



IN THIS ISSUE

OMG. GYT.

Providing low-cost STI testing during the month of April

Bigger, Better, Closer

Extended evening hours are now available

My Planned Parenthood

Megan Davis is honored

Parent – Teen Night Education

Lively and interactive sexuality education for the family

Public Policy

No info. No access. No care.

Our Volunteers, Our Future

Event volunteers continue to shine

In Your Community

Up north, in the middle and to the west

Tradition of Giving

Tricia tells us why it's important

.....

Planned Parenthood Arizona promotes and protects every person's freedom and right to enjoy sexual health and well-being, to make reproductive choices, and build healthy, strong families.

Proudly serving the metropolitan Phoenix and Tucson areas and the communities of Flagstaff, Prescott, Globe, and Yuma.

OMG. GYT.

If you're not familiar with the current generation's abbreviated texting/e-mail language, it means "Oh My God (OMG). Get Yourself Tested (GYT)."



In 2008, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced that at least one in every four teenage girls has a sexually transmitted infection (STI), and most of them don't even know they

have it. It is estimated that nearly 19 million new STIs occur each year, and that by the age of 25, one in two sexually active young people will contract an STI. Planned Parenthood Arizona was proud to partner with other affiliates across the country, along with MTV, Kaiser Family Foundation and the CDC to launch the **GYT'09 month-long campaign during April**. This exciting campaign received prominent advertising on MTV, raised awareness about the high rates of STIs and encouraged routine testing and treatment. **Planned Parenthood affiliates offered low cost chlamydia and gonorrhea screenings, plus HIV tests if requested.**

As the nation's leading sexual and reproductive health care advocate and provider, Planned Parenthood recognizes that these numbers are more than just statistics; they are the people who walk through our doors every day at our health centers. This campaign allowed us to reach out to thousands of teens in Arizona with a positive and informative message about STI testing and treatment.



Our mission and the work we do to achieve it is absolutely vital to our community's sexual health. Often times, Planned Parenthood is the only point of access to quality health care, especially at this time of economic crisis. Your support makes it possible for us to provide confidential, compassionate care to Arizona's young adults and teens. Thank you.

Bigger, Better, Closer

Extended Evening Hours

Recently, PPAZ CEO Bryan Howard experienced a satisfying exchange: “On our doorstep I found a young man, maybe 19 years old, quietly asking if he could “get tested.” I replied yes of course, but our 7th Street Health Center (in Phoenix) was closed for the night. Did he need to see someone that evening? Yes, he replied, is there anyone who can help me tonight? [We had a location] in Phoenix [that] was open until eight...”

PPAZ is proud to announce evening hours at several of our 19 health centers. Please call 800.230.PLAN (7526) or visit ppaz.org for locations and hours.

My Planned Parenthood

This year, former Planned Parenthood of Southern Arizona Board Chair, Megan Davis, was honored by Planned Parenthood Advocates of Arizona with the Citizen Activist Award. From Megan’s words,

“Making knowledgeable, informed personal choices and decisions is a freedom that aligns for me throughout my life; in business, at home and in my heart and spirit. I consider it an honor and responsibility as a citizen of this country to ensure every individual has the choice to design a life that is specifically suited to each person’s greatest good.”



in your community In Your Community

Planned Parenthood Arizona brings us into neighborhoods where we can make the biggest difference. The need is growing and together we are responding – **in your community.**



Education Parent & Teen Night

Have you ever wondered “How in the world do I start a conversation about sex?” Or do you know of a family that might need a little help getting the conversation started? **Did you know that Planned Parenthood Arizona offers unbiased, medically accurate programs for teens and parents?**

Offered in both Phoenix and Tucson, parents and teens can come to a lively and interactive session that includes: pregnancy and STI prevention;

Public Policy No Info. No Access. No Care.

Where change on the national level means progress for those of us who believe in protecting women’s health, Governor Jan Brewer, along with the anti-choice majority in the Arizona legislature, is taking the state in the opposite direction. **It is an ideology-driven mission that will leave women, men and teens with no information, no access and no care an affront to reproductive health care.**

First it was House Bill 2564. This omnibus bill is the most threatening policy proposal since Proposition 110, which sought to ban abortion in Arizona in 1992. HB 2564 includes a 24-hour “reflection” waiting period, notarized parental consent, provider refusal, and places an undue

Up North

We are proud to add a vital health service for women in **Flagstaff. We have recently introduced colposcopy**, a procedure that is used to further evaluate an abnormal Pap smear. The colposcope gives the clinician a magnified view of the cervix, enabling her to identify and biopsy abnormal areas. Planned Parenthood Arizona continues to seek funding to be able to offer this diagnostic test to women who either have no insurance or inadequate insurance to cover the cost.



fostering an open and honest family dialogue about sex and sexuality; tips for making responsible, healthy decisions about sex; along with taking away many valuable Planned Parenthood resources.

For more information, in Phoenix please contact Yolanda Chávez at (602) 263-4230 or y Chavez@ppaz.org; in Tucson please contact Vicki Hadd-Wissler at (520) 784-5839 or vhadd-wissler@ppaz.org.

burden on women in rural areas of the state. It is waiting to be heard in the Senate, but all indications are that Governor Brewer will sign this bill.

In March, Governor Brewer directed the Arizona Department of Health Services to request more than a million dollars from the federal government to promote abstinence-only-until-marriage education. While the state is cutting funds for crucial programs in education, healthcare and human services, and as more and more people are losing their health insurance, Governor Brewer has decided to spend the state's limited resources on programs that don't work.

Even in the face of these challenges, Planned Parenthood Arizona strives to continue serving women and families close to home, at a cost they can afford with information, access and care.

Our Volunteers, Our Future

Volunteers play an integral role in our special event fundraisers. Without their talent, commitment and hundreds of hours of donated time, we could not offer the fun and inspiring events that we have hosted throughout the years.



Celebración de Noche Latina Co-Chairs Tony Colon(l) and Mario Trejo Romero(r) are joined by a 2008 honoree Elizabeth Ortiz de Valdez, M.D.

Prime examples of volunteer-led events include our annual Goldwater Awards Event, which honors special friends for their extraordinary commitment; Celebración de Noche Latina where we highlight the important support received from the Latino community;

and the *Roe V. Wade* Anniversary Celebrations where we recognize the landmark Supreme Court decision legalizing a woman's right to choose.

These special events celebrate Planned Parenthood Arizona's tradition of educational programs, medical services and advocacy efforts, while also raising awareness about the need in all of our communities.

A team of committed volunteers make these events happen. From table sales to program planning, from raffle and auction items, to setting up for the event to cleaning up afterwards, Planned Parenthood volunteers always make a difference.

For more information on volunteering, please contact Kate Elliott at 602. 263.2225 or kelliott@ppaz.org

In the Middle

Funding from the Faith and James Knight Foundation is providing care to underinsured women in Maricopa County. One recent patient learned that Title X would not cover her services. Had it not been for the funding from the Knight Foundation, she most likely would have opted for no treatment, hoping the symptoms would go away on their own. Thanks to this support, women who do not qualify for state or federal assistance and who cannot afford private insurance are receiving essential and basic health care.

To the West

Planned Parenthood Arizona has received funding from the Yuma Community Foundation, in collaboration with the Sturges Charitable Trust, to provide colposcopy and cryotherapy services to women. Funding will assist those women who are under- or uninsured and experience an abnormal Pap smear requiring further diagnostic testing and possible treatment. Center Administrator Heather George is thrilled to be able to assist the underserved women of Yuma with this funding.

Tradition of Giving



When I got my first professional job, with a “real” salary and benefits, the human resources department asked me to assign beneficiaries for my pension plan. Beneficiaries? At age 25? How in the world should I fill out the form? I wanted my financial legacy, however modest, to have meaning.

After examining my values and priorities, the choice became clear. I decided to donate 50% of my pension plan to Planned Parenthood. I have done the same with the profit sharing plan in my current job, my IRAs, all of my investment and retirement accounts, and my will.

I know I’m giving back to an organization that epitomizes my values. I was very lucky as a teenager. I understood that education gave me the confidence to be open, communicative, and assertive in my relationships. But even the best education couldn’t insulate me from the gripping fear of buying a home pregnancy test at the drugstore, hoping, waiting, and thanking every God I have ever heard of when it came back negative. I wasn’t actively aware of Planned Parenthood back

then, but I would have appreciated having a safe place to go, without anxiety, and surrounded by emotionally supportive people who didn’t pass judgment.

Fast forward to 2009, when I toured the Tempe Health Center. The most meaningful sight was at the end of the tour, when we unlocked the glass doors to leave. Outside young women were waiting, their faces were calm, and they showed no signs of anxiety or shame. For a brief moment I was so overcome with happiness I found myself blinking back tears. *This* is what it’s all about. This is why giving matters.

I recognize that my personal situation is unique, enabling me to donate a large percentage of my estate to an organization, rather than people. But even those with many dependents can donate a portion of their estate or investment accounts. **Though I expect to have many healthy, happy years ahead, I take great comfort in knowing that my financial planning has been done and Planned Parenthood will benefit from whatever I have left to give.**

Sincerely, Tricia

Investing
in Arizona
Families

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