At the leading edge of a locally led, globally connected movement

Backing the brave.
For more than half a century, Planned Parenthood Global has partnered with courageous local leaders across Africa and Latin America to spark, and sustain, progress at the leading edge of the movement for sexual and reproductive health and rights. This model drives the change and accountability necessary to secure the health care access all people deserve.

Our approach to partnership is rooted in trust and provides the flexible funding, technical assistance, and allyship needed to fuel a locally led, globally connected movement.

We’re backing bold champions and policies.
We’re backing new voices and technologies.
We’re backing innovators and big ideas.

It can be lonely – and dangerous – to blaze the trail. That’s why we move together.

We’re backing the brave.
Planned Parenthood Global is the international arm of Planned Parenthood Federation of America. We support individuals, organizations, policies, and movements that bravely work to advance sexual and reproductive health and rights, with an emphasis on historically under-resourced communities.
One movement.

Our mission is to grow the locally led, globally connected movement for safe, legal abortion and sexual and reproductive health and rights.

What do we mean when we say movement? The simplest definition is, “a group of people trying to effect a common change.” But we believe the power — and the challenge — of a successful movement lies in pooling resources, time, and expertise to achieve the change together.

Incredible progress is made when brave allies team up — advocates, health care providers, lawyers, journalists, and faith leaders — especially when young people reject the status quo and push all of us to be braver and bolder.

At Planned Parenthood Global, we believe our role in the movement is to invest in its boldness and resilience. In recent years we have seen a rise in global opposition to sexual and reproductive health and rights, as well as unprecedented global emergencies, and we need to be able to withstand and transcend these growing challenges.

We also recognize our duty to push the U.S. government, the largest bilateral donor for international family planning and reproductive health, to implement progressive policies that not only stop harm — but repair, restore, and advance progress.
Trust-based partnership.

Through our trust-based partnership model, we provide funding, technical support, and strategic counsel to courageous movement allies, including:

- Young people planning their futures and amplifying, advocating, and increasing access to care for themselves as well as their peers;
- Advocates promoting sexuality as a positive, normal and healthy part of life;
- Providers and government officials pushing sexual and reproductive health care and policy, including support for safe and comprehensive abortion access;
- Self-care approaches that compliment the formal health care system and allow people to take charge of their own health and lives;
- Innovators piloting new technology, digital products, and data innovation to improve outcomes and efficiency;
- Our shared efforts to counter global opposition to abortion, comprehensive sex education, contraception, and gender rights;
- Connecting advocates around the world to exchange learnings and build global momentum for sexual and reproductive health and rights.
Trust-based partnerships that provide flexible support, and honor the experience and expertise of those most harmed by restrictions on sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Having our partners’ backs when they bravely challenge the status quo.

Commitment to understanding and dismantling inequities.

Seeking out and supporting the emerging and diverse voices that will grow our collective power.

Playing the long game, investing in the foundational work toward systemic change.

Leveraging our assets and power as a US-based organization led by local priorities to function as a connector and amplifier.
In our decades of convening and partnership, we have witnessed powerful change that happens when diverse people and organizations come together in the sexual reproductive health and rights movement.
Safe Abortion Providers Joining Forces

Abortion providers working to make services accessible within the confines of restrictive laws and policies can feel isolated and vulnerable. To combat these risks, more than 20 years ago, we helped a brave set of providers and advocates launch the Latin American Abortion Providers Support Network. Today the group spans a half-dozen countries, sharing information and providing mutual support to ensure these innovators can offer clients seeking their service as many options as possible.

Legal Experts Protecting Vulnerable Health Care Providers

More than a decade ago, we established expert legal networks in Africa and Latin America who pledged to support sexual and reproductive health care providers from political attacks and ensure that clients receive care with dignity, and free of harassment. The 100 lawyers trained through this initiative have offered legal aid to more than 40 organizations and provided training and support to more than 400 individual providers. They have served as advisors on dozens of legal cases brought against providers, and boast a perfect track record so far.

Community Leaders Creating New Pathways to Care

Since 2003, the World Health Organization (WHO) has recommended that abortion can be provided by health care professionals beyond physicians. In many communities, that means nurses, midwives, and community-level health workers. We developed a model as well as resources for community-based providers who are low-literacy and non-clinical to offer medication abortion (misoprostol). The model of community-based access to misoprostol was informed by diverse leaders, and aims to reduce deaths and injury resulting from postpartum hemorrhage, incomplete, and unsafe abortion. The experience gained by participating community-level providers has in turn inspired policy change in Guatemala, enabling rural midwives to administer misoprostol.

Closing the Gap to Prevent Unsafe Abortion

We worked with local partners to implement the groundbreaking Closing the Gap project in Kenya, Uganda, and Burkina Faso. With a specific focus on young people, the initiative took a three-pronged approach to tackle high rates of unintended pregnancy, unsafe abortion, and maternal deaths. This included: local and grassroots advocacy to reduce stigma and make people aware of legal abortion, where applicable; training for community health volunteers and youth peer providers; and capacity-building for providers at local health facilities. Over eight years, Closing the Gap partners reached 2,633,847 people with vital information. Of those who were provided information, 160,272 received abortion care and 861,845 accessed long-acting reversible contraception.
at the leading edge...

Our partners are the vanguard of the movement.

Connecting Youth to Safe Abortion Access

Young people have always relied on each other for information on topics like sex and abortion. Even where services are legal, stigma can keep young people from visiting a health center. And often stigma and fear lead them to unreliable information and unsafe services. To prevent this from happening, we partnered with innovative, youth-led organizations to design the youth-based access to misoprostol model. The model is a two-pronged approach to legal abortion access for, and by, young people. Youth guides connect their peers to trusted sexual and reproductive health care services; and, trained youth provide abortion counseling and medication.

EXPANDING SAFE ABORTION ACCESS

Planned Parenthood Global works with youth-led and youth-serving organizations to train young people to serve their peers with increasing specialization: Youth Peer Educators become Youth Peer Providers, directly dispensing contraceptive methods. And through our Youth-Based Access to Misoprostol program, select Youth Peer Providers get more in-depth training to provide abortion counseling and access to medication abortion.
Documenting the Effectiveness of Self Care in Africa

To assess the effectiveness of young people providing contraceptive services to their peers, we conducted a study of the injectable contraception DMPA-SC in Senegal. Our team supported the national family planning association to train 40 peer providers to offer accurate, age-appropriate information about contraception, with a focus on DMPA-SC. They then provided additional training for 10 of the peer providers to administer the injection directly to other young people.

Incubating Innovation

Launched in 2017, the IDEA Initiative is our social innovation lab. IDEA engages entrepreneurs, technology experts, communications professionals and social impact investors in Latin America to apply their expertise in solving big problems like health care access, civic engagement and misinformation. The IDEA Initiative includes programs to both identify and implement ideas to promote sustainable social enterprises; and build communities dedicated to innovation, creativity, and sexual and reproductive health and rights. This unique approach to addressing gaps in sexual and reproductive health and rights, offers an entryway for potential allies from new and innovative sectors from around the globe. Together with our partners we are working to take this work global, starting by engaging new partners across Africa.
...of a locally led, globally connected movement.
Leading the Fight Against the Global Gag Rule

As a US-based global ally, we see sustaining and growing our country’s leadership in international family planning as core to our contribution to the movement. Permanent repeal of the global gag rule and other harmful foreign policies are key priorities for the Blueprint for Sexual and Reproductive Health, Rights, and Justice, which we helped develop in partnership with more than 90 organizations as a tool to inform the Biden-Harris administration and advocate for change. The Blueprint provides a proactive roadmap for bold progress in domestic and foreign policy. We collaborate with international NGOs, the UN Population Fund, and local partners to ensure that U.S. foreign assistance and policy is once again focused on restoring programs cut by the previous administration, and expanding access to family planning and reproductive health around the world.

Helping Girls be Girls, Not Mothers

Building on years of local engagement and community mobilization, Planned Parenthood Global has worked with partners across Latin America to harness regional momentum and draw attention to the issue of forced pregnancy of young girls. Together we launched the powerful Niñas No Madres (“girls, not mothers”) campaign, to call attention to the crisis and the lack of access to legal abortion in these cases. Joining forces with partners from across four countries, we undertook a groundbreaking legal action, filing five coordinated cases to the UN human rights bodies. This globally-connected campaign supported the locally-led partners and allies in Ecuador, as we supported them to challenge the country’s abortion restrictions – resulting in Ecuador’s Constitutional Court broadening legal abortion to include all cases of rape.
Sexual & Reproductive Health and Rights for the Planet’s Billion Young People

Launched in 2018 with a pilot program in Burkina Faso, Billi Now Now is a revolutionary youth-led initiative that leverages technology and youth culture to engage a new generation of leaders into the sexual health and reproductive health rights movement. The program helps young people take charge of their lives, their health, and their destinies by training them in peer education, advocacy, social media strategy and citizen journalism. Hundreds of “Billis” have emerged and use technology to encourage their peers to make healthy life choices – meeting them where they are, and providing comprehensive, accurate information, as well as referrals to youth-friendly services. Now incorporating street art, digital events, popular hip hop artists, creators and a blossoming group of community and social media influencers, the Billis are poised to expand globally, reaching the one billion young people who need and deserve life-changing information and health care.

We believe our movement is most effective when it is led by those most affected by the change we seek.
Invest in local movements for abortion rights and all SRHR that center youth and historically marginalized communities and connect them globally.

Bet on risky and innovative, high-reward approaches.

Promote positive US global policy, starting by demanding the permanent repeal of the global gag rule.

Progressive policy change—and implementation—protecting abortion rights, young people’s rights and all SRHR.

Greater public support and demand for abortion and youth SRHR services.

New pathways to abortion and SRH care that address inequities.

More equitable access to safe abortion and SRH, including for young people.

Fewer unsafe abortions and maternal deaths.

Strong globally connected movement creating better futures.