



SPRING
2011

GET connected

UPCOMING events

April 29
Annual Gala Benefit
6:30pm
Locust Grove
Poughkeepsie, NY

May 21
Warwick Benefit
5:30-8:30pm
Warwick, NY

For more information about upcoming events, please visit www.ppmhv.org/events

New Health Center Opens in Newburgh

On March 31st Planned Parenthood Mid-Hudson Valley welcomed more than 75 friends and community supporters to tour its new 8,500 square foot health center on Lake Street in Newburgh. The larger, more modern center, which opened on January 11, 2011, consolidated the former Newburgh and New Windsor sites and provides



A young guest enjoys the new Kids' Corner to its fullest at the Newburgh health center.

a full range of reproductive health services and educational programming. Guests were truly impressed with the warm and secure waiting room, spacious exam rooms, a new male services room and comfortable recovery room. The Kids' Corner, donated by a longtime Newburgh supporter in honor of her grandson, is a brand new addition to the waiting area and features a child-size bench, media center, an array of books and colorful wall decorations. While we take pride in this accomplishment,

it is our patients that will benefit most from the new health center. In just a few short months, the feedback that we have received from the community and our patients has been tremendously positive. We are thrilled to have had the opportunity to contribute to improved experiences for our patients in Newburgh and the surrounding areas.

The War on Women

Women's health care has been under attack – with very focused attempts by groups and individuals to defund Planned Parenthood. Planned Parenthood Mid-Hudson Valley has been outraged by these attacks. Our supporters participated in the Rally for Women's Health on February 26th in New York City with 6,000 people in attendance. On April 7th our supporters were among those on twelve buses from New York State that went to Washington to rally with other supporters from around the country to decry the attacks on women's health and Planned Parenthood. The incredible efforts by our supporters to educate their congressional representatives about the important preventive family planning services have resulted in the passage of this year's budget without defunding Planned Parenthood. More than 800,000 women would have been affected in New York alone if the efforts of Congressman Pence and others had succeeded. On April 14th, the Senate refused to accept the proposals set forth by the House so funding remains for the time being. However, we anticipate that similar attacks will be launched as we move into the next budget season. We will continue our vigilance in standing up for our patients' rights and the rights of all women, men and teens to access family planning services.



Activists from the mid-Hudson Valley joined forces with thousands of others in New York City on February 26th to protest the attack on women's health care.

Peers, Prevention and Power



Peer Educators join Ruth-Ellen Blodgett, President and CEO, and Board Member Blake Rider for FPA's Lobby Day in February.

Our Peer Educators are busy!

More than 20 Peer Educators from our region attended the annual Family Planning Advocates Lobby Day on January 10. These dynamic teens met with our leaders in Albany, many of whom are new, to discuss the importance of reproductive health care for the women, men and teens throughout our nation.

Four of our Beacon Peers attended the Planned Parenthood Federation of America National Youth Summit in Washington, DC on April 7-9. The selection process is highly competitive and this was the second year in a row that Peers from the mid-Hudson Valley attended. Last year our Kingston Peers were selected to attend. Way to go Peers!

Get Yourself Tested (GYT)

April is sexually transmitted infection (STI) awareness month. One in two sexually active young people will get an STI before age 25 and won't know it. Planned Parenthood is one of the annual partners in the Get Yourself Tested (GYT) campaign, which aims to raise awareness about the prevalence of STIs. GYT promotes testing, STI facts and awareness events throughout the month. Planned Parenthood Mid-Hudson Valley will be providing free testing at community colleges in our four counties. For more information about GYT or the free testing dates, visit www.ppmhv.org.

May is Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month!

May 4th is The National Day to Prevent Teen Pregnancy and the whole month of May is dedicated to educating teens, tweens and parents about the responsibilities of sex. This is the 10th year of the campaign and the latest results state that the rate of teen pregnancy declined 6% in 2009. However, 3 in 10 girls still get pregnant before age 20, so our work continues! Planned Parenthood Mid-Hudson Valley will be coordinating events throughout the month, and our Peer Educators will be out in full force to promote responsible choices. We encourage all teens to take the National Quiz on StayTeen.org. For more information, please visit www.ppmhv.org.

Connect With Us in the Community!

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| April 29 | Sister to Sister D.I.V.A.S. – Poughkeepsie | May 11 | FPA Diverse Communities Health Initiative Lobby Day – Albany |
| April 29 | Hip Hop Theater – Poughkeepsie | May 12 | LGBTQ Youth Circles* – Newburgh |
| April 30 | Take Back the Night – SUNY New Paltz | May 13 | Annual Queer Prom – Poughkeepsie |
| May 6 | BIRTH – Ellenville | May 17 | LGBTQ Youth Circles* – Poughkeepsie |
| May 6 | Healthy Teens Event – Beacon | May 19 | Team Newburgh Street Outreach |
| May 7 | Hudson Valley AIDS Walk – Walkway over the Hudson | May 24 | Ulster BOCES Health Expo |
| May 7 | Women's Health & Fitness Expo – Kingston | May 25 | Healthy Choice Fair – Middletown High School |
| May 9 | LGBTQ Youth Circles* – Kingston | June 5 | New Paltz Pride March |
| May 10 | Dutchess County Unity March to End Domestic Violence | June 11 | Make a Difference Day – Kingston |

**LGBTQ Circles youth support groups are ongoing. Call (845) 838-1200 ext. 102 or email bethany.hamilton@ppmhv.org for more information.*

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Mid-Hudson Valley

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