Dear Friends,

With one of the most difficult years behind us, we remain strong as we stand before the challenges that face us, proud to fight for the individuals that need and deserve the sexual and reproductive health care services and information we provide.

In June, we celebrated the landmark victory ruling of *Whole Women’s Health v. Hellerstedt*, in which the Texas HB2 law was struck down- recognizing that laws such as HB2 do not enhance patient safety, but create a burden upon access to safe abortion. This decision was a tremendous victory for women, and illustrated the Supreme Court’s recognition of what might impede an individual’s right to make her own decision about abortion, but also served as a reminder of the fight we still have ahead of us. Indeed, we know that in the coming months, the rights of women to make their own decisions about their reproductive health are at stake.

With this in mind, and the fall elections ahead, our advocacy efforts and voter outreach have expanded civic engagement among Long Island’s disenfranchised populations, and fostered new reproductive rights activists. Planned Parenthood of Nassau County (PPNC) is the leading reproductive rights advocacy organization in our community, and we know that we can increase awareness of the rights that are at risk locally and across our country at this moment.

While these rights hinge on the outcome of the presidential election this fall, we will remain steadfast as the most trusted provider of women’s reproductive health care. In fact, this October, PPNC joins Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) in celebrating 100 years of care, education and advocacy, and we hope you’ll join us at our annual fall luncheon on October 20th for this special occasion.

We are grateful that you continue to stand with us and to protect the critically-needed health care we provide every day. We are proud to share these highlights of our spring and summer season with you, as we know that it’s your support that makes the work we do possible, and allows us to keep our doors open.

Sincerely,

JoAnn D. Smith
PPNC Abortion Care Now Includes Long-Acting Reversible Contraception Consultation

This spring and summer, PPNC continued to provide our patients with the highest standard of care to meet their family planning needs. For women who wish to use a Long-Acting Reversible Contraceptive (LARC) method, PPNC now offers them this method at the time of abortion. For many patients, this effective method of birth control is free. Our patients are grateful for this added service, as it enables them to avoid future unintended pregnancies and, ultimately, provide a better life for themselves and the children they have or will have in the future.

Ending The Epidemic: Nassau County Aims to End the AIDS Epidemic

Because of our integral role in HIV/AIDS outreach and testing services, PPNC joined Governor Cuomo’s initiative to end the AIDS epidemic (ETE - End The Epidemic) in New York by participating in a Long Island ETE committee that is focusing on the issue locally.

This spring and summer, we focused on outreach to individuals with HIV who were unaware of their status, increased testing across Nassau County in the Plan Van (our mobile testing unit), as well as ensured that individuals who tested positive were directly linked to organizations that could provide the treatment they needed.

In fact, during the months of April through August, PPNC provided over 110 tests in our Plan Van and more than 2,500 tests in our three health centers.

PPNC Health Center Team Joins TeamSTEPPS

In June, as part of our efforts to improve the patient experience, PPNC embarked on TeamSTEPPS - Team Strategies and Tools to Enhance Performance and Patient Safety. This program was developed by the Department of Defense and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and is the national standard for team training in healthcare, designed to improve communication and teamwork skills among health professionals. Participating in programs like TeamSTEPPS is just another way that we are fulfilling our promises to the individuals in our community that our health care services are of the highest quality.
Coordinator of Educational Youth Initiatives, Michael Groover, Receives Award from Local Elementary School

Our work is having such a positive impact in the communities we serve, that the leadership of the Centennial Elementary School in Roosevelt recently recognized one of PPNC’s Sexuality Educators, Michael Groover, with an award for his success in running the “Man Up Boys” empowerment group for sixth grade boys in the school. The purpose of the “Man Up Boys” program is to provide the knowledge and introduce the life skills necessary for boys to develop into respectful men, with the ability to accomplish the goals they set out for themselves – no matter what.

According to Michael, the program has two stages: “Understanding Yourself” and “Understanding Your Community through Character-Building.” Michael says that one of the best outcomes from the program is that the boys feel that they have a safe space to express themselves; talk about challenging issues, including self-esteem, puberty, and the meaning of manhood; and uplift one another through the collaborative spirit of the group. Michael is extremely grateful for the opportunity to teach boys at the school about the importance of teamwork, problem-solving, and effective communication in making good decisions for themselves and for their communities. Through programs such as “Man Up Boys,” PPNC works each and every day to ensure that the young people in our community have access to both the information and services they need to stay safe, grow up healthy and realize their full potential.

Awareness Months and Action Steps!

Recognizing the importance of providing information about growing up healthy and safe to the young people in our communities, our staff utilized awareness months during the spring and summer season for enhanced outreach, advocacy and collaboration!
In April, Get Yourself Tested/Talking month, PPNC’s Plan Van, our mobile testing unit, visited Hofstra’s campus to offer free HIV and STI testing services in order to inform students of their status and link them to the treatment they need.

The month of April was also Sexual Assault Awareness month, and our advocacy and outreach events were bigger than ever, with participation in a variety of college events including Take Back the Night anti-violence demonstrations and survivor speak-outs at Hofstra University, Adelphi University and SUNY Old Westbury.

In May, Teen Pregnancy Prevention month, we augmented our award-winning sex education programs by providing free condoms and emergency contraception pills to teens at our Hempstead health center.

In June, PPNC staff and volunteers celebrated Pride month by marching in the 2016 annual New York City Pride Parade alongside Planned Parenthood of NYC.

Throughout the summer, PPNC promoted birth control method awareness in our social media messaging, sharing informative resources, articles and videos about the variety of methods available.

Whole Women’s Health - Supreme Court Win!

On June 27, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in Whole Woman’s Health v. Hellerstedt, a challenge to a Texas law that severely limited access to safe and legal abortion services. The Court struck down two major provisions of Texas House Bill 2 (HB2): (1) a mandate that abortion providers adhere to the same standards as ambulatory surgical centers (ASCs) and (2) a requirement that doctors who provide abortions obtain admitting privileges at a local hospital. In its ruling, the Court made clear that: “neither of these provisions offers medical benefits sufficient to justify the burdens upon access that each imposes.” We are thrilled that the Supreme Court recognized that laws like HB2 are detrimental to women’s health, by blocking access to safe abortion services, and do not enhance patient
safety. Moreover, we at PPNC recognize the importance of this landmark ruling, as it was an enormous win for women, and established a strong legal standard by the Supreme Court that will undoubtedly help to challenge similar restrictive laws.

Karla Bradley, PPFA Young Volunteer of the Year

PPNC is proud to welcome Karla Bradley on staff as our new full-time Grassroots Organizer. She has been a powerful force behind our public affairs and advocacy work since 2013, first as a college volunteer, and then as part-time staff member. With a knack for empowering others, she has been instrumental in engaging volunteers in reproductive rights advocacy initiatives as well as voter registration campaigns in our health centers and throughout the community.

We welcome Karla to our staff, and congratulate her on her outstanding achievement as this year’s winner of the PPFA Affiliate Excellence Award for Young Volunteer of the Year!

Power of Pink Summit

In May, PPNC staff and five young advocates from colleges across NY state attended the Power of Pink summit, Planned Parenthood Action Fund’s (PPAF) first and largest national membership event, where they connected with nearly 1,000 other members of PPAF and honed their grassroots organizing skills in order to become more effective reproductive rights activists. We are truly proud to provide our advocates with opportunities like Power of Pink, as we know their integral role in outreach throughout the local community, creating local advocacy campaigns, and ultimately increasing the awareness and access of PPNC’s reproductive health care services.

Pritchard Grant Helps PPNC Connect to Our Community through Social Media

With the support of a grant from the Pritchard Foundation, PPNC has collaborated with Connected Health Solutions, Inc. (CHS) on a project to create a social marketing campaign that is informed by and resonates with PPNC’s young adult target population of 19-29 year olds. The program’s goal is to reach these individuals with provocative and compelling messaging, ultimately increasing awareness of services in our health centers.

With this in mind, participants have helped to create PPNC’s next outreach campaign entitled, So Much More, which carries the core message that PPNC is so much more than the negative stigma you may have heard, and provides so many more services than you might realize.
We are thrilled to launch this campaign and hope you’ll join us online at SoMuchMore.Tumblr.com, Facebook.com/PPNCSoMuchMore and Instagram.com/PPNC_SoMuchMore.

**National Council of Jewish Women (NC JW) Honors PPNC at Annual Women Who Make a Difference Luncheon**

This past May, PPNC’s CEO and President, JoAnn Smith, was honored by the NCJW Long Island Section at their 2015 Women Who Make a Difference luncheon for her exceptional contributions as a leader in Nassau County.

As advocacy for reproductive rights and access to women’s health care are central to their mission, NCJW has always been a loyal and proud supporter of PPNC and we were grateful to receive this meaningful recognition.

### Events

**2016 Annual Spring Gala:**
**A Roaring Success!**

PPNC was thrilled to honor Judy and Phil Schwartz at our 2016 Hollywood Gala for all they do for PPNC and the people in our community. The evening was a great success thanks to all who danced, bid and helped us raise over $265,000 for Planned Parenthood of Nassau County!

**PPNC’s 2016 Annual Luncheon Featuring Keynote Speaker Lizz Winstead!**

Please join us for our 2016 Annual Fall Luncheon on October 20, 2016 at the Carlyle on the Green in Bethpage State Park. We will be celebrating Planned Parenthood’s 100th Anniversary, honoring our volunteers, and enjoying this special day with our incredible keynote speaker, Lizz Winstead, co-creator and former head writer of *The Daily Show*. Please call 516-750-2663 or visit ppnc.org for more information about this event.
Gift and Give Back to PPNC with Wit & Whim
All September Long!

Gift and give back to PPNC every day in September at the whimsical Port Washington gift boutique - wit & whim! Throughout the month, 100% of wit & whim’s profits will go towards the critically-needed care that PPNC provides to the community.

Take some time to shop for early birthday or holiday gifts for your friends and family by picking out a present for them from wit & whim’s unique selection of handmade, vintage, fair trade and modern goods!

We hope you’ll join us in celebrating this wonderful collaboration at one of our festive kick-off receptions at wit & whim on September 15 at 12-2 PM or 6-9 PM.

wit & whim is located at 6 Carlton Ave, Port Washington, NY 11050. Hours: Tues - Sat 10 AM - 6 PM, Sun 11 AM - 5 PM. For more information about wit & whim, visit http://wit-and-whim.com/, email witandwhim@gmail.com, or call 516-944-9200.