

Dialogue

Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains

Spring
2010

visit our website at
www.pprm.org

Dear PPRM Family:



It has been a busy few months for Planned Parenthood since you last heard from us. Whether working on

planned activities or meeting the challenges of the unexpected, one thing remains constant: Planned Parenthood's commitment to being a voice for every woman and her family.

Our voice is heard at the state Capitol, specifically in our efforts to defend and lobby for policies that support reproductive freedom and to fight legislation that restricts it. Our voice is heard in the communities

we serve through our grassroots field work, organizing, and campus and volunteer outreach. Our voice is heard in the public sphere through our interaction with the press. Since our last newsletter, we have voiced Planned Parenthood's position on issues ranging from health care reform, Amendment 62 (the "definition of person" initiative), and National Condom Week, just to name a few.

It is people like you who give us this voice. We would like to take this time to thank you for supporting us and our commitment to empowering individuals and families to make informed choices about their reproductive health.

Now that it is springtime, a season defined by Merriam-Webster as

"an early or flourishing stage of development," Planned Parenthood hopes to rejuvenate and invigorate our relationship with you. Because of your support, we are able to flourish and grow and continue providing high quality health services, comprehensive sex education, and strategic advocacy.

With sincerity, we thank you.

Vicki Cowart

*Spring makes its own statement,
so loud and clear that the gardener
seems to be only one of the
instruments, not the composer.
~Geoffrey B. Charlesworth*

Join Champions for Choice

Thank you for supporting Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains (PPRM) and for making a positive impact in the lives of the women, men, and young adults we serve.

We invite you to contribute a monthly gift to PPRM by completing the enclosed envelope. With your monthly donation to PPRM's *Champions for Choice* program, you will stand with our mission and our work to empower individuals and families in the communities we serve to make informed choices about their sexual and reproductive health.

As a *Champion for Choice*, you provide us with the continual financial support our clients depend on. This allows us to reach more people and build upon the work we've done for 94 years.

Thank you for your consideration to be a member of *Champions for Choice*. This is a valuable program and the contributions of all members truly go far to make Planned Parenthood more inclusive to those in need of our services, education, or advocacy.



If you have questions about Champions for Choice, please contact Terri at 303.813.7714 or send an e-mail to info.development@pprm.org.

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The mission of Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains is to improve the quality of life by enabling all people to exercise individual choice in their own reproductive health.

pprm.org

PPRM Public Affairs Work – Advocacy and Action

Planned Parenthood is a tireless advocate for policies that support reproductive rights, women, and their families and oppose policies that do otherwise. The following is an update on pieces of legislation that PPRM was actively engaged in during Colorado's 2010 legislative session.

Coverage for Reproductive Services (House Bill 1021):

This bill requires insurance companies with plans in the individual and small group insurance markets to cover contraceptive services. It also provides for additional coverage for maternity care with certain restrictions. The Governor's office has expressed support and will likely sign the bill into law.

Unborn Victims of Violence Act (House Bill 1261):

This version of a "fetal homicide" bill attempted to define an "unborn child" for purposes of certain Colorado criminal statutes. While it

was not an outright abortion ban, it presented dangerous implications for "personhood" and Colorado law. HB 1261 was defeated by a 6 to 5 vote in the House Judiciary committee.

Murder of a Fetus First Degree Murder (Senate Bill 113):

This "fetal homicide" bill was another attempt to define a fetus as a person for purposes of certain Colorado criminal statutes. SB 113 was defeated by a 3 to 2 vote in Senate State Affairs committee.

Flex Your Muscle

The Planned Parenthood Action Network allows you to reach decision makers with the click of a button for free. Join our network of over 50,000 activists by visiting pprm.org or by calling 303.321.7526.



Lobby Day a Success

This year's annual Pro-Choice Lobby Day at the Capitol on March 10 was a tremendous success! Lobby Day is an educational, informative experience that offers participants a hands-on look at how the legislative process works. The objective of the day was to lobby for legislation supporting mandated maternity and contraception coverage in the individual health insurance market by asking state legislators to vote for House Bill 10-1021, *Insurance Coverage for Reproductive Health Care*.

More than 80 activists, volunteers, and coalition partners came out for the day and met their local legislators. PPRM's social media team provided real-time updates via Twitter, Facebook and blog posts so people who were unable to join us in person could still be engaged. Two prominent Colorado publications, the *Colorado Statesman* and the *Colorado Independent*, featured Planned Parenthood lobbying efforts in news articles about HB 1021.

To become a Facebook friend of PPRM or follow our tweets, visit pprm.org to connect to our social sites.

Circle of Friends

Major Donor Spotlight: Paul Barrett

Paul Barrett is like many people who are passionate about Planned Parenthood's mission, but are not always able to make a significant donation every time they receive a request. After talking to a friend who was making an estate plan, Barrett decided to

make a legacy gift, designating PPRM a beneficiary of his IRA.

Barrett, a retired physician, chose PPRM because of his longstanding belief that a woman should have control over her body and knowing that PPRM protects this right every day through the services we provide and our political advocacy work. Barrett's belief in PPRM's work also stems from his five daughters - whom he believes should have access to all reproductive choices and that these choices remain legal and safe to keep women healthy.

Contact Amy Buchheit at 303.813.7644 or amy.buchheit@pprm.org for more information.

PPRM's Securities Transfer Information has changed:

Brokerage: R. W. Baird & Co.
Representative: Tupper MacDowell
(1-888-792-4479 or 303-270-6312)
Email: tmacdowell@rwbaird.com
DTC #: 0547
A/C Name: Planned Parenthood of The Rocky Mountains
A/C Number: 4459-8231



We have moved

Our new health center is located at:
50923 Highway 6 & 24 – Glenwood Springs
in front of The Staples Center (Exit 114 on I-70)

Call **970.945.8631** or visit pprm.org to make your appointment.

Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains | pprm.org

On May 17 our Glenwood Springs health center opened its doors at a brand new location. The move to a larger, state-of-the-art health center is in direct response to the growing need for affordable reproductive and basic primary health care in the Roaring Fork Valley. We will celebrate the move with a grand opening event this summer.

A Client Story – from Steamboat Springs

Recently a client visited our Steamboat Springs health center to personally thank us for our services. She had received an annual exam in 2008 through the Women's Wellness Connection.

Through this fund, the client's pelvic exam, clinical breast exam, Pap test, and mammogram* were paid by WWC.

During her mammogram, doctors found a cancerous lump. WWC covered all expenses including all diagnostic services, and then WWC administrators connected her with Medicaid, so her cancer treatment would be covered.

She has now finished chemotherapy and the cancer is in remission. She told us that she likely would not have gotten the necessary mammogram if it was not for PPRM helping her



WOMEN'S WELLNESS CONNECTION
Connect. Get checked. Be well.

Free breast & cervical health screenings available

Women's Wellness Connection provides free screenings for women who:

- Live in Colorado.
- Meet Colorado citizenship verification.
- Are 40 - 64 years old.
- Have limited or no health insurance to pay for these screenings.
- Have not had a Pap test or mammogram in the last 12 months.
- Meet income requirements.

Contact 866.951.9355 to learn more about the Women's Wellness Connection.

Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains | www.pprm.org

access the fund that covered the cost.

Thanks to PPRM and the WWC program, she was diagnosed early and is doing well. She thanked

the entire health center staff for providing her with the health care she needed in particular her annual mammogram. She is now a proud survivor of breast cancer.

—Laura, Health Center Assistant,
Steamboat Springs

*Planned Parenthood provides referrals for mammogram services.

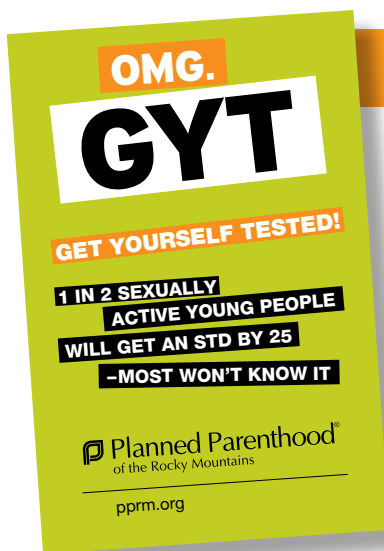
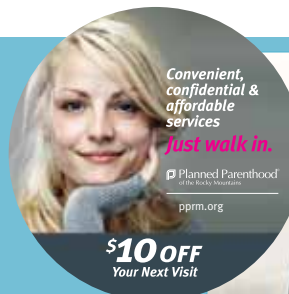
Last year, the WWC program provided cancer screening services to 2,010 clients throughout Colorado. If you or someone you love would like to learn more about this program, contact us at **1.800.230.PLAN.**

Calling All Outreach Volunteers

Spring and summer is PPRM's busiest marketing outreach season. Volunteers increase awareness about Planned Parenthood's primary and reproductive health care services and raise awareness about the organization's political advocacy work for policies that support women and their families. Events include Denver's annual Cinco de Mayo festival, ThorntonFest, Boulder Creek Festival, Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods' People's Fair, Highlands Street Fair, and Denver's Gay Pride Festival. To learn more about our volunteer opportunities, please contact jaime.marston@pprm.org.

Did You Know?

Seventeen percent of PPRM's current staff began their careers at Planned Parenthood as volunteers. *Come join us!*



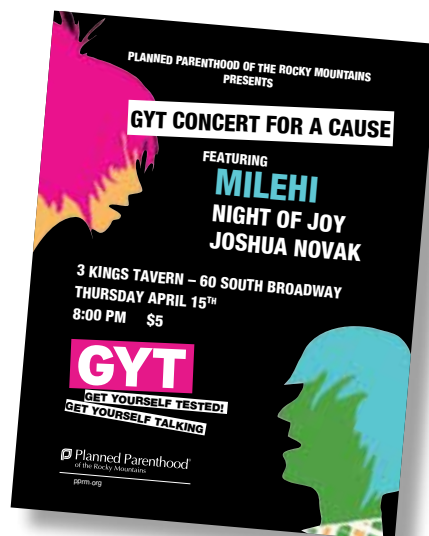
In response to the staggering rate of sexually transmitted diseases among youth in the United States, PPRM collaborated once again with MTV, the Kaiser Family Foundation, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to kick off National STD Awareness month in April with the return of the award-winning campaign, GYT: Get Yourself Tested.

As many as one in two sexually active young people will contract a STD by age 25 — and most won't know it. GYT encourages Americans under age 25 to talk with health care providers and partners about getting tested for STDs. According to the CDC, this age group represents half of the estimated 19 million cases of STDs occurring in the United States each

OMG. GYT: Get Yourself Tested

year. When left untreated, STDs can lead to an increased risk of HIV infection, infertility, and cancer.

This year, PPRM offered \$10 STD testing for chlamydia and gonorrhea and \$10 HIV testing to 1,294 clients on April 23 and 27. The campaign officially kicked off on April 15 in Denver with a concert hosted by Planned Parenthood at 3 Kings Tavern featuring MileHi Sound, an electro rock band formed by professional snowboarders JJ Thomas and Jeff Cormack. Planned Parenthood also marked the month by conducting outreach on college campuses and engaging people through its social networks.



Of the approximately 19 million new STDs that occur every year in the U.S., most will go undiagnosed. STDs often have no symptoms, so many people who are infected don't know it. Lack of information, misconceptions, and social stigma prevent many people from getting tested. Others may unknowingly believe that they have been tested as part of a routine exam, when in most cases, testing for STDs is only done if the patient asks.

Testing for chlamydia and gonorrhea, two of the most common STDs, is easier than ever before as it only requires a urine sample. For HIV testing, Planned Parenthood health centers offer the rapid HIV test, providing results in 10 minutes.

Diagnosis and treatment of STDs is critical to staying and remaining healthy, fostering sexual responsibility and addressing the wider STD epidemic.

To learn more about STDs and to schedule a visit, visit us at pprm.org.

Let's Talk about (Safe) Sex

PPRM never misses an opportunity to talk about safe sex, safer sex or condom use. This is why we launched a weeklong awareness campaign to celebrate National Condom Week from Feb. 14 – 21. The goal of National Condom Week was to encourage people to discuss condom use with their partner. The campaign involved all facets of the organization, and our health centers distributed 3,500 complimentary condom goodie bags to clients and clients had the opportunity to sign a “Free the Condoms” petition, aimed at ensuring condoms are readily available and accessible in grocery stores and other retailers.

Our Public Affairs department conducted outreach on various Colorado college campuses throughout National Condom Week and posted fun facts about condom

use on PPRM’s social networking sites. We also garnered statewide media attention, conducting radio interviews on Denver’s edgy rock station 106.7 KBPI in addition to the radio station of Fort Lewis College, KDUR community radio 91.9 and 93.9. Print media also positively portrayed National Condom Week. Here are some article excerpts:



Wrap It Up: Get Informed During National Condom Week – Boulder Daily Camera, Colorado Daily

“John Nelson, education program manager for Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains, said an important thing to know about STDs is that no symptom is the most common symptom -- which means opening the lines of communication between partners is very important.

“It’s not always 100-percent easy to talk to our partners about condoms,” Nelson said. ‘It has to be a two-way street. Both parties need to recognize that there is a risk with being sexually active... Nelson said an easy way to deal with the subject would be to have both parties get tested together.’”

Group hopes to slow the spread of STDs with talks – Las Cruces Sun News

“Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains again is aiming to prevent the spread of STDs by distributing condoms during National Condom Week, which begins Sunday. The weeklong awareness campaign is meant to spark conversations between couples as well as provide individuals with information on how to prevent the spread of sexually transmitted diseases.”

Are You Stocked for National Condom Week? – Out Front Colorado

“Did you know that Feb. 14-24 is National Condom Week? And in celebration, Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains has teamed up with Proper Attire to bring you the most fashion-forward condoms available. That’s right, you no longer have to sacrifice style for safety!

“We are encouraging people to start a dialogue with their partner about condom use,” said PPRM president and CEO Vicki Cowart. ‘Many people who have a STD don’t even realize it. It’s important for people to discuss condom use with their partner to help keep each other healthy.’”



Thanks to everyone who made National Condom Week a huge success!

Planned Parenthood Prepared to Fight and Defeat Amendment 62, Definition of A Person

Planned Parenthood, in conjunction with our Protect Families Protect Choices coalition partners, announced our campaign to fight and defeat Amendment 62, which recently qualified for the November 2010 ballot.

In 2008 PFPC defeated a similar measure, Amendment 48, by a 3 to 1 margin with 73 percent or 1.7 million Coloradans overwhelmingly rejecting it in every county. Every age group opposed the amendment, and opposition was high among men and women and nearly every demographic group.

“Here we go again. Amendment 62 is bad policy, bad law, and bad medicine. It was a bad idea in 2008 and it is still a bad idea now,” said Leslie Durgin of PFPC, senior vice president of Planned

Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains. “Amendment 62 would insert the government into the personal, private health care decisions that women and their families make every single day.”

The PFPC coalition will begin an aggressive grassroots mobilization effort and public awareness campaign to fight this latest assault on reproductive rights. We vow to be seen and heard throughout the state leading up to the November election.

Success of the 2008 campaign can be largely attributed to the generous support of the pro-choice community including people like you. Your support is invaluable to us, and we look forward to reengaging the



thousands of people who gave their time and resources in 2008 to help us defeat a similar measure.

The 2010 proposed amendment is worded slightly differently than the 2008 attempt but presents the same dangerous outcomes. The ballot language replaces “from the moment of fertilization” with “from the beginning of biological development” to define a person. If passed this amendment would ban abortion even in cases of rape, incest and to save the life of the woman; and ban many forms of birth control, in-vitro fertilization

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This November will be a monumental election for pro-choice Coloradans. Planned Parenthood Votes Colorado, the political advocacy arm of PPRM, is hard at work mobilizing and educating voters and supporting elected officials who will promote pro-choice and pro-family planning policies.

We already have hotly contested gubernatorial and state legislative

Election 2010: Get Informed, Get Involved!

races across Colorado. PPVC will also support the efforts of the national Planned Parenthood Action Fund in Colorado’s congressional races. With issues such as health care reform, Amendment 62 (this year’s “definition of person” attempt), and constant attacks aimed at Planned Parenthood, it’s clear the stakes in this year’s election are high.

If you want to be part of a movement to elect officials who share your values and will stand up for reproductive rights, or if you want to lobby against anti-choice, anti-woman policies, please consider being a part of a Planned Parenthood Votes Colorado!

Take action now by sending an e-mail to PPVC at vote@pprm.org. In the e-mail subject line, simply write, “I want to be a member of PPVC.” We will keep you informed on all our legislative and electoral work and how YOU can become part of our movement. You can also visit us at ppvotescolorado.org.



This portion of this newsletter was paid for by Planned Parenthood Votes Colorado.

Health Care Reform – A Victory for Women’s Health



Despite disappointing restrictions on private insurance coverage for abortion, the health care reform bill signed by President Obama contains provisions increasing women’s access to reproductive health. The new law will dramatically increase access to basic reproductive health care and provide millions more women with family planning, including contraception. The bill will also ensure that millions of women with modest incomes benefit from free or very low-cost lifesaving screenings for cervical and breast cancer and other health problems.

Planned Parenthood took the lead to ensure that the final legislation include as many health benefits for women as possible. Planned Parenthood worked behind the scenes with members of

Congress and their staff as well as with White House staff to include as many pro-women’s health provisions as possible.

Planned Parenthood scored a major victory by leading the successful effort to defeat the anti-choice Stupak amendment in the U.S. Senate and keeping it out of the final health care reform bill. The Stupak amendment would have resulted in the near total ban of private health insurance coverage for abortion in the United States. The national “Stop Stupak” campaign involved tens of thousands of activists from across the country and dozens of organizations.

Despite our victory over Rep. Bart Stupak (D-MI) and his allies, we were unable to strip out other restrictions

on private health insurance coverage for abortion from the final bill. These restrictions, proposed by Sen. Ben Nelson of Nebraska, are less onerous than those proposed by Stupak, but they place overwhelming burdens on insurers and consumers who want to respectively sell and purchase private health insurance plans that cover abortion. We are working now to do as much as we can to fix these unfair and unnecessary requirements before they go into effect in 2014.

Despite the bills’ restrictions, we firmly believe that history will record the passage of this law as a victory for women’s health.

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and other forms of medical research. Amendment 62 would also change the Colorado Constitution, impacting thousands of laws – from when property rights are granted, to inheritance rights, to who can file a lawsuit.

To volunteer or donate, visit ppvotescolorado.org.

Protect Families Protect Choices is a broad-based, non-partisan coalition that includes health care professionals, members of the faith community, legal experts, reproductive health advocacy organizations, and other individuals and organizations committed to ensuring that Coloradans and their families maintain the ability to make their own personal, private decisions about important life decisions.

What will health care reform do for women? The new law offers major advances for women’s reproductive health including:

- Provides preventive reproductive health care to women covered by Medicaid, the nation’s largest public health insurance program for women of childbearing age;
- Provides free or low-cost preventive screenings for cancer for millions of women;
- Offers affordable private health insurance coverage which women can use to pay for reproductive health care at their local community centers, including Planned Parenthood health centers;
- Allows the 32 million uninsured Americans who will become insured in 2014 and after to use their private health insurance to access medical care offered by community providers, including Planned Parenthood health centers, women’s health centers, HIV/AIDS clinics, and community health centers;
- Stops insurers from charging women more than they charge men for comprehensive private health insurance plans; and
- Forbids insurers from denying private health insurance to women based on “pre-existing” conditions such as pregnancy.

Planned Parenthood® of the Rocky Mountains

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Save the Date – 23rd Season of Choice Affairs is Here

The 2010 Choice Affairs season, benefiting Planned Parenthood's education programs, begins in May and runs through the end of July.

This year's Choice Affairs parties and eclectic themes will suit everyone's desires. Events include: opulent cocktail parties at Denver's hippest venues, bird-watching in Castlewood Canyon, a private cooking class with a renowned Denver chef, an exclusive tour of The Museum of Contemporary Art, meditation at a posh Cherry Creek spa, an evening of family-friendly bowling, an author-led bike ride around some of Denver's most beautiful trails, a kids' petting zoo party, a whisky party mostly for men, a viewing of personal art collections by and with a celebrated local artist, fly fishing near Basalt, and much more.

Don't miss your chance to participate in any of these unique opportunities all of which benefit education programs that give youth their greatest tool to stay healthy.



The graphic features a white background with a pink curved shape on the right. At the top, it says "23rd annual" in a small font, followed by "Choice Affairs" in large, bold, pink letters. Below the text is a black and white line drawing of two women in party hats and dresses, one holding a martini glass. To the right of the drawing, on the pink background, is the text "to benefit Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains' education programs" in a cursive font.

**For additional information,
please call 303.813.7704.**