

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. Today, Planned Parenthood provides valuable education and preventive health care services to more than 33,000 clients in Austin each year.

## Texas Legislative Recap: War on Women

Due to the overwhelming number of newly-elected social extremists at the Capitol, the Texas Legislative Session set a record low for women's health. The updates below are current as of date of print; however, a Special Session underway may have further impact on women's health.

### Mandatory Ultrasounds for Texas Women

Texas Governor Rick Perry declared a legislative "emergency" for the Texas Legislature to approve a bill requiring doctors to conduct a sonogram and verbally describe the image to women seeking safe, legal abortion. This bill has been signed into law by Governor Perry. While Planned Parenthood performs a sonogram for all women considering abortion, this bill dictates private medical decisions and mandates invasive procedures. The new law does nothing to enhance women's health or prevent unintended pregnancies.



Planned Parenthood supporters rallying in front of the Capitol on May 11.

### "Choose Life" license plates

"Choose Life" license plate legislation was signed into law by Governor Perry, placing a controversial political term on Texas license plates and creating yet another revenue stream for "crisis pregnancy" centers, anti-choice organizations that typically do not provide medical services, do not provide birth control and currently receive more than \$8 million in taxpayer funding.

### Texas Medicaid Women's Health Program

The Medicaid Women's Health Program (WHP) was threatened with extinction, but was authorized for continuation at the end of the Session. However, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission is proposing new rules that would eliminate Planned Parenthood from the program, which enables 120,000 Texas women to receive birth control along with cervical cancer, breast cancer, and STI screenings, and saves Texas taxpayers more than \$20 million each year.

### Texas Budget Slashes Family Planning Funding



Cecile Richards, local MDs and Planned Parenthood clients at a press conference on "Stand with Planned Parenthood Day" on May 11 at the Capitol.

The Texas Legislature voted to slash more than two-thirds of the budget for basic, preventive family planning health care services.

These cuts will deny more than 265,000 Texans access to birth control and basic health screenings, and will cost taxpayers over \$300 million in long-term Medicaid costs.

Thank you to Planned Parenthood Federation of America President Cecile Richards for her leadership at the Texas Capitol on our statewide "Stand with Planned Parenthood" day. On May 11, over 1,000 emails and calls were made to legislators and over 100 supporters joined us on the Capitol grounds to support women's health.



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**the choice**  
**for generations**  
2011 Dinner with Anna Quindlen

### Save the Date: Choice for Generations 2011 Dinner

Join us on Sunday, November 6, 2011 from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the Renaissance Austin Hotel for a captivating address by columnist Anna Quindlen. Proceeds from this event make it possible for Planned Parenthood to provide high-quality health care and education to more than 33,000 women, men and adolescents annually.

For information about sponsoring a table, please contact Meghan Jones at 512-276-8061 or meghan.jones@ppaustin.org.

## Cocktails for a Cause



Left to right: Monica and Lupita Saavedra  
Photo by Annie Ray

## Cocktails for a Cause a Success

For the second year in a row, Planned Parenthood's fundraiser to build awareness among the next generation of Planned Parenthood supporters was a sold-out success! Guests enjoyed a silent auction, a visit by special guest Planned Parenthood Federation of America President Cecile Richards, and more.

Held on May 12 at the Palm Door, the second annual *Cocktails for a Cause* raised \$63,000 to support the high-quality health care and education provided at Planned Parenthood's three Austin health centers.

Thank you to Co-Chairs Becky Arreaga, Lynn Currie, and Yaël

Ouzillou for their outstanding leadership and support. And thank you to the event host committee members, DJ Cruz9000, all of the event volunteers, and everyone who attended and sponsored *Cocktails for a Cause* — see you next year!



Left to Right: Event Co-Chair Yaël Ouzillou, Cecile Richards, Event Co-Chairs Becky Arreaga and Lynn Currie.

Photo by Stacey Halper

## Peer Educators Reach Out to Community

This spring, 12 teen peer leaders hired by Planned Parenthood received weeks of training to provide health and prevention education to 627 of their peers. The teens participated in outreach projects including local radio programs, hosting events, creating urban street art, and creating a television Public Service Announcement (PSA). The teens developed communication and leadership skills through the community outreach projects. The PSA will air on local TV channels in both Spanish and English this summer.

Thank you to Nate Nordstrom and Margie Becker for their work on these projects.

## 4th Annual iChoose Teen Summit

On June 14, Planned Parenthood will partner with the City of Austin, Any Baby Can, GENaustin, LifeWorks, and other local nonprofits to co-sponsor iChoose, the 4th annual teen summit to educate and empower young people to prevent



Teen Summit features the theme of: iChoose to wait, to respect, to be safe, to reach my goals, to be informed.

unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections. Last year, more than 150 teens attended the summit to take part in workshops on topics ranging from dating and healthy relationships to body image, sexual health, and abstinence. The Teen Summit will be held at the Austin Convention Center



Local artist Nate Nordstrom worked with Planned Parenthood's Peer Educators to create a positive message for Austin youth on preventing teen pregnancy. Check it out at our Downtown Clinic on E. 7th & Chicon.

on Tuesday, June 14. The summit is free and open to teens ages 13 to 18 with registration and parental permission forms required. A parent workshop will be held on June 13 with free child care at LiveStrong. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Kristin McDuffie at kristin.mcduffie@ppaustin.org or visit [www.ichooseaustin.org](http://www.ichooseaustin.org).

## OMG. GYT.

## April Was Get Yourself Tested Month

In April, Planned Parenthood, MTV, the Kaiser Family Foundation, and the Centers for Disease Control and



Peer educator, Anais Cruz, informing passing traffic about the free testing for STIs at our Downtown Clinic

Prevention partnered to sponsor the GYT (Get Yourself Tested) public awareness campaign. As many as one in two sexually active young people will contract a sexually transmitted infection (STI) by age 25, and most won't know it. The GYT campaign encourages young people to talk with health care providers and partners about getting tested for STIs.



Planned Parenthood activists spreading the word about GYT and our discounted testing days during our first Get Yourself Tested pub crawl.

Planned Parenthood offered discounted STI testing and hosted awareness events in April. The outreach was successful with 103% more males receiving STI testing at our health centers compared to April of last year.



Planned Parenthood is the nation's leading and most trusted sexual and reproductive health care provider.

[www.ppaustin.org](http://www.ppaustin.org)