



FOCUS

ON PLANNED PARENTHOOD

Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest

Spring 2011

Title X – A Public Health Success Story Threatened by the 2011 War on Women

by Maureen Johnson, Development Officer

In late December 1970, President Richard Nixon signed into law Title X (ten) of the Public Health Service Act, declaring, “No American woman should be denied access to family planning assistance because of her economic condition.” Known only as Title X, it is the only Federal program dedicated to providing family planning services and has been an integral component of our nation’s public health system, providing high-quality

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U.S. Senate Saves Critical Women’s Health Funding Planned Parenthood Victorious

by Kristin Glundberg-Prossor, Director of Public Affairs

On April 14, 2011, the U.S. Senate listened to millions of American women and voted, 58-42, to reject House Concurrent Resolution 36 (H.C.R. 36). This extreme proposal would have barred Planned Parenthood from providing preventive health services including birth control, breast and cervical cancer screenings, and sexually transmitted infection (STI) testing (including HIV) to patients who are covered by Medicaid and other federal programs. This four-month-long congressional attack on women’s health has been the biggest threat to Planned Parenthood and our patients in decades.

The measure to defund Planned Parenthood is not new. Also known as the “Pence Amendment,” it was defeated in July 2007 (231-189) and again in July 2009 (247-183). The legislation is championed by Representative Mike Pence (R) of Indiana and is supported by the new 2011 House leadership, a major difference from the last time it was voted on in 2009. As *Politico* summed up earlier this year, “Abortion-rights advocates and abortion-rights opponents don’t see eye to eye on much, but they do agree on this: Nobody hates Planned Parenthood quite as much as Mike Pence.”

On February 18, 2011, Pence offered his amendment again, and this time the House passed the measure (240-185) as an amendment to the Continuing Resolution (C.R.) – a critical vote to keep the government funded. During eleventh-hour negotiations to avert a government shutdown, the White House, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, and House Speaker John Boehner agreed to abandon the Pence Amendment in the C.R. and keep the government funded. There was a catch, however. House Republicans demanded reconsideration of the amendment as a free-standing congressional bill. The Pence Amendment became H.C.R. 36 [directing the Clerk of the House to make a correction in the enrollment of H.R.



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Sharon Dollinger

PPGNW Board Member

2005-2011

It is with unbearable sadness the board and staff of PPGNW announce the tragic and sudden loss of PPGNW board member, Sharon Dollinger of Boise, Idaho. Sharon died unexpectedly on Monday, April 11, 2011.



Sharon originally served on the Planned Parenthood of Idaho Board beginning in 2005 and continued her service as a member of the PPGNW Board.

Sharon was a true champion of women's reproductive rights and stood strong and proud as a longstanding, powerful, and influential voice on our board. Sharon worked as a key leader in rebuilding the Idaho affiliate after a devastating fire in 2005 — championing the drive to fulfill our commitment to serve Idaho families in purchasing our first new site and opening the location within five short months. With all of her tremendous passion for reproductive rights, above all else Sharon cherished the love and support of her family — daughters Rachel and Natalie, and husband Dave. She beamed with pride when speaking of them.

Sharon is remembered fondly by her board colleagues and staff members as a dedicated mentor who was cherished and respected by all who knew her, as well as having an infectious sense of humor and keen eye for a great handbag! The PPGNW Board of Directors and staff plan to discuss the most appropriate ways to memorialize and honor her service to the mission of Planned Parenthood. She is already deeply missed.

Executive Update Message from Chris

The War on Women's Healthcare

I wasn't necessarily surprised when *Live Action*, the anti-choice media organization whose stated purpose is to "take Planned Parenthood down," launched their newest campaign of videos in an effort to smear our name. I was, however, appalled that they'd passed themselves as pimps and exploited underage illegal immigrant prostitutes. Did they really think we wouldn't contact authorities after those suspicious encounters?

So I was surprised that Representative Mike Pence (R-IN) chose to have Lila Rose, *Live Action's* CEO, join him on the steps of our nation's capitol when he announced his efforts to defund Planned Parenthood. But why not? Their shared goal is to dismantle a 90-year-old public service organization that provides our nation's low-income and uninsured with their primary access to women's health and family planning services; one with a 65 percent public approval rating! He didn't even try to disguise his defunding efforts as a "budget cut."

This was not about reducing the budget; this was about stifling our voice and commitment to choice and reproductive health for all women. Until the eleventh hour, social conservatives were willing to shut down the federal government over Planned Parenthood. And because they had to do something, though it's already the law of the land, they attached a ban on using government dollars for abortions in the District of Columbia. They had to have it come down to abortion.

At this point I wondered why everyone else wasn't as outraged as I by this blatant attack on women's healthcare. But they were, by the thousands, standing up for their rights, making their voices heard, and telling their stories in favor of women's health and our right to choose!

Yet, even in the face of public outcry and fiscal irresponsibility, the extreme Right was willing

to push their narrow agenda. In an up-or-down vote, the U.S. House of Representatives chose to eliminate all federal funding from reaching Planned Parenthood. No more contraception. No more cancer screenings. No more tests and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases. No more age-appropriate, medically-accurate sexual health education. They voted against women's healthcare and the elimination of a huge safety net for thousands of women, men, and teens over a legal procedure that makes up less than 10 percent of our federation's services.

Common sense prevailed in the Senate. Fifty-eight percent voted against defunding. Republicans, Democrats, and the smarter faction of those who oppose abortion sided with basic healthcare, real sex education, family planning, and the prevention of unintended pregnancies.

After all, abortions won't go away because someone just says "no." Women will continue to have abortions for many different reasons. While all may not understand their private, personal decision, it is better that each individual have her own choice. And that they can rely on a safe provider who will also give respectful nonjudgmental advice and support along with professional compassionate care.

We believe that abortion should be less necessary, not more dangerous and difficult. Every day, Planned Parenthood does more to prevent unintended pregnancies than any other organization. We'll continue to do so. This fight isn't over. We'll need everyone again. Thank you for thinking of the future and a healthier community.

Thanks for standing with Planned Parenthood.

Respectfully,

Christine Charbonneau, CEO



Legislative Report

by Kristen Glundberg-Prossor,
Director of Public Affairs

Juneau, March 23, 2011



Many thanks to everyone who wrote, called, texted, or emailed their legislator in all of our states. The stories that you provide and the support for women's health that you show to our legislators is essential to Planned Parenthood's legislative successes across the region.

ALASKA

At this writing, the Alaska legislature is still in session. Oil taxes dominated much of the debate during the 90 day session and the Governor may be calling legislators back if consensus is not reached on corporate tax exemptions.

PPGNW focused on two major bills — Senate Bill (SB) 5, increasing the eligibility level for Denali Kid Care, Alaska's child health insurance program, from 150 to 200 percent of the federal poverty level, which did not pass out of the Senate. PPGNW also worked with Senator Kevin Meyer(R), sponsor of SB 16 regarding special request 'Choose Life' license plates, to amend the measure to also include a special request 'Pro-Family, Pro-Choice' license plate with proceeds to go to Children's Trust. This is the first year of Alaska's two-year session so PPGNW will continue to advocate for the passage of both bills when the legislature convenes in January 2012.

IDAHO

In the Idaho legislative session, adjourned April 7, 2011, SB 1115 passed, prohibiting abortion coverage *without exception* through Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act insurance exchange plans. A woman's private insurance can no longer cover pregnancy termination to protect her health.

With no exceptions for rape, incest, or fetal anomaly, SB 1165 passed prohibiting abortions after 20 weeks post-fertilization based on unsubstantiated claims that a fetus may experience pain. Incredibly, a woman whose fetus is incompatible with life outside the womb will now be forced to carry that pregnancy to term. We are currently working on our strategy to fight this bill which was determined unconstitutional by the Idaho Attorney General.

With no hearing, legislation repealing last year's bill allowing pharmacists to refuse to dispense emergency contraception was tabled. House Bill (HB) 163, making shackling a pregnant inmate during labor and delivery illegal, and SB 1014, extending the Rape by Fraud definition, covering both married and unmarried women, both passed.

WASHINGTON

At this writing the legislature, grappling with a \$5.1 billion state budget deficit, is scheduled to adjourn April 24, 2011. The House budget appropriated \$9 million for Department of Health Family Planning funding while the Senate reduced that amount to \$7.25 million for the biennium; these must be reconciled before the legislature can adjourn. We are confident the legislature has heard us and understands the devastating effect this \$2.25 million cut would have on teens, families, women, and men, and also the fiscal importance of preserving cost saving family planning programs (every \$1 spent, means the state saves \$4 in pregnancy care costs within the same year) to achieve a healthy budget. We are hopeful that they will restore the \$2.25 million cut.

The *Limited Service Pregnancy Center (LSPC) Accountability Act*, SB 5274 / HB 1366, would have required LSPCs: to disclose that they don't provide or refer for abortions or comprehensive birth control; to provide pregnancy test results immediately; and to keep health information confidential — providing basic standards of care for women seeking pregnancy testing. It had broad support but was not passed out of the House this session — we will continue work on this next year.



Something Wonderful Happened in Olympia

by Kim Ross,
Surgical Services Manager

Olympia has a lot of anti-choice protest activity every Friday; the anti group has a large van with a

grotesque picture on the side and anti-choice protestors spewing hatred and holding signs.

On Friday, February 4, I was in Olympia training a staff member from Boise. As I turned left onto Legion Way and saw the crowd, I warned the trainee of the active protesters here in Olympia and told her not to engage them. As we turned into the parking lot she asked, “Why do their signs say ‘We love Planned Parenthood?’”

There was a very large group of PPGNW supporters who had made lovely signs, decorated cars, and were there since early that morning. They parked their van on the street where the anti van is normally, where there was an anti sign there was someone standing right next to them with a pro-choice sign. Some of the signs said, “Thank God for Planned Parenthood,” “Please help fund and support PP,” “Support reproductive rights,” and “We love PP.” The anti group disbanded around 1 p.m. but our supporters remained all day even through the heavy rain. No one knows who they were; they just said they are tired of it and that the antis are not an adequate portrayal of Olympia as a community.

Cars honked in support all day, each time we heard them I saw staff smile, the spirit in the health center was so high that the staff were almost giddy. It was a really good day in Olympia.

Senate Saves Women’s Health Funding

from page 1

1473 (Department of Defense and Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011). Any funds under such Act would be prohibited from being made available to Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Inc. or any affiliate of Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Inc.]. As expected, the House passed H.C.R. 36 by a vote of 241-185. This vote was rightly rejected by Democrats and Republicans in the Senate.

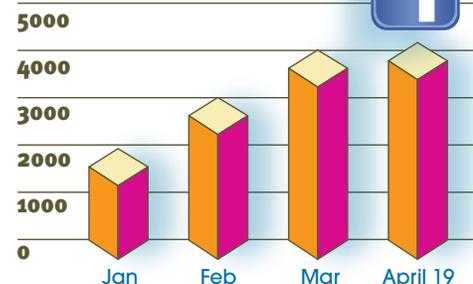
Pence and his allies insisted that their unprecedented assault on one of America’s most trusted and most cost-effective providers of basic women’s healthcare was intended to reduce federal funding for abortion and to reduce the deficit. This was a ruse, plain and simple. Congress banned federal funding for abortion more than 30 years ago and basic family planning saves money – every one dollar spent on family planning saves four dollars on costs related to pregnancy care and delivery.

Planned Parenthoods in Washington, Alaska, and Idaho generated 51,791 signatures on the Petition to “Stand with Planned Parenthood” and made over 2,317 calls into congressional offices. We recruited 1,300 supporters to attend events in support of Planned Parenthood throughout the Northwest. Additionally, Planned Parenthood was featured in over 51 different news and blog stories, radio and television interviews, and placed eight editorials in major papers in the Great Northwest.

PPGNW applauds the members of Congress who stood up for women’s health and voted against this proposal. These include Washington Senators Patty Murray (D) and Maria Cantwell (D), who spoke eloquently on the Senate floor; Alaska Senators Lisa Murkowski (R) and Mark Begich (D) – it should be noted that Senator Murkowski was one of five Republican Senators breaking with their Caucus, voting to protect women’s health; and Washington Congressmen Jay Inslee (D), Rick Larsen (D), Norm Dicks (D), Jim McDermott (D), Adam Smith (D).

Unfortunately, the entire Idaho delegation, Republican Senators Mike Crapo, Jim Risch, Congressmen Mike Simpson, Raoul Labrador, and the sole Alaska Congressman Don Young (R), voted along with Washington’s Republican Congresswomen Jamie Herrera Beutler, Cathy McMorris Rodgers, and Congressman Doc Hastings, to defund Planned Parenthood. The same group also voted earlier to eliminate the Title X program. Congressman Dave Reichert (R) did not vote due to a family emergency but had intended to approve the proposal.

Growth of Facebook Friends while under attack





825,268

online petitions signed through
IStandWithPlannedParenthood.org

7,364

stories submitted to
IStandWithPlannedParenthood.org

Any member of Congress who voted for this extreme proposal cast a vote against women's access to lifesaving cancer screenings and birth control. More than 93 percent of the healthcare PPGNW provides — and 100 percent of the care it provides through federal programs — is preventive. In many cases, we are the only community provider of preventive care and we're appalled that a fringe element of Congress would continue to put its narrow political agenda ahead of women's health and safety.

Hundreds of thousands of Americans across the country made their voices heard in support of Planned Parenthood and opposed this radical proposal by calling Congress, writing and e-mailing their elected officials, and attending rallies. Grassroots support for Planned Parenthood is widespread and deep. We thank you for your support and your calls and letters to your members of Congress.



Walk for Choice Mobilizes Supporters

by Nathan Engebretson,
New Media Coordinator

The recent attacks against Planned Parenthood have motivated many of our supporters to take action. From signing petitions to making donations to calling elected officials, the staff of PPGNW has been inspired by the many ways patients and allies have rallied to our defense. And while social media has been wildly successful in engaging online activists — the number of PPGNW Facebook fans has more than doubled since the beginning of the year — when it comes to standing up for reproductive rights, nothing beats the feelings of solidarity and inspiration generated by a good old-fashioned rally.

On February 26, Fairbanks and Seattle joined over 40 other cities across the country in participating in the *Walk for Choice*. Organized entirely online at the grassroots level, supporters took to the streets with homemade signs, t-shirts, and pro-choice chants, voicing their opposition to H.R. 3, the so-called No Tax Payer Funding for Abortion Act. Women, old and young, shared stories about how Planned Parenthood has impacted their lives, their families, and their communities as passersby honked car horns and shouted their support. In many ways, the *Walk for Choice* symbolized the perfect mix of grassroots organizing, social networking know-how, a worthy cause, and the pride and camaraderie that come with being surrounded by a friendly, energized mob of other like-minded advocates.

To see pictures of the *Walk for Choice* in Seattle and Fairbanks, check out the photo album on PPGNW's Facebook page and become a fan.

Dubious Honors

by Miles Gaborit, Annual Campaign Manager

It's typical for us to receive a handful of gifts "In honor of..." someone each year from donors who want to honor a friend or family member, commemorate a special occasion, or make a gift in memory of a supporter who has passed away.

However, Planned Parenthood has recently been receiving "In honor of..." gifts from donors whose intentions seem to be a bit more...tongue in cheek.

Following recent attempts by anti-choice members of Congress to eliminate Title X (America's Family Planning Program — see page 1) and bar Planned Parenthood from receiving federal funding, we began receiving gifts in "honor" of the politicians who are leading these attacks on reproductive health and rights. So far Planned Parenthood has received more than 700 gifts in "honor" of prominent anti-choice lawmakers like House Majority Leader John Boehner (R-OH), Rep. Mike Pence (R-IN), and others.

Normally when we receive gifts in someone's honor we send a card to the person being honored, to notify them of the gift and share a little about what it will make possible. It just didn't seem fair to handle these gifts in "honor" of anti-choice politicians any differently!

So, as of this writing, more than 700 notes have been sent into the offices of senators and representatives that Planned Parenthood donors have chosen to "honor" in this way, letting them know that a gift has been made in their name to support Planned Parenthood.

It's hard to say just how honored people like Rep. Boehner and Rep. Pence feel, knowing that their extremism has motivated such an outpouring of support for us. But, here at Planned Parenthood, we're feeling pretty good about it! And, if you sent in one of those gifts, thanks again!

Title X *from page 1*

family planning services and preventive healthcare such as contraceptive counseling and supplies, sexually transmitted infection (STI) testing, breast and cervical cancer screenings, vasectomies, hypertension and blood pressure measurement, prenatal care, and sex education, to low-income or uninsured individuals for over 40 years.

Title X grants are administered through state health departments or regional agencies, and support family planning programs in 4,500 health centers serving 5 million individuals across the country. The funds, which totaled \$317 million in 2010, are used to provide a range of reproductive health and family planning services primarily to low-income women and their families.

Fast forward 41 years to the U.S. House of Representatives' 2011 War on Women. The series of legislation passed by the House — the Pence Amendment, the initial House Budget, House Continuing Resolution 36 (see article page 1, *Senate*

Saves Critical Women's Health Funding) have been the most dangerous legislative assault in our country's history. The elimination of Title X and other funding for Planned Parenthood would have hurt teens, women, and families and would have had a devastating effect on our communities. And it won't save the federal government a dime. Ironically, these proposals would do just the opposite of reducing our nation's deficit and fixing the economy. Even more ironic is that by cutting preventive care and family planning, we would have seen more unintended pregnancies, resulting in an increased demand for abortions.

"Family planning is one of the most significant public health achievements of the twentieth century. The ability of individuals to determine their family size and the timing and spacing of their children has resulted in significant improvements in health and in social and economic well-being. The Title X federal family planning program provides these critical services to those who have the most difficulty obtaining them. Title X is a valuable program that successfully serves its target audience: low-income individuals and adolescents."¹

As a PPGNW supporter you already know the facts. We know for a fact that Title X and other federal funding are vital for thousands of low-income or uninsured women throughout Washington, Idaho, and Alaska — and millions across the country. Title X allows PPGNW to ensure access to a broad range of family planning and related preventive health services for these clients. We know for a





Foundation Support Integral to PPGNW Programs and Services

by Jenn Dean, Development Officer, Grants and Foundation Relations

Foundation support remains a crucial piece of our fundraising pie, contributing roughly half a million dollars to Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest (PPGNW) each year.

This support over the recent past has enabled us to deliver comprehensive sexuality education to at-risk youth in Washington; provided education about healthy relationships to homeless youth; provided breast health education and cancer screening to Native American and Latina women; supported our Teen Council peer educators across Puget Sound; provided sex education to foster youth and culturally appropriate sex education to Latinos in Canyon and Ada Counties in Idaho; taught parents communication skills so they can talk about sexuality issues with their teens in rural Alaska; trained teachers, nurses, and other professionals to deliver comprehensive sex education on the Kenai Peninsula; provided family planning services to low-income women and teens without insurance; provided newly arrived refugees in Boise reproductive health orientations; provided telemedicine in Alaska; and provided improved security and better phone systems for our health centers. These are just some of the areas that foundation funding has recently supported.

While the government debates whether or not family planning is vital and necessary for low-income women, men, and teens, foundation support continues to change lives in the Great Northwest. From the teen who cannot afford birth control, to the parents who don't know how to talk to their kids about sex, to the women who need breast cancer screening — thanks to our foundations, their health needs are met. On behalf of our clients and staff, PPGNW would like to thank our generous foundation donors.

Many of our non-anonymous foundation supporters agreed to be listed for recognition here in this newsletter. As much as we would like to thank you all in public, we have decided not to publish such a list. Several weeks ago during the national debate regarding the potential federal de-funding of Planned Parenthood, one of our more visible foundation supporters began to receive numerous complaints and criticism for funding PPGNW. As we do not wish any other organizations to have to expend their energies fielding calls, emails, or letters from people opposed to PPGNW, we have decided not to thank even our non-anonymous foundation supporters in public.

Please know that we remain extremely grateful for your support. Every time a grant comes in, the hallways literally ring with shouts of appreciation. From the bottom of our hearts, and on behalf of our clients, THANK YOU!

fact that for every \$1.00 invested in contraception and prevention, we save \$3.74 in pregnancy-related costs per year.²

The numbers³ tell the story:

- Title X enabled 27,324 clients in three states to see us in 2010.
- In Alaska, if the entire Title X program were defunded there would be no subsidized family planning services except at the Juneau Public Health Clinic.
- In Idaho, by helping women avoid unintended pregnancies and the births that would follow, the services provided at Title X supported centers saved the State of Idaho \$24,348,000 in public funds in 2008 alone.
- In Washington, in the absence of Title X supported services, the level of teen pregnancy would be 52 percent higher.

We know for a fact that PPGNW provides vital support in the communities where we are privileged to serve. We're here for women to help them plan their families and stay healthy. With your ongoing support, regardless of the House of Representative's War on Women, we will continue to be here for ALL who need us. And that is a fact!

¹ Institute of Medicine, in its 2008 audit of the Title X Program

² 2009 Guttmacher Institute Report

³ 2009 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Title X Family Planning Annual Report

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Your Feedback Matters!

Given the current political climate, it's more important than ever before that we stay connected to the people who make our work possible — people like you. We need to know why YOU stand with Planned Parenthood, what aspect of our work is most important to you, and what you think about the work we've done so far. Please take a few minutes to share your feedback with us at www.WhyIStandSurvey.com. To ensure your confidentiality, the study is being conducted by Davis, Hibbitts & Midghall, Inc. (DHM Research), an independent and non-partisan opinion research firm specializing in donor relations research.

The survey takes just a few minutes, and all survey participants are entered in a raffle; one of you will win a free iPad! Need another reason? A generous donor will give us a dollar for each survey completed by May 30, 2011 — up to \$10,000! Please complete your survey today!

If you have any questions about this survey, please feel free to contact Miles Gaborit, Annual Campaign Manager, at miles.gaborit@ppgnw.org or 206.328.6893.