



FOCUS

ON PLANNED PARENTHOOD

Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest

Fall 2011

Planned Parenthood under attack... again...

by Kristen Glundberg-Prossor, Media Relations Director

The federal budget saga continues with new efforts to defund Planned Parenthood. At a time when Americans desperately want and need Congress to focus on fixing our economy and creating jobs, House Republican leaders are instead continuing their campaign to take away preventive health care and affordable birth control from millions of women. Evident by their relentless attacks on women's health programs, it should be glaringly clear that the intent of House leaders is to not only eliminate abortion services but also contraceptive services.

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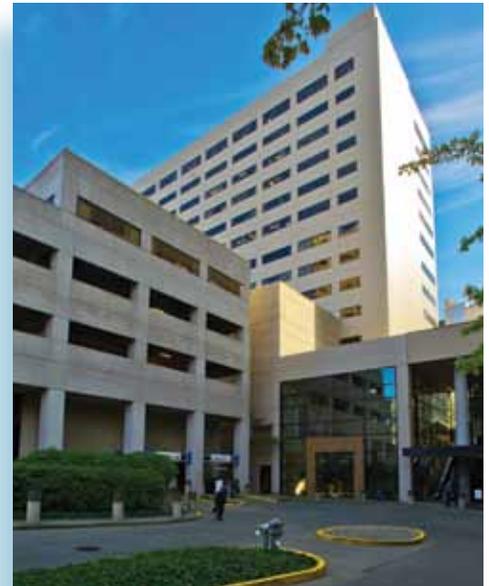
PPGNW and Swedish work together to ensure abortion care for clients in response to Swedish's new alliance with Providence

by Kristen Glundberg-Prossor, Media Relations Director

Swedish Health Services (SHS) and Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest (PPGNW)

announced on October 14 that Planned Parenthood will establish a health center on Seattle's First Hill in order to provide women in the area a full range of reproductive health services, including abortion.

Swedish has asked PPGNW to place a health center in the Nordstrom Tower, within Swedish's First Hill campus, in order to easily refer women and men in need of reproductive health services out of their health system and into the PPGNW office.



This unique agreement comes with Swedish and Providence's recent announcement of their intent to form an alliance. Their decision is based on mutual financial necessity in the rapidly changing health care environment. Although their alliance is not a classic "merger," Swedish, out of respect for the affiliation with Providence, will discontinue certain services, including elective abortion services.

It's no surprise that Swedish would approach Planned Parenthood to help solve access issues. Planned Parenthood is the largest reproductive health provider in the Northwest and has strong relationships with community hospitals. For over 40 years Planned Parenthood doctors and nurse practitioners have provided essential family planning and abortion care training to residents and other providers at Swedish, Group Health, UW Medical Center, Providence, and others.

"Swedish is deeply committed to ensuring women have access to comprehensive care," said Jane Ulhir, MD, Swedish Medical Director. "It is important to maintain

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Executive Update

Message from Christine Charbonneau

I'm energized to be back from my sabbatical, which the Board was kind enough to give me. I can't say enough about how a break helps with perspective for people with jobs like mine.

In some ways, it seems like I've never been gone. We're still under attack from our 112th Congress. Our team continues to perform at high levels in the face of this uncertainty. And our focus remains on the delivery of health care now and in the future.

The biggest news is our new relationship with Swedish Health Services (SHS). I returned from leave to an invitation to open a health center in the Nordstrom Tower in Seattle. While a new First Hill location was not on our strategic radar, Swedish's new affiliation with Providence (a Catholic health system) prohibits them from providing elective abortion services. Though Swedish will continue to take care of women with emergency needs, since no loss of access is acceptable either to us or to Swedish, we agreed to their request that we open a full service health center to assure seamless care. We're pleased to accept their offer and funding. We'll be providing services by early 2012.

Chief Operating Officer (COO) Michael Romo took the reins during my absence and continued to envision increased access while orchestrating our final health center "Go-Live" of Electronic Medical Records and passing a rigorous Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) accreditation audit. The pace certainly hasn't slowed.

Eternal thanks to my strategic partner of fourteen years. During the fourth quarter Michael will initiate his "retirement" plan, transitioning from his current role as COO to lead the growth of our little Bremerton Lab into the Laboratory Services Cooperative, a national resource for sister affiliates. His goal is to create a virtual health center, expanding access online and through the mail to provide STD testing and treatment counseling to those trapped by either time or geography.

Our merger continues to fulfill its promise to strengthen our three-state affiliate. Current PPGNW Chief Administrative Officer and former Planned Parenthood of Idaho Chief Executive Officer, Rebecca Poedy, still an Idaho resident, has been preparing herself through our succession plan to take on Michael's role of COO. It's nice to have that kind of strength to rely on. Michael and Rebecca will work shoulder-to-shoulder the remainder of the year as we set our sights on a seamless transition and path to health care reform.

In the meantime, while we've been looking ahead, our Congress continues its effort to move women backwards several generations. Earlier this year we celebrated the 40th anniversary of Title X, the only Federal program dedicated to providing high-quality preventive care and family planning services to low-income or uninsured individuals. The latest House HHS proposal not only attacks Planned Parenthood but aims to dismantle Title X as well. So the folks who're trying to prevent insurance coverage of legal abortions want to prohibit birth control too. I'm not sure



if they've thought this all the way through; the fact remains that \$1 spent on prevention saves \$4 in future health care costs.

It's also fair to remind everyone that medically-accurate sex education remains the best way to reduce the rate of abortion. You'll learn that the above House HHS proposal also includes a huge reduction in the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative and directs that half the remaining budget be spent on that proven failure – abstinence-only programs. Thank goodness our efforts to educate teens to educate each other in our peer education programs continue to grow.

It seems we'll always be under attack. So be it. We'll always be here to provide education for prevention, advocacy for those who can't be heard, and access to care for whoever needs it, regardless of their location.

I'm back, and eager to take it on.

Christine Charbonneau, CEO

Legislative Report

by Kristen Glundberg-Prossor, Media Relations Director

Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest (PPVNW), PPGNW's new public affairs division, has been active and visible throughout the summer, educating the public about women's health and the essential services Planned Parenthood provides in all of our communities. As always, none of these accomplishments would be possible without our amazing supporters.

Anyone interested in volunteering is encouraged to contact us at ppaction@ppvnotesnw.org to find out how they can take action.

Alaska

Alaska has the dubious distinction

of having the highest Chlamydia rates in the nation.

Chlamydia, if left untreated can threaten a woman's fertility. Funding for testing and treatment for HIV and STDs remains a paramount objective during the upcoming legislative session. Also on the agenda is work with the One Anchorage project to gather signatures for a ballot measure that gives legal protection for LGBT people in issues of employment, housing, and public businesses. Field organizers are also busy working with campus VOX groups and organizing clergy around reproductive health issues.

Idaho

We are monitoring the ongoing discussion

about Health Care Reform implementation in Idaho. In a recent turn of events, the state has requested federal grant money to set up a state insurance exchange. PPVNW staff and volunteers will attend the Idaho House Health and Welfare Committee special meeting, called to discuss the change in approach and to look at what other states have done, to monitor anything that could impact reproductive health care. We've also been attending public hearings and

encouraging our supporters to be active and engaged in the process of the Idaho Redistricting Commission – which will determine Idaho State and congressional legislative maps, shaping the face of Idaho politics for the next ten years.

Washington

On September 13, PPVNW advocates in Vancouver, Tacoma, and Everett,

dropped by the local offices of Senators Murray and Cantwell to ask them to support the Safe Chemicals Act, legislation that would overhaul the Toxic Substances Control Act and enable the Environmental Protection Agency to better protect the public from chemicals that have been linked to cancer, reproductive problems, and other serious diseases.

Rather than waiting for the November 28 start of the special legislative session to address the recent Washington State revenue forecast projected shortfall of \$1.4 billion, we are already generating calls into the governor's office, gathering petition signatures, and writing letters to our lawmakers to stress that cutting family planning services only makes things worse for the budget and worse for struggling Washington women and families.

Rep. Stearns demands records from Planned Parenthood

Florida Republican Representative Cliff Stearns, chair of the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee, demanded a vast number of records from Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) and its 83 affiliates, some going as far back as 13 years. The stated purpose was to see if PPFA affiliates' abortion services, which cannot receive federal funds, are sufficiently segregated from its family planning and other health services, which do. This politically motivated investigation is a continuation of all the recent efforts to undermine Planned Parenthood.

Planned Parenthood has a strong record of fiscal responsibility and has complied with all laws and regulations applicable to the receipt and use of federal funds. Like other health care providers and nonprofit organizations, PPFA and its affiliates routinely work with government regulators, nonprofit foundation donors, and independent auditors to ensure compliance with all rules and regulations regarding the funding Planned Parenthood health centers receive.

While Planned Parenthood is extremely disappointed to be a political target once again, PPFA and affiliates are responding to the request by the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations in a timely manner.



SWEDISH

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Abortion in the U.S.

Too often conversations about abortion are impaired

by a lack of understanding about who gets an abortion and why. The Guttmacher Institute has produced an illuminating new web video that challenges common misconceptions and stereotypes and summarizes key facts about abortion in the United States.

While it is likely that ending a pregnancy will remain an emotionally charged issue for the foreseeable future, infusing the abortion debate with sound evidence and an understanding of related issues like unintended pregnancy, contraceptive use, and sex education will hopefully raise the level of discourse around reproductive rights.

Remember, women have abortions for many different reasons. While all may not understand a woman's private, personal decision, it is better that each individual have her own choice.

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.

To watch the Guttmacher video, click on "Abortion in the United States" at www.youtube.com/guttmacher.

About the Guttmacher Institute:

The Guttmacher Institute advances sexual and reproductive health through an interrelated program of social science research, policy analysis, and public education designed to generate new ideas, encourage enlightened public debate and promote sound policy and program development.

*Statistics: www.guttmacher.org

the access to care our patients currently receive as well as the proximity of services they have come to expect. We chose Planned Parenthood because they are experts in the efficient delivery of reproductive health care."

Swedish will continue to provide the full range of contraception services,

progressed," said Chris Charbonneau, CEO of Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest. "We commend Swedish for their leadership in maintaining the continuity of care for their patients. Through this agreement, we've ensured that every woman will get the services she needs, in a respectful, supportive way."

In other instances where secular and Catholic hospital systems have merged, the response has been to give a lump sum to the local Planned Parenthood to handle reproductive health care for the community. In this situation, Swedish has invited Planned

1 in 3 women will have an abortion by age 45.*

tubal ligations, and vasectomies, as well as provide appropriate services as required by women in an emergency situation. Swedish emergency rooms will continue to be staffed and equipped to handle the needs of the community.

This agreement also makes certain there are no fewer doctors in Seattle capable of providing services than

6 in 10 women having abortions already have a child. Many have 2 or more.*

Most women having abortion are in their twenties (58%). Teens account for fewer than 2 in 10 abortions and most of those are older teens, age 18-19.*

before as Swedish doctors will be credentialed to work in the Planned Parenthood health center. In fact, there are other excellent providers of abortion services in and around First Hill. PPGNW expects to continue our excellent relationship with those providers. Swedish staff are free to refer patients to any provider they wish.

"We began working with Swedish to ensure care for their patients as the affiliation discussions with Providence

Parenthood on to their medical campus, have volunteered to work shoulder to shoulder with Planned Parenthood to make sure women are served, and demanded that Planned Parenthood commit to a 10 year minimum in the location, securing an ongoing solution to access.

Anticipated to open in early 2012, the new center will be located on First Hill, in the Nordstrom Tower,

3 out of 4 women having abortions describe themselves as religiously affiliated. Catholic women have abortions at roughly the same rate as women overall.*

and will be called the First Hill Health Center of Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest. Swedish will help underwrite the costs to establish the PPGNW health center.

PP under attack... again... *from page 1*

The latest Republican House Labor HHS proposal would prohibit Planned Parenthood affiliates from providing primary and preventive care through public health programs; eliminate funding for the Title X National Family Planning program; and effectively prohibit insurance coverage of abortion in the new health exchanges under the Affordable Care Act.

The House Republican budget includes the following provisions aimed at preventing women's access to health care. It:

- revives the failed attempt to prohibit Planned Parenthood from participating in federal programs like Medicaid to provide preventive health care, including birth control, lifesaving cancer screenings, annual exams, and STD testing and treatment;
- eliminates funding for the Title X National Family Planning Program, which provides access to birth control, cancer screenings, and other family planning services to five million low-income women each year;
- revives the failed attempt to effectively ban insurance coverage of abortion in the new health exchanges under the Affordable Care Act – taking away a common health benefit that most private health plans currently offer;
- prevents the implementation of the groundbreaking health care reform law, including new benefits that include insurance coverage of women's preventive services like mammograms, cancer screenings, and birth control – with no additional co-pays;
- cuts the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative by \$64.79 million – from \$104.79 million to \$40 million – and stipulates that \$20 million of that money must be used for grants to provide ineffective, abstinence-only education;
- includes a sweeping new refusal provision that undermines Americans' access to quality health care.

Please contact your Congressperson with your renewed support for Planned Parenthood.



House passes dangerous bill that would deny lifesaving abortion care to women

by Kristen Glundberg-Prossor,
Media Relations Director

On October 14, the United States House of Representatives passed House Resolution (HR) 358, a measure that takes comprehensive health care coverage away from women in emergency circumstances.

This dangerous measure expands refusal laws which would allow a hospital to deny lifesaving abortion care to a woman, even if a doctor deems it necessary to save her life. Additionally, the legislation creates loopholes that states and insurance companies could exploit to undermine the requirement that insurance companies provide birth control with no co-pays as recommended by the Institute of Medicine and mandated by the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Over the past decade abortion has become increasingly concentrated among poor women. In 2008, more than 4 in 10 women having abortions had incomes below the federal poverty line, a huge increase from a decade ago.*



White women account for over 1 in 3 abortions, more than any other group. However, women of color are disproportionately likely to have an abortion. The reason is black and Hispanic women have higher rates of unintended pregnancy. These trends reflect inequities in other areas, such as not enough access to contraception and affordable health care, not enough education & employment opportunities.*



The vote among the Alaska, Idaho, and Washington congressional delegation fell along party lines with Republican members voting in favor of the bill. The vote passed 251-172. It's unconscionable to see so many lawmakers turn their backs on women in tragic situations. The Obama administration has issued a Statement of Administration Policy opposing HR 358, indicating President Obama would veto HR 358 if it passes Congress.

Clallam Winery Fundraiser

by Jack Slowriver,
Area Services Director

Five hundred people (more than twice the previous record for best turnout) came to a benefit concert for us at Olympic Cellars Winery in Port Angeles, Washington. Wine, gorgeous weather, delicious pizza made to order in an outdoor oven, and a great Beatles cover band came together for a perfect evening.

We'd been lucky enough to recruit even more volunteers (both from the area and from Seattle) than the winery owner had asked for—and thank goodness we had them all there, as we needed all hands on deck. Everyone had a great time and we raised about \$3,000 in proceeds that will be available for immediate use, helping us serve local women and men in need.

Special thanks to staff members who volunteered: Lynda Bishop, ARNP; Nancy Adams, BCCHP Coordinator; and Helen Glad-Toliver, RN.

Thanks to winery owner, Kathy Charlton, who did so much work to organize this event and who is such a strong advocate for accessible reproductive health care for people on the north Olympic Peninsula.

Events like this one – driven by a passionate community member connected to local staff – are key to us remaining locally engaged and relevant throughout our service area.

The New Peer Education Institute

by Carole Miller, Chief Learning Officer

It's a fabulous day when a donor recognizes the potential of a program, and makes a significant gift that will help move it to the next level. A contribution this spring has allowed us to launch our Peer Education Institute, which will serve to evaluate, standardize, and expand peer education programs across the Northwest and the Nation. This would not be possible without a generous gift from Trudy Stack, whose confidence will allow many more youth to experience the impact of our powerful Teen Council program.

"I first joined Teen Council ten years ago, when I was a junior in high school. Nearly a decade later, Teen Council still remains very much a part of my heart, my conscience, and my education. I now work in the field of public health in South Africa, a country introduced to me through Teen Council. I owe much of my current situation to Planned Parenthood's belief in the education and leadership of young people."

~ A former Teen Council member

One of the most respected and enduring (20 years!) peer education programs in the country, Teen Council provides teen leaders with comprehensive, accurate sexual health information that will allow them to be nonjudgmental resources to their peers, formally in classroom settings, and informally in social and personal settings. While one in four teen women has an STD, and the United States teen pregnancy rate is higher than in any other developed country – we have been able to provide life-changing comprehensive sexuality education to over 1,000 peer educators, and to exponentially more young people through their work on the ground, than we ever could have done with staff alone.

Teachers welcome Teen Council members into their classrooms as peer-to-peer experts. We regularly hear from Teen Council alumni about how it has made them better partners, parents, and community members. We know the power of the program, and we are consistently queried from others around the United States who want to implement a similar model.

The Peer Education Institute will allow us to serve as a resource to others. We are implementing a rigorous evaluation that will measure the impact of the program on the peer educators themselves, the classroom students who receive their presentations, as well as the impact their involvement has on their families and closest friends. Our hope is to publish results demonstrating our curriculum as a proven, evidence-based program. We're excited about and incredibly grateful for this opportunity and look forward to the day when "Teen Council" is synonymous with "exceptional peer education" all across the country!

Leadership Honors

Llewelyn Pritchard

PPGNW Board Member Llewelyn Pritchard became the first Seattle resident ever to receive the American Jewish Committee's Judge Learned Hand Award. Recipients of the award embody what Judge Hand represented: the rights of the individual and the importance of democratic values in an orderly society. Llew has spent his career providing legal services to disadvantaged groups: refugees, immigrants, and LGBT individuals. A leader in the King County, Washington State, and American Bar Associations (ABA) for decades, Llew sits on the ABA's Rule of Law Initiative Board and chairs the Special Counselors of the Center for Human Rights. He plays an active role in the World Justice Project.



Sonya and Tom Campion

Lifelong philanthropists Sonya (PPGNW Board Member) and Tom Campion have been honored with the Association of Fundraising Professionals Washington chapter Outstanding Philanthropic Individuals Award. Sonya is a professional fundraiser with nearly 30 years experience, including serving as principal of The Collins Group, a regional fundraising consulting firm. In 1978, Tom co-founded Zumiez, an action sports retailer with employees in 38 states and two countries. In 2005, when Zumiez went public, the Campions took their philanthropy to a new level by founding the Campion Foundation. With several other nonprofits, PPGNW nominated the Campions, they inspire us because, "their philanthropy is at the very core of who they are—it is inspired, focused, and hands-on; smart and effective. Their guiding principles [...] are evident in every dollar donated and every hour volunteered."



Victoria Fletcher

PPGNW's Director of Health Services Victoria Fletcher has accepted a new role with Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) as their Director of Accreditation and Evaluation Operations. Victoria will provide leadership to PPFA to ensure that affiliate programs, operations, and systems are in compliance with PPFA's Standards of Affiliation. As Victoria has just led PPGNW through this process to full accreditation, we know our national organization is very lucky to be hiring Victoria with her considerable talents, energy, and experience. Thank you to Victoria for your many years of service to PPGNW, your excellent leadership of our clinician staff, and your clinical leadership in our successful electronic medical record implementation.



Laboratory Services Cooperative Earns Sylvia Clark Award

The Laboratory Services Cooperative (LSC) has been honored with the Sylvia M. Clark Award for Creativity in Clinical Services. This award recognizes sustained leadership, extraordinary service, solid commitment, and critical contributions to the Planned Parenthood mission. The LSC was cited for its innovative tactics to open services to sister affiliates providing access to rapid reporting of STD results and a new source of revenue without a large investment or expansion of services. Michael Romo, PPGNW Chief Operations Officer, accepted the award at PPFA's National Medical Committee meeting in Washington DC on Saturday, October 22.

Dr. Anna Kaminski on Savage Love

This past September PPGNW Medical Director Dr. Anna Kaminski was the guest expert on episode 256 of the Savage Lovecast. The audio podcast is hosted by nationally renowned sex advice columnist, Dan Savage, and reaches thousands of people each week. From herpes to pre-ejaculate fluid, yeast infections to oral sex, Dr. K had all the answers to listener questions. Download the show for free on iTunes or go to www.savagelovepodcast.com.

Anne Roffey Memorial

Christine Charbonneau, CEO

Anne Roffey, RN, ARNP January 10, 1928 – August 19, 2011

I first met Anne in 1982 when I began to volunteer for Planned Parenthood. Our patients loved her. Some would talk to Anne and only Anne. She provided women's health care in a sensitive but matter-of-fact way, changing the lives of thousands upon thousands of young women for the better.

She would tolerate no judgment of our clients, no assumptions about their world or the circumstances they found themselves in, either from herself, or the many young people who then and now make up the staff at Planned Parenthood sites. Her "get the facts, then be helpful" approach is one which permeates the organization and our culture, and was at the root of how Anne, and subsequently the rest of us, thought about the work that we do.

I will remember that she was clear on her mission and values, loved and was proud of all of her family; husband, children, and grandchildren, and can claim a life in which her work and person made the world a better place every single day she was in it.

In lieu of flowers, her family requests that friends consider a gift in her memory to Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest and / or the Pacific NW Ballet.



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Time's running out! Donate to PPGNW directly from your IRA – tax free through 2011!

A law expiring this year allows qualified donors to make non-taxable distributions from retirement plans to eligible charities. These **qualified charitable distributions (QCDs)**, are limited to \$100,000 per year and apply only to distributions that occur through 2011.

- 1. Am I old enough?** QCDs are available to IRA owners and beneficiaries who are at least age 70½ when the distribution occurs from the IRA, and permits the IRA owner to treat the QCD as required minimum distributions (RMD) from the IRA for the year – to the extent that the RMD has not already been satisfied.
- 2. Does my retirement account qualify?** Traditional IRAs and Roth IRAs may be eligible.
- 3. Does the charity qualify?** PPGNW is a qualified 501(c)(3) charity
- 4. Is it too late to make a QCD?** Donors have until December 31, 2011 to make this distribution, unless the law is extended by Congress.

Benefits of donating to PPGNW using a QCD:	vs.	Typical IRA Minimum Distribution Donation:
\$10,000 Donated to PPGNW via QCD		\$10,000 Minimum Distribution
– Not taxed		– Tax assessed as ordinary income
No Tax Liability!		Up to \$3,300 in taxes!

Please contact Caitlin Hedberg at caitlin.hedberg@ppgnw.org or 907.770.9715 for more information.