



PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF GREATER TEXAS: May Connections

Welcome to the May edition of Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas' monthly newsletter. As a valued supporter, we would like to share the latest updates on the work you make possible at Planned Parenthood. We have also included important action alerts and upcoming events.

May is Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month

Everyone deserves inclusive, evidence-based sex education. Yet, almost half of all teens nationally do not receive any information about birth control until after they have sex for the first time.



In Texas every year, about 35,000 teens and young women get pregnant before they turn 20.

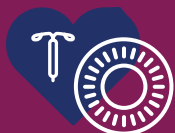
5TH

Texas has the 5th highest teen pregnancy rate and #1 rate of repeat teen pregnancy in the nation.

90%

90% of participants increased their knowledge of unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted infection (STI) prevention after attending a Planned Parenthood education event.

Our most common services provided are:



Birth control to help Texans plan and space their pregnancies.



Testing and treatment for STIs, HIV tests, and PrEP and PEP.



Lifesaving breast and cervical cancer screenings.

SHAPING THE NEXT GENERATION

Because of you, thousands of youth and adults receive important, timely sexual health information through Planned Parenthood's chat program. The program allows young people to chat with health educators about sexual health seven days a week in real time. Planned Parenthood educators are trained to answer the chat line with trust, expertise, and accessibility and connect chatters to their local Planned Parenthood health center. Top questions include: STI testing and treatment, choosing a birth control method, how to use birth control, questions about pregnancy, and what to expect during an abortion.

Danielle: I was supposed to start my new birth control pack this morning, but I forgot and just took the pill 20 minutes ago. I don't know if that's what I was supposed to do.

PP Educator: Can you tell me what type of birth control you are taking?

Danielle: Loestrin.

PP Educator: Thank you for sharing that with me. You take a combination pill. That means you have to take it every day, but it's okay if it's not exactly the same time every day. You would take your missed pill ASAP (which you did!) and your next pill at the regular time tomorrow morning. You would still be protected. The pill is very good at preventing pregnancy.

Danielle: Whew! Thank you so much!

PP Educator: You're very welcome!



TECHNOLOGY AND HEALTH INTERVENTION OUTCOMES

Research published in the Journal of Medical Internet Research shows the effectiveness of Planned Parenthood's chat programs. Teens who chat with a Planned Parenthood educator are more likely to schedule an appointment for healthcare and are more likely to be aware of the importance of preventing unintended pregnancies and STIs. The research concluded that the chat program improves access to sexual and reproductive healthcare among young people.



A NEWS CONNECTION

Some of the most extreme and dangerous anti-abortion bills in the country are quickly advancing in the Texas Legislature. These include a package of restrictive bills that, if passed, could ban abortions as early as six weeks, before most people know they are pregnant, or even bar the procedure entirely. These bills are now close to a vote by the full Texas House.

TAKE ACTION

We must do everything we can to stop these bills from advancing. Contact your state Representative today. Tell your member to stop these political attacks on our health and rights and to put the needs of Texans, like COVID-19 relief and winter storm recovery, before politics. Tell them you oppose all bills that would further decrease peoples' access to abortion healthcare.

WAYS TO GIVE

How can you support Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas and provide much-needed sexual health education for teens? Make a meaningful gift to continue and increase the reach of sex education in your community and communities across the state.

Have you considered making a planned gift to continue the legacy you have made possible for thousands of Planned Parenthood patients, students, and parents? For more information on how you may include Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas in your estate plan, contact us at (214) 254-3017 or development@ppgt.org.

Your gift of:

- **\$1,000** empowers 5 teens with honest, accurate sex education
- **\$500** prevents unintended pregnancies for a patient with over a year of birth control
- **\$250** keeps communities healthy through the distribution of 1,250 condoms
- **\$150** equips 1 patient with emergency contraception for pregnancy prevention

If you have a question or if you want to know more, please contact the Development Office at (214) 254-3017 or email us at development@ppgt.org.

