# DialogUe Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains

# Spring 2009

visit our website at www.pprm.org

# You Make Health Care a Reality



Almost all of us know someone who has been hit by the economic downturn. People who never thought they'd be without health care are starting to worry they'll have no where to turn. That's where Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains (PPRM) comes in. Across our fourstate region and 29 health centers, staff and volunteers are bracing for record numbers of people who will turn to Planned Parenthood for health care in 2009.

Your support is vital and more critical than ever in order for us to meet the growing needs of the communities we serve. It's daunting but we are confident we can meet this challenge with your support. So we're asking for your help. Now through the remainder of our financial year (Sept. 30) we urge every PPRM supporter to show their continued support through a financial gift.

Since 1916, PPRM has been committed to ensuring that our health center doors remain open to anyone and everyone, regardless of their ability to pay. In the last year alone, support from people like you meant that thousands of low-income women and families, many of whom have no where else to go for reproductive and general health services, were able to find care. In state legislatures across our region, we were able to fend off attacks

from our opponents and advocate for programs and policies that allow women the ability to make their own decisions about their reproductive health.

Many people our health centers serve are cut off from other affordable health care options. Your support will ensure that PPRM continues to be the first place women, men and young adults turn to when seeking high-quality, affordable reproductive health care.

Please support PPRM today by calling our Development department at 303.321.7526, send an e-mail to info.development@pprm.org or send a donation in the enclosed envelope. You ARE Planned Parenthood. Together we make a big difference for people who need reproductive health care. Thank you.

### OMG, PPRM GYT reached 1,500!

PPRM reached 1,500 people in Colorado, Wyoming, Nevada and New Mexico through its participation in the "GYT: Get Yourself Tested" campaign.

GYT, which took place in April during National STD Awareness Month, was an effort to increase awareness about sexually transmitted disease (STD) testing and treatment among people 25 years old and younger through community outreach. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, by the age of 25, one in two sexually active young people

will contract an STD.
Statewide Colorado
mirrors national trends
with an increase in
reported cases of
chlamydia, gonorrhea
and syphilis. Despite
being a very common
health issue, many
young people don't
get tested for STDs due to a lack of

knowledge or stigma.

PPRM kicked off the GYT campaign with the premiere of the MTV documentary



"Pedro" by hosting film screenings in Denver and Boulder. Over 130 people attended the premiere in Denver at the STARZ Film Center and over 30 people attended the Boulder premiere on the

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# Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains

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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.

#### www.pprm.org

#### **Birth Control Protection Act Becomes Law**

Positions Colorado as a leader in reproductive rights

PPRM activists and supporters commended the passage of Senate Bill og-225, the Birth Control Protection Act (BCPA), signed into Colorado state law by Gov. Bill Ritter on April 16.

The BCPA defines contraceptives or contraception as any medically acceptable drug, device, or procedure used to prevent pregnancy. Before now, a clear definition of birth control did not exist in Colorado law, allowing the debate around abortion to extend to safe, effective methods of birth control. The bill was proposed in response to increasing attacks on birth control, similar to Amendment 48, which voters soundly defeated during the November 2008 election.

"Ninety-eight percent of sexually active women in the U.S. use contraception at some point during their life. We are pleased this fundamental right that ensures women access to safe, effective forms of contraception is now protected," said PPRM President

and CEO, Vicki Cowart. "The signing of the BCPA also positions Colorado as a leader in reproductive rights and among other states that have safe guarded contraception. I'm proud Planned Parenthood was instrumental in lobbying and winning support for this measure."

PPRM expresses thanks to the bill's original sponsors, Sen. Betty Boyd of Lakewood and former state Rep. Anne McGihon of Denver, for their relentless commitment and support. We also pay tribute to our over 780 activists who sent "thank you" notes to the Governor after he signed the bill.

#### 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 70,000 activists by visiting **pprm.org** or by calling **303.321.7526**.

### PPRM Applauds EC going OTC, again



On April 22, the Food and Drug Administration announced that it would comply with a federal judge's order from

March 23, 2009 and allow emergency contraception (EC) to be sold over-the-counter (OTC) to women and men aged 17 and older. Currently, only women and men aged 18 and older can obtain EC OTC. PPRM eagerly applauded this decision that will eventually expand access to EC.

PPRM stands by this decision as a good, common sense policy that will help reduce the number of unintended pregnancies nationally. The U.S. has the highest rate of teen pregnancy among developed countries; approximately 750,000 teens will get pregnant this year. Over-the-counter

availability of EC allows timelier, effective use; this is particularly important for incidents of rape, incest or contraception failure.

Because PPRM has always made forms of contraception, including emergency contraception, accessible to women by prescription, the ruling is not likely to significantly impact our day-to-day operations, particularly as they pertain to women.

While the measure is not yet in place (the manufacturer must first request the necessary changes from the FDA), it symbolizes a step forward in protecting the health and safety of all women. The proposed timing for when EC will be able to be 17 year-olds OTC is currently unknown, but PPRM will let you know.



DONOR SPOTHGHT: Trudy Brown

Circle of Friends

Trudy Brown is not the typical donor you think of when you hear "Trudy has left PPRM in her will." Trudy is energetic, involved in many other prochoice organizations, and is young.

Trudy's passion for reproductive choice stems from her mother, a physician, who would tell her stories "from the field" of young girls who became pregnant and patients who suffered botched abortions in Mexico. From these stories, Trudy knew she would always support women's reproductive freedoms.

After her mother passed away five years ago, Trudy, a longtime PPRM supporter, made a choice to generously support the many organizations her mother so loved and for which she is

also passionate. "I felt like this was the best way to memorialize my mother and continue the traditions of social justice she instilled in me."

Trudy has always believed in supporting the many services PPRM provides, having given to the Clients in Need fund, "No on 48" ballot initiative, Teens for Tomorrow and Building the Future Campaign. In her words, "only giving one donation to one fund helps only one facet of the bigger reproductive problems that women face." Trudy also gives to other women's reproductive organizations with which PPRM partners including Protect Families, Protect Choices, Religious Coalition for Reproductive Freedom, NARAL and the Freedom Fund. Trudy believes that "we're all in this together, so we need to be working together to protect our reproductive freedoms."

Trudy chose to become a Guardian of Choice to ensure that "after I'm gone, the mission of PPRM can be carried

out." At an early age, Trudy learned that having a will is the only way one's wishes can be guaranteed and honored. When Trudy was 18, an aunt she was close to passed away. Her aunt did not have a will and Trudy watched her aunt's estate go through probate. Trudy was determined not to let this happen to her. "I want to make certain that nothing is left up to chance. I want to be assured that the groups I'm passionate about are able to carry on their work after I'm gone."

Trudy is one of 165 members of our Guardians of Choice Legacy Society. Guardians of Choice leave a legacy and allow the continuation to PPRM's mission to help people make responsible choices about their reproductive health.

If you would like to join Trudy and many others like her, call our Planned Giving department at **303.813.7644** or send an e-mail to **info.development@pprm.org**.

# Preserving Choice for Future Generations An Everlasting Impression on Reproductive Rights

PPRM established Guardians of Choice to honor individuals who support our work through a gift in their estate plan. These gifts become part of an endowment fund, which works to advance Planned Parenthood's mission.

This endowment helps preserve reproductive freedom, education and choice for future generations. It is also a fund we presently rely on to further services and programs (currently \$300,000 is contributed annually to service and program enhancement).

Legacy gifts range in size from small estates to million dollar



bequests. Gifts of any size will leave an everlasting impression and significantly strengthen PPRM's efforts to protect reproductive rights.

To learn more about Guardians of Choice, please contact the Development department at 303.813.7644 or send an e-mail to info.development@pprm.org.

Dear Planned Parenthood:
Thank you for helping me
through my pregnancy.
You supplied me with
valuable information and
encouragement during a time
I needed it most. Thank
you for smiling like you
do! You are appreciated!
— Prenatal client

Last year, 382 clients received prenatal care through our Prenatal Plus Program at Rose Medical Center in Denver.
This program helps women have healthier pregnancies by providing safe, complete, holistic and quality maternity care to the family in an environment that is supportive and accepting.

#### The Latino Outreach Initiative

Combating Health Disparities; Mobilizing Latino Activists



REV. CASTUERA BLESSING

"We bless this building as sacred ground, where the voices and stories of women and men are welcomed, valued, and affirmed, sacred ground where voices and stories are not silenced, belittled, or judged, but given full freedom of expression; sacred ground where women and men are treated with dignity, supported in their role as moral decision makers; sacred ground where body, mind, and soul find healing and compassion and where justice is the standard by which success is measured; sacred ground where the violent voices of hatred and oppression are quelled and where women and men are empowered to stand on their own ground."

— Adapted from the prayer "On Scared Ground," written by Rev. Larry Phillips, Minister, Emmanuel Baptist Church - Friedens United Church of Christ, Schenectady, NY, Meniber of the PPFA Pro-Choice Religious Network.

The face of America is changing – and it is increasingly young and Latino. According to the U.S. Census, Latinos are this nation's fastest-growing demographic, making up 15 percent of the U.S. population – approximately 45 million people. Currently, one in seven Americans is Latino, but by 2050 it is projected that one in three Americans will be Latino. More importantly, while the adolescent population among non-Hispanics is expected to grow by eight percent over the next 20 years, the adolescent Latino population is expected to grow by 60 percent.

The sheer size and growth of this population has had a significant impact on many areas of American life, including business, faith communities, health care, and most recently politics. According to the Pew Hispanic Center, the Latino electorate significantly affected the 2008 presidential elections.

However, while the Latino community is growing in size and political power, it also suffers disproportionately from negative sexual and reproductive health outcomes:

 Among Latina adolescents, pregnancy and birth rates are almost three times higher than those of non-Hispanic white adolescents.

- In 2007, the rate of gonorrhea was almost twice as high for Latinas as for non-Hispanic white women.
   The rate of chlamydia among Latinas has risen. When chlamydia and gonorrhea are left untreated, they can lead to infertility, pelvic inflammatory disease, and lifethreatening ectopic pregnancies and increase the risk of becoming infected with HIV, leaving Latinas at higher risk for HIV infection.
- Because Latinas are at high risk for sexually transmitted diseases, they are also at high risk for cervical cancer. In fact, they have a higher incidence of cervical cancer than any other race/ethnic category.

Latinos are a young population: The average age of Latinos is 27 – a full decade younger than the average age of 40 for the overall population. Thus they will spend the next decade in their reproductive years and will need accessible family planning and prenatal care services. Access to these services is extremely important, because in addition to suffering disproportionately

Continued on page 9

# PPRM Awarded BBB Accredited Charity Status

We are pleased to announce that the Better Business Bureau (BBB) has awarded PPRM Accredited Charity status and will now include us in the BBB "Wise Giving Report."



The Standards for Charity
Accountability assist donors in making sound giving decisions and aim to foster public confidence in charitable organizations. The standards seek to encourage fair and honest solicitation practices, promote ethical conduct and advance philanthropy.

The standards were developed with professional and technical assistance from representatives of small and large charitable organizations, accounting professionals, grant making foundations, corporate contribution officers, regulatory agencies, research organizations and the BBB. The BBB Wise Giving Alliance also commissioned independent research on donor expectations to ensure that the views of the general public were reflected in the standards.

Organizations that comply with these accountability standards must provide documentation of:

- organization governance,
- overall fiscal responsibility and accountability,
- accurate representation (of the organization and its properties), and
- public disclosure practices.

For more information, please contact the Development department at **303.321.7526** or visit **bbb.org**.

### **HPV Vaccine Now Available at all PPRM Health Centers**

The Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) is a virus that is passed by skin-to-skin contact. Often, persons who are infected with the virus have no symptoms. Even without symptoms the virus can be passed from one person to another. Approximately 20 million people in the United States are infected with HPV. There are more than 100 types of HPV; some types of HPV cause genital warts, and some types cause cervical cancer.

Gardasil, manufactured by Merck & Co., Inc, is a vaccine that provides protection against the diseases caused by HPV types six, 11, 16 and 18. HPV types 16 and 18 are responsible for 70 percent of all cervical cancers, and HPV types six and 11 are responsible for 90 percent of genital warts.

"By expanding the Gardasil vaccine to all our health centers, patients can be confident they are receiving complete and accurate health care information and services when they walk into any one of our centers," said PPRM CEO and President Vicki Cowart. The vaccine is approved by the Food and Drug Administration for women ages nine to 26 and is recommended as a routine vaccination for girls ages 11 to 12, before the onset of sexual activity (but young women who are sexually active should still be vaccinated). Catch-up vaccination

is recommended in females ages 13 to 26 who have not previously been vaccinated or who have not completed the full series. The HPV vaccine does not protect against types of HPV to which the patient has previously been exposed, or to HPV types not contained in the vaccine. The vaccine requires three injections over a six-month period.

PPRM offers free vaccinations through Merck's Patient Assistance Program to patients without health care insurance and who meet other qualifications. We welcome anyone interested in this program to contact our staff to learn



if they qualify. Planned Parenthood accepts insurance from private health plans, although coverage for Gardasil varies.

The most common side effect is local irritation at the injection site. PPRM encourages all girls and women or parents considering the vaccine for their daughters to contact us and learn more about the vaccine. Call 1.800.230. PLAN or visit pprm.org for the health center nearest you.

Last year PPRM provided 3,163 HPV vaccinations.



PPRM now provides the abortion pill in Alamosa and Las Vegas. The abortion pill uses two medicines to end pregnancy and can be administered up to the ninth week of pregnancy. Abortions represent just 7 percent of our total services yet are a critical component to our overall mission.



Our current marketing efforts include targeting the increasing number of people who have recently lost their health insurance coverage. It is our goal to increase awareness of Planned Parenthood's affordable and accessible services so people will not delay important health care services such as birth control, annual exams and cancer screenings.



Jaime Marston, Vicki Cowart and Angela Wells accept the Volunteer Excellence Award

PPRM's Volunteer department was presented the 2009 Affiliate Volunteer Excellence Award at Planned Parenthood's National Conference held in Houston, Texas (March 24 – 27). At PPRM, volunteers are instrumental in improving our ability to meet the growing demand for services. Volunteering is a wonderful way of giving while receiving – and provides an opportunity for people

We are proud to announce that

# PPRM's Volunteer Department Recognized as National Leader

to come together in pursuit of a common endeavor and mutual learning experience.

Every PPRM volunteer receives in-depth training in order to serve as Planned Parenthood ambassadors throughout our region. During the six-day Democratic National Convention,

for example, PPRM volunteers disseminated 30,000 commemorative condoms, registered more than 4,000 supporters for the One Million Strong Campaign and contributed 1,100 hours of volunteer service. Our Marketing Outreach program reached a new level of success in its second year, contributing 787 hours of volunteer service, distributing 40,164 PROPER ATTIRE condoms, 35,136

PPRM coupons and 6,270 emergency contraception (EC) coasters at 49 fairs, festival, concerts, and events in the Denver Metro Area.

Join our cadre of volunteers today! Visit pprm.org or call 303.321.7526 for more information.

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

14 percent of PPRM's current staff was once volunteers.



Outreach volunteers at the Colorado Women's Expo

# PPRM GYT continued from page 1

CU campus. House parties took place in Colorado Springs, Fort Collins and Las Vegas. The campaign's momentum carried into the month with Take Back the Night, an event on April 16 designed to raise awareness about sexual assault.

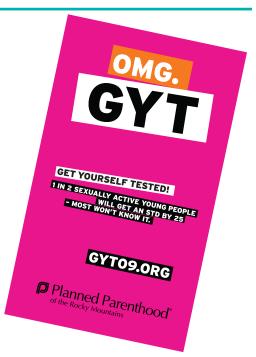
The campaign's main attraction, \$5 STD testing days on April 21 and 24 at most locations, garnered the most attention. Media outlets from Boulder to Steamboat Springs to Durango promoted the campaign. GYT was abuzz on PPRM's social networking sites and PPRM staff, dressed in GYT gear, enthusiastically encouraged the public to "get tested" by staging visibility events near Planned Parenthood locations in Metro Denver. All these efforts proved worthwhile.

Nearly 1,500 people were tested for STDs at PPRM health centers on the \$5 STD testing days. Cumulatively more than 1,400 chlamydia tests, 1,400

gonorrhea tests and 1,300 HIV tests were administered; a more than ten-fold increase in STD testing compared to an average day.

Nationwide, the campaign spread virally online, with GYTo9.org receiving more than half a million page views and more than 250,000 unique visitors. In addition, nearly 15,000 people located their nearest testing center by texting their zip code to the mobile code GYTo9. The GYT Facebook and Twitter accounts were also popular among young adults.

"Planned Parenthood participated in GYT to show its commitment to providing young people with the information and services they need to make responsible, healthy decisions," said PPRM President and CEO Vicki Cowart. "The buzz created by the GYT campaign was a huge success. The more people talk about the importance of



getting tested, the more likely we can effectively address this critical public health issue."

The campaign was a partnership among Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA), MTV and the Kaiser Family Foundation.

#### Tribute Gifts Made Between July 1, 2008 & May 1, 2009

In Honor of Phyllis and Vance Allen Laurel A. McLeod

In Honor of Lindsay Beirne Merlinda R. Gallegos

**In Honor of Judy Blume** Myra Rich

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Sally Augden Chris English Doug Hesse Lee Huntington Dianne Ladd Glenda Smith

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# **In Honor of Katherine Burchman**Allison Gleichman

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In Honor of Merle Chambers Marla I. Williams

In Honor of "CHOICE" Jacqueline L. Terry

In Honor of Lisa and Dan Culhane
Ellen Anderman and James Donaldson

In Honor of Margaret and Richard Culver

**Gregory Heine** 

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In Honor of Tara Friedman's Work on the Issue Committee and the "NO on 48" Campaign

Leslie Durgin Aleah J. Horstman Annette B. Mainland

#### In Honor of Christine Gardner-Gould

The Colorado Trust Directed Contributions Program at the request of Gail Schoettler

In Honor of Barbara Gibson

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In Honor of Lynda Goldstein lane and Gilbert Hermann

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In Honor of Evelyn Himelgrin-Rodman Nana Naisbitt

In Honor of Adelyn Hoffman on Mother's Day Pamela J. Shillam

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In Honor of Susan Kirk's Birthday Katharine C. Kurtz

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In Honor of Page Lindsey Stephanie Roth

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In Honor of Bonnie Margolin's Birthday Lee Levy

**In Honor of Eleanor Nordhauser** Diane Larsen

**In Honor of Libby and Karl Norton**The Thorndikes

#### In Honor of Sarah Palin

1,514 donors - due to the large number of donors, PPRM is unable to list all names

In Honor of Kevin Paul
Carolyn and James Roderick

In Honor of James Phelps Jenna Watkins Katz In Honor of Elena and Perry Segura Emily Crimaldi

**In Honor of Christine Shore** Karen Bowen

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**In Honor of Pegi Touff's Birthday** Elizabeth Block and Joe Goldhammer

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In Honor of G. Wolusky Patricia Kaufman

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In Honor of My Mom, Joy Hilliard M. H. Hilliard

In Honor of My Mother, Jean Mueller Laura E. Mueller

In Honor of My Parents, William "Peter" W. Grant III and Rhondda Grant
Elizabeth L. Grant

In Honor of the Special Anniversary of Joyce and Sam Freeman
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In Honor of the Wedding of Jay Newberg and Mary Cowan Liz Westerfield and Scott Kinnamon

In Honor of the 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary of Sig and Lucille Rosenfeld Belle Chazen

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#### In Memory of Patty Berlau Buckstein

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#### **In Memory of Terry Touff**

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ndrews

Karen and Frank Van DeWater

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Janice M. Wright Opal M. Fisher

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Pamela J. Shillam

# In Memory of My Husband, Larry Currier

Jeannette S. Currier

# In Memory of My Mother, Arminé Grace Dingilian Aroian

Juliet Carpenter

# In Memory of My Mother, Ellen W. Worth

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Joan W. Sowinski

#### In Memory of My Wife, Sylvia Clark

Jim Daugherty

### In Memory of My Wife, Mary Ann

William E. Lewis

#### In Memory of Our Daughter, Elizabeth

Kathryn and Robert Mann

# In Memory of Our Mother, Georgina Hotchkiss

Anne H. Wheeler

Julie Knobil

Casey Clark

#### **PPRM's Virtual World Launches**

We recently re-launched our website (pprm.org) with exciting features that include:

- Teen Talk: A teenspecific online section that can be viewed at: plannedparenthood.org/ teen-talk.
- Planned Parenthood All
   Access: This new suite
   includes three interactive
   tools: My Method (birth
   control advisor), The Check
   (STD risk assessment tool)
   and Locate (health center
   locator). These new tools
   are featured on the home
   page of our website.
- En Español: A comprehensive Spanishlanguage version of pprm.org will launch in early June. The new Teen

PLANNED PARENTHOOD
OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS

WHITE ROCKY MOUNTAINS

WH

Talk section of the web site will also launch in Spanish.

# **PPRM Participates in Clinical Research Studies** and is at the forefront of reproductive health innovations

PPRM's leadership role in advanced reproductive health care and clinical research has significantly grown with the appointment of Dr. Savita Ginde as medical director in 2004. Prior to PPRM, she conducted numerous clinical research trials within the reproductive health care specialty and, fortunately for us, continued this practice upon joining our team.

With the recent addition of a clinical research coordinator, this small but skilled research team is now even more assertive in positioning PPRM as a leader in reproductive health innovations and cutting edge research.

PPRM has already completed successful trials involving new emergency contraceptive methods as well as device validation testing for sexually transmitted diseases. These trials and others have included behavioral studies as well, rendering valuable results for us and our clients. Past studies have lowered medication prices (through market competition), improved STD testing accuracy and provided insight that allows us to better understand patient behavior patterns.

The Clinical Research division is currently working to increase PPRM's participation in clinical trials and behavioral and environmental studies. Our goal is to become a research leader within Planned Parenthood Federation of America and to continue providing high quality care to our clients.

#### contiued from page 4

from the negative health outcomes described above, Latinos also are the least likely to have health insurance. In fact, 15 million Latinos lack health insurance, making it difficult to seek the care they so desperately need.

In response to this dire public health need, Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) launched the Latino Outreach Initiative in December 2008 in Las Vegas, Nevada – where PPRM operates three health centers. The initiative aims to increase awareness among Latinos of their sexual and reproductive health risks and increase awareness of Planned Parenthood as a source for affordable, highquality reproductive health care services. Another goal is to organize and mobilize Latinos to advocate for progressive sexual and reproductive health policies.

Nevada ranks number one for the highest teen pregnancy rate and the fourth highest teen abortion rate nationwide. Planned Parenthood outreach workers in Las Vegas are forming partnerships with local businesses, elected officials, schools, parents, and clergy.

The program now has 25 Latino ambassadors, an increase from the 13 advocates the program began with six months ago. Our ambassadors are passionate, enthusiastic and committed to Planned Parenthood's mission. They help reach the Latino community through community events, health fairs, monthly meetings and local publicity. To them, we are thankful.

To learn more about the Latino
Outreach Initiative, contact PPRM's
Leslie Durgin at
leslie.durgin@pprm.org or
303.813.7647. Latino Outreach Initiative
Manager Monica Perez can also be
reached at monica.perez@pprm.org or
702.239.6217.



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#### **Want Less Mail?**

Our *Dialogue* newsletter is now available via email. If you would prefer an electronic version of this newsletter, please send your email address to info.development@pprm.org.

# Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains Teacher Training Institute



PPRM is pleased to announce that the Teacher Training Institute is eligible for Continuing Education Unit credits. The cost of the training is \$150. Participants are responsible for their own travel expenses and hotel accommodations (if necessary).

The Teacher Training Institute is held several times throughout the year.

For more information, please contact our Professional Training department via email at professional.training@pprm.org, or call 303.813.7696.

Sexuality is one of the most fundamental aspects of being human, yet it can prove to be one of the hardest topics to discuss and teach. With this in mind PPRM is pleased to offer a two-day intensive training course aimed at giving educators and other youth serving professionals the information and skills useful in providing high quality, effective sexuality education.

Participants attending the two-day course will have the opportunity to acquire the most up- to-date information and resources regarding sexuality education, explore their own ideas and values around sexuality, and participate in skill building opportunities.

#### **Topics will include:**

- Capitalizing on teachable moments
- Handling assumptions, stereotypes and inclusive language
- Answering tough questions
- Creating activities that teach
- Exploring "Hot Topics" in sexuality
- Skill building opportunities
- Resources for teachers