year. Nearly one in four women reports experiencing violence caused by a current or former partner. IPV behaviors related to reproductive control include intentionally exposing a partner to a sexually transmitted disease, attempting to impregnate a partner against her will and threats or acts of violence if the partner does not comply with the perpetrator's wishes.

Earlier this year, SafePlace trained 45 of Planned Parenthood's clinic staff to provide routine screening for our 28,000 annual clients. Routine

screening along with information and referrals can make an enormous difference for victims of IPV – and in some cases, can save lives. Planned Parenthood is proud to partner with SafePlace on this new initiative.

## Planned Parenthood Wins "Best of Austin" Award

The results are in and Planned Parenthood was named "Best Family-Friendly Septuagenarian" in the *Austin Chronicle* "Best of Austin Critics Picks." (Septuagenarians are adults ages 70 to 80 years.)

We are thrilled to be recognized for our 70+ years of commitment to Austin women and families, and look forward to the next 70 years!

