

EVENTS

Events 2021

As we adjust to the ever-changing safety rules and regulations across our states, we continue to plan our spring and summer events. These events may be virtual, in-person, or a hybrid of the two, depending on a variety of factors. Be on the lookout for more information in the coming months. Please note that all our events through June will be held virtually.

New Mexico's Breakfast of Champions – May 14, 2021

Boulder Breakfast – June 24, 2021

Las Vegas' Corks & Forks – Fall 2021

Our political arm, Planned Parenthood Rocky Mountains Action Fund, also has three events coming up later this year. Mark your calendars for Planned Parenthood Votes Colorado's **The Rosé Resistance in June, Champions of Choice in August**, and Planned Parenthood Votes New Mexico's **The Rosé Resistance in September**.

Host your Own Fundraiser

As a PPRM supporter, you have the opportunity to host your own virtual or small hybrid event to raise money for services in your community. If you're interested in learning more about how we can support you in this activity, please contact events.development@pprm.org.



PPRM's Solidarity Group

Planned Parenthood Federation of America created "Solidarity" in the pursuit of racial equity, culture shift, and to model our organizational value to Respect and Honor All People. Our staff engagement group at PPRM examines our current organizational structures, procedures, & policies. The purpose of PPRM Solidarity is to create an organization that is better able to accomplish our mission and achieve our financial goals by understanding and engaging the strengths of all people. We have representation from nearly every department across all our states to gain a comprehensive look at the affiliate.



**7155 EAST 38TH AVENUE
DENVER, COLORADO 80207**

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.

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" I truly cannot think of a more valuable provider than Planned Parenthood. I will recommend them to everyone I know. I proudly put my donor sticker up at work. The level of care and service is invaluable. "

PPRM DONOR

Easy ways to give to Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains

Are you familiar with the AmazonSmile program? It's a simple way to support your favorite charitable organizations (including PPRM) every time you shop, at no additional cost to you. Visit [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) to learn more and get started.

Did you know you can donate your car to support the work of PPRM?

Visit one of our participating auction sites to learn more: [DonateForCharity.com](https://www.donateforcharity.com), [DonateCarUSA.com](https://www.donatecarusa.com), and [CarsHelpingCharities.org](https://www.carshelpingcharities.org).

Want to give today?

Visit [wearepp.org/PPRM](https://www.wearepp.org/PPRM) to make an immediate impact.

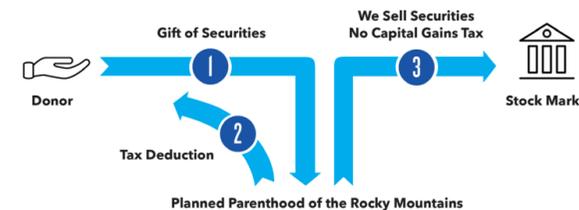


Interested in hosting a virtual party to support PPRM?

Contact our Events Team at events.development@pprm.org to learn how.

Planned Giving

Email info.development@pprm.org to learn more about the impact of planned giving.



PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS' DONOR DIALOGUE MARCH 2021



Interview with Mauro Walden-Montoya
PPRM donor, board member, and New Mexico community activist.

What initially prompted your support of Planned Parenthood?

Like many people, I used Planned Parenthood's services as a teenager. My girlfriend and I picked up her birth control pills every month at the Nob Hill health center in Albuquerque. The staff were so kind and friendly. I supported PPRM financially on and off for a few years because my positive experience stuck with me. My cousin, Judith Espinosa, first participated on the PPNM board back in 1983 and now I'm lucky enough to be serving with her nearly forty years later.

Why do you choose to give to PPRM? What inspires you?

Being a gay man, the ability to have control over one's body is paramount to me. It's outrageous that legislators try and pass laws to tell women what they can and cannot do with their bodies. The work of this organization needs to continue, so if I can engage my friends and my network to expand support and continue our work, I will. I live on Disability benefits so I don't have a lot, but every time I give, it means something to me.

Which portion of our work inspires you the most?

Wow, this is tough, because I know the health care we do is vitally important. I think about our advocacy work and the recent repeal of the old New Mexico abortion ban. For me, the education we do, including HIV education and testing is critical.

I've been involved with the NMPower program (a community-based program run by PPRM for young gay/bisexual/questioning men and transgender individuals of diverse backgrounds) since the beginning, and I've seen how many lives have been changed through that community and shared safe space. Honestly, everything we do inspires me.

How does our country's political environment influence your charitable support?

At this point, I am so worried about the state of our political affairs. Organizations that work to keep us moving forward instead of backward are incredibly important to me. So many people still don't have access to care like PrEP (Pre-exposure prophylaxis), HIV testing, and abortion care, but we're providing those services every day. I support organizations whose missions I believe in. I try to be a strong ambassador for our mission, what we do, and who we take care of. I am hopeful things will get better, but this stuff isn't going away any time soon.

Why is giving back to your community important to you?

I was raised in that tradition. My parents were both public school teachers, and I watched them give back in so many ways. There's still a lot of love for my dad in the community. In fact, Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland said my dad was her favorite teacher!

I'm not one to sit around if I see injustices; I'm going to do what I can for my community, my neighbors, and our planet. I've served on about seven boards since moving back to Albuquerque ten years ago, and PPRM is probably the most important.

HEALTH CARE

Focus on Rural Health Care Access

PPRM has always strived to make services accessible to those who rely on our care, regardless of geographic location, insurance, or income. The pandemic has further underscored the need for equitable access. Often this means meeting patients where they are, virtually or in-person, especially in the many rural communities we serve. Last year, travel restrictions and stay-at-home/safer-at-home orders only made this outreach more important. The impacts of COVID-19 are widespread and have changed the social and economic realities of our lives. We know there will be long-term and far-reaching impacts on our patients. Women are more likely than men to have lost their jobs and COVID-related mortality and health care inequities have been greater in Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities.

To address some of these inequities, our clinical and health center teams rapidly adjusted services and policies, expanding access and centering our patient community. Located in the southwest corner of the state, Cortez is a conservative town of 8,700 where PPRM provides patients of all income levels with access to a full range of reproductive health care and education, including wellness exams, birth control, STI testing and treatment, breast exams, and sexual health education. Surrounded for miles by rural communities in multiple states, access has always been challenging. Last year, PPRM expanded services in Cortez to offer medication abortion (MAB) care, reducing the need for patients to travel.

In a challenging political environment marked by controversy and stigma, health center manager, Sharon, is determined to ensure that critical services are available to members of the Cortez community. "I'm proud to work for Planned Parenthood. I have always felt that the organization is a family, and I am glad we can help the people who need us. I like knowing that the work I do makes a difference - small or big," she says.

Located in Colorado's Four Corners region, Sharon works closely not only with patients from the southern part of the state, but also with those from Arizona, Utah, and New Mexico. Sharon's ability to network with other health care providers in her community allows PPRM to reach even more individuals. By setting up referral networks and partnerships beyond the walls of the health center, Sharon helps patients navigate all their health care resources.

Talented and courageous leaders are strategically planning patient support that includes travel, housing and financial assistance to those who need to look outside their community for abortion care. Web-based diagnostic

and medical support for patients will decrease the need for travel in some cases. We are preparing for an influx of patients who need care here and elsewhere, often later in pregnancy, because the lack of local options delays their ability to get that care.



“
The work I do makes a difference.
”
SHARON

We are committed to serving our patients with state-of-the-art health care. One thing hasn't changed in our 103 years... Planned Parenthood is committed to high-quality health care with open doors and no judgment – no matter where our patients come from.

ADVOCACY AND ACTION

The Work Continues

Given the new makeup of the Supreme Court, it was no surprise when it ruled in January to limit access to medication abortion care. This ruling reinstated a requirement that people seeking a medication abortion must pick up the pill in person from a hospital, health center, or medical facility. The original judgment in May 2020 was a win and had allowed individuals seeking abortion care to receive the abortion pill via telehealth, greatly increasing access to care.

At the onset of the pandemic last year, PPRM saw patients flood into our region as abortion restrictions were enacted in neighboring states like Texas. We were able to open our doors and care for these patients, and it is imperative that throughout 2021 we maintain and expand the regulatory and political infrastructure required to serve patients from North Dakota through Texas through strategic advocacy.

Southern Nevada

PPRM's Raiz program is committed to breaking down barriers in accessing health care in the Latinx community, and worked with community partners in December to host the third annual Metamorfosis de la Mujer (Metamorphosis of the Woman). This bilingual gathering teaches Latinas about access to reproductive health care and other related topics. This year's two-day event was hosted online, which provided the opportunity to reach women across the state. The event was incredibly successful, with more than 100 participants – 50% of whom were first time attendees.

New Mexico

With important work to do in the 2021 legislative session, the New Mexico Public Affairs team worked relentlessly to get out the vote throughout the fall leading up to Election Day. Together with partner organizations and supporters, six Senate seats flipped and are now occupied by reproductive health care champions. Such victories would not have been possible without the dedicated support of volunteer activists! Over 200 activists from across the state came together to make 35,000 calls, send 13,000 texts, write 10,000 handwritten letters, send 270,000 mail pieces, and distribute 1,000 safe-at-the-polls kits that included hand sanitizer, gloves, a mask, and polling information.

Planned Parenthood Federation of America awarded PPRM grant support for a cross-program project with our Public Affairs and Education teams to strengthen connections with our Indigenous communities in New Mexico. Currently, the funding is being used to support organizing efforts and sexual health advocacy in Indigenous communities through our Native Community Health Network program (NCHN), a

community health worker program that works with Indigenous communities in the Southwest. NCHN started in 2019 and specializes in sexual and reproductive health education, advocacy, outreach, and linkage to essential resources.

Their team of Community Health Workers are certified to perform Rapid HIV testing and are trained as Harm Reduction specialists in the state New Mexico. This program, serving the Four Corners area, teaches communities about different sexual health topics and resources, while also providing a space for connection and sharing about issues affecting Native communities.

Colorado

During the 2020 election cycle, in collaboration with organizational partners from our Reproductive Health, Rights, and Justice Coalition, we recruited and trained individuals to share their reproductive health care and abortion care stories, led conversations focusing on healing and eliminating stigma, and effectively communicated with millions of voters to defeat a harmful abortion ban. PPRM joined the No on 115 campaign to help develop and execute a robust statewide voter engagement program. We recruited and trained hundreds of volunteers who made hundreds of thousands of phone calls and sent over a million texts.

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For a long time, I think there was a lot of national and state conversation around protecting Roe, and I think the question now is, how do we go beyond Roe?
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JACK TETER
PPRM Regional Director of Government Affairs

Colorado remains a safe haven for reproductive health care, including abortion care and abortion later in pregnancy. On the slate for 2021 is expanding access to those who may be far from a health center, have few financial resources, or are otherwise disenfranchised. Says PPRM Regional Director of Government Affairs Jack Teter, "Roe is still the law of the land, and yet all over the country and even in Colorado, there are many, many people for whom it is a right in name only. For a long time, I think there was a lot of national and state conversation around protecting Roe, and I think the question now is, how do we go beyond Roe?"

EDUCATION

RSEI Rises to the Occasion

The Responsible Sex Education Institute (RSEI) programming empowers community members to make healthy choices with reproductive health information and education. Programs give individuals of all ages, backgrounds, and communities inclusive, medically accurate, and culturally appropriate information and skills to foster healthy relationships, safer sex, and linkages to care, working in collaboration with other groups to help reduce health disparities. RSEI offers multiple options for youth-facing programming, including recorded lessons, self-guided learning modules, and the option for educators to join a live virtual classroom.

RSEI quickly and successfully adjusted to the pandemic environment. For the past year, PPRM has been provided virtually and the programs have continued to grow and evolve. The Sexual Health Educator Program (SHEP) has become an even more critical resource across our four-state region, ensuring that youth-serving professionals continue to receive the necessary training and skill development they need to teach comprehensive sex education, even as schools continue to fluctuate between remote and in-person settings. SHEP offerings include live streaming professional training, monthly webinars, and blog postings.

Our In Case You're Curious (ICYC) program meets youth where they are, which is critically important during a pandemic. This confidential text line is staffed by Planned Parenthood educators and offers medically accurate answers to sexual health questions and links young people to health care and other resources in their communities. The ICYC textline celebrates its 10th anniversary this year and our Instagram page has exceeded 3,000 followers.

The Native Community Health Network (NCHN) is a community health worker program that is geared to work with Indigenous communities in the Southwest. NCHN originated in 2019 and specializes in sexual and reproductive health education, advocacy, outreach, and linkage to essential resources. Their team of Community Health Workers is certified to perform Rapid HIV testing and is trained as Harm Reduction specialists in the state of New Mexico. The NCHN program is based out of Albuquerque, NM (occupied Tiwa territory) and they offer programming in and around the four corner states.

The NCHN also makes connections with a virtual Native Mamas talking circle to support caregivers during COVID and beyond. This year NCHN will engage native communities by adding an Auntie talking circle and one for Brothers, Uncles and Dads (BUD).



Becki and Brandi - the leaders behind PPRM's Native Community Health Network

These circles not only provide the opportunity to learn about different sexual health topics and resources, but also offer a space for connection and sharing about issues affecting native communities.

Our Promotores de Salud program staff have been busy adapting our platicas (community conversations) to the virtual world so we can continue facilitating one-on-one conversations, connecting to care and resources for Latinx communities, and providing direct sex education to youth through partner organizations throughout Las Vegas.

HIV Programs continue providing virtual support meetings, education, outreach, and are starting to welcome small groups back into our spaces following all state, federal, and agency guidelines. The teams in Colorado and New Mexico have continued to provide HIV testing, counseling, and connection to PrEP and other health services throughout COVID.

These staff members were instrumental in creating Gender Affirming Care trainings for all of PPRM's staff. These required trainings ensure staff are treating all patients with the most thoughtful, accurate, and compassionate care.