



# VOICE FOR CHOICE

Fall 2009

PLANNED PARENTHOOD COLUMBIA WILLAMETTE



PPCW Education Department Working with the Community

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## Health centers seeing increased number of patients

Our health centers are seeing more patients than ever before. More than 8,000 patients sought care at PPCW's eleven health centers in September. The reoccurring story from many of our patients is the tough economy; many patients tell us they are turning to community resources like Planned Parenthood for the first time because of economic hardships.

## Salmon Creek Health Center is Open Again - and Busy!

Our Salmon Creek health center in Vancouver successfully reopened at the end of August to meet the need for services in SW Washington. Since reopening, the health center has seen steady requests for appointments and has been busier than ever before!

## Turning to Planned Parenthood

### HEALTH CARE REFORM AND PLANNED PARENTHOOD COLUMBIA WILLAMETTE

No one has to tell the 60,000 women, men and teens that PPCW served last year why they need health care reform. Most of them came to Planned Parenthood for annual exams, cancer screening, STD testing and treatment, pregnancy prevention care and counseling. Some came for early abortion care. But most of our patients didn't have health insurance, and few could afford to pay for their health care. They understand that real health care reform would remove barriers to receiving care, expand their choices about where they could go for care, and, by providing affordable insurance, encourage preventative care that could improve their overall health and well-being.

Although President Obama has promised that women will not be worse off after health care reform, some versions of health care reform would eliminate abortion insurance coverage for most women who now have it, and might result in some providers no longer offering abortion care. And just as we saw in the debate in the House of Representatives, we know that additional Senate amendments will be proposed that could prevent women from choosing to receive their care at a Planned Parenthood health center.

Planned Parenthood has been and will continue to work aggressively with Oregon and Washington State legislators to advance a health care reform package that improves access to health care for all and does not leave women worse off with fewer reproductive choices.

But whether or not health care reform passes in the near future, Planned Parenthood's health centers are extremely busy now. We're seeing more patients in Oregon and SW Washington than ever before. And even if Congress passes and President Obama signs a reform bill, it will be many years before our patients see any benefit.

No matter what the federal government ultimately does, PPCW will be here today, tomorrow and into the future to ensure that the women, men and teens in our community get the health services they need and deserve.

David Greenberg, Ph.D.

PPCW PRESIDENT & CEO

## Defending Women and Families in Washington

In Washington State, PPCW partnered with other Planned Parenthood affiliates to help defeat measure 1033, a measure that would have cut safety-net community services, reducing funding for family planning services for low-income Washingtonians.

Planned Parenthood staff also worked to help approve Referendum 71, keeping the state's domestic partnership law and preserving legal rights and benefits for thousands of families. The domestic partnership law upheld by voters provides registered same-sex and senior domestic partners with the same legal protections, benefits, and obligations that marriage provides under state law.



## United Way - Workplace Giving

PPCW is a member agency of United Way of the Columbia-Willamette, and also participates in the Combined Federal Campaign.

You can invest in Planned Parenthood and your community by making a gift through:

- Your local United Way campaign
- The Combined Federal Campaign (ID #71679)
- Your own company-specific campaign

Your contributions support PPCW education programs and health services.

## Give!Guide 2009

You can support PPCW through Willamette Week's Give!Guide.

Willamette Week's 2009 Give!Guide is a holiday season fundraiser that generates donations for a variety of Portland area non-profit organizations, including Planned Parenthood. Cool prizes for donations at different levels are a great incentive to donate to your favorite non-profits.

Donors can make contributions online through December 31, 2009 at [www.week.com/giveguide](http://www.week.com/giveguide)

## Vote Yes in January to Protect the Health of Women and Families

This January, a special election could impact some of Oregon's vital state services, including education, health care and public safety. Planned Parenthood Columbia Willamette is supporting the YES campaign to protect these basic services.

Measures 66 and 67 would increase the \$10 corporate minimum income tax (for the first time since 1931) and increase the tax rate on household incomes above \$250,000. Measure 66 also helps those hurt most by this recession by reducing taxes on unemployment benefits. These measures shift the burden of the economic crisis away from middle-class families who are already struggling to make ends meet.

In this time of economic hardship, it's critical that we preserve basic services that are

vital for the health and safety of women, children, and working families. Like the rest of the country, Oregon's budget has been hurt by this financial crisis. Because over 90% of the state budget goes to education, health care, and public safety, this crisis could have a major impact on vital services.

Programs in jeopardy include:

- Family planning services for low-income women.
- Childcare services that allow parents to stay in the work force—last year this program facilitated care for more than 34,400 children.
- Assistance for women fleeing domestic violence—last year, DHS helped 6,275 families (with 10,692 children) escape violence.
- Health care access for uninsured, low-income women and children.

You can find out more about these measures—and what you can do to help—by visiting [www.VoteYesForOregon.org](http://www.VoteYesForOregon.org).

## PPCW Education Working With Community

PPCW's Education department has been working with community partners to deliver the **SiHLE (Sisters Informing, Healing, Living, Empowering)** curriculum to African-American teen girls throughout the Portland area. Currently the program is being offered at Roosevelt High School's SUN (Schools Uniting Neighborhoods) program, Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church, and the Youth Employment Institute.

Our **Teen Council peer education program** participants worked on leadership and team-building skills at an overnight retreat in August. Teen Council members bonded over activities like a ropes course, and set goals for the year. This fall, Teen Council members from Gresham and North/Northeast Portland participated in the AIDS Walk Portland, raising money to benefit Cascade AIDS Project and distributing outreach packets with



Teen Council peer education program participants at an overnight retreat in August.

information about Planned Parenthood services, HIV/AIDS and condoms.

**At the retreat, everyone talked openly about sex and sexual orientation with an open mind."**

**- Tamera Knight, Gresham TC Member**

PPCW will be offering the five-session **Parent Child Connectedness** program for Latino families in Gresham this fall. This program works with parents to improve communication skills and teach techniques to talk to their kids

about sex. The Parent Child Connectedness program helps increase communication within families, encouraging parents to talk openly about sex and family values.

PPCW's Pill Pack supporters.



## MARGARET SANGER SOCIETY CELEBRATION AT PPCW'S NEW REGIONAL SERVICE CENTER IN NORTH PORTLAND

The Let's Build campaign has now raised more than \$10 million; we have about \$2 million to go to qualify for a \$750,000 Kresge challenge grant. Construction of the new Regional Service Center continues on-time and under-budget. In fact, we are now so close to opening that we were able to hold our first event at the center on October 25. Members of the Margaret Sanger Society gathered to take a tour of the building and learn about one of the education programs we hope to grow through the new space: SiHLE (Sisters

Informing, Healing, Living, and Empowering). This culturally appropriate program developed for African-American teen girls works to create a nurturing environment in which girls support each other as they discuss ways to develop healthy relationships and protect themselves from sexually transmitted diseases. We look forward to growing this successful program in the years ahead.

To donate to this campaign, contact  
Liz Reilly at 503.775.4931 x2151.

## Welcome 2009-2010 PPCW Board Members

- Saskia de Boer, *Chair*
- Christine Vernier, *Vice Chair*
- Cara Denver, *Treasurer*
- Anthony Lincoln, *Secretary*
- Katherine McDowell, *Special Officer*
- Ann Witsil, *Special Officer*
- Susan Cooper
- Matthew De Galan\*
- Donalda Dodson
- Barbara Fisher\*
- Mardiça Hicks
- Leslie Howell\*
- Nichole Maher
- Toni Phipps
- Harrison Pride
- Alida Rol, M.D.\*
- Saga Shoffner
- Kate Barker Swindell
- \* *New board members*

## Do You Hold The Keys To Planned Parenthood's Future?



Are you thinking of selling or trading in your old car, boat or RV? Why not donate it to Planned Parenthood instead? As a charitable contribution, your vehicle donation could provide thousands of dollars for Planned Parenthood's vital health care and educa-

tion services. Planned Parenthood accepts donations of cars, trucks, motorcycles, and boats - just about anything with a motor.

For more information, contact Kristin at 503-280-6150 x2153 or [development@ppcw.org](mailto:development@ppcw.org).



PPCW Board Member Harrison Pride



Sarah Weddington with PPCW patient services staff member Stephanie S.

## Bend Annual Luncheon with Sarah Weddington

Keynote speaker Sarah Weddington enthralled PPCW supporters with stories of women's rights battles she's helped win, and the current battles being fought today. More than 130 attendees helped us raise \$10,800 in the

room that afternoon. Additional speakers included Representative Judy Stiegler and PPCW Board Member Harrison Pride.

Special thanks to Kathleen Bailey, Marie Bernardy, Linda Cohen, Susan Cooper, Alice Lezin, Susanne Orton, Terry Reynolds, Rene G. Smith and Amy Tykeson for being table captains at this event.

## Space for Rent!

Do you know someone looking for great new retail space? PPCW's new Regional Service Center has available small office or retail space on Martin Luther King Jr., Blvd. Contact us now and you may be able to influence final construction decisions in the space.

To find out more about the retail space available, please contact Ben Wood at [ben.wood@ppcw.org](mailto:ben.wood@ppcw.org) or 503.775.4931 x2150.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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**VOICE FOR CHOICE**  
PLANNED PARENTHOOD COLUMBIA WILLAMETTE

FALL 2009

Saskia de Boer  
Board Chair

David Greenberg, Ph.D.  
President & CEO

PPCW's Voice for Choice  
newsletter is published  
three times each year.

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A United Way  
Community Partner

For appointments  
and information, call:  
1.888.875.7820

Sexy Tuesdays Pub  
Crawl in Bend and  
Central Oregon  
Annual Luncheon  
photos courtesy of  
OnTheGo-Go.com.

PPCW Events PPCW Events PPCW Events PPCW



Last month's Sexy Tuesdays Pub Crawl in Bend

**Sexy Tuesdays**

More than 100 attendees were entertained by Beth Willis Band and Roving Horse Henna at our July Sexy Tuesdays event at Ecotrust. Thanks to Lompoc Brewery, Widmer Brothers Brewery, and a brewery who wishes to remain anonymous for donating beer for the evening, ThinkAV for donating the sound

system, and Hot Lips Pizza for providing the pizza at a discount.

**September's Sexy Tuesdays Wine Night**

found the 74 attendees

enjoying wine, cheese, and fire dancers! Thanks to Olympic Provisions for donating the event space and a portion of sales from the night!

More than 60 supporters, staff and volunteers joined us for a Sexy Tuesdays Pub Crawl in Bend. A big thanks to venues Astro Lounge, Bend Distillery, Summit Saloon, and Velvet for donating a portion of their bar sales from the night. Thanks also to Urban

Beauty Bar and Oxygen Tattoo for donating raffle items and [www.onthego.com](http://www.onthego.com) for promoting the event throughout Bend. These Sexy Tuesdays events raised almost \$3,500 for PPCW programs and services.

**Next Sexy Tuesdays Event:**  
December 8, 2009

6:00 - 8:30 p.m.  
at New Deal Distillery in SE Portland

Join fellow Planned Parenthood supporters for a FREE night of great food, drinks and celebrating with PPCW supporters!



Fire dancers at September's Sexy Tuesdays