

#HandsOffMyBC

California AG Sues Trump Administration Over Rollback of Birth Control Mandate

The state of California, the American Civil Liberties Union, the National Women’s Law Center, the Center for Reproductive Rights and Americans United for Separation of Church and State are among the groups filing legal challenges to the latest attack on women’s health care.

The Trump administration has taken direct aim at birth control coverage for more than 62 million American women. On October 6th, the administration announced a sweeping new rule to eliminate the Affordable Care Act’s (ACA) requirement that all employers, with a few exceptions, must offer insurance plans that cover birth control without a co-payment.

In order to get birth control covered under the ACA, the Obama administration worked out an accommodation allowing religious-affiliated employers and schools to refuse to cover birth control on religious grounds, while ensuring their employees would still have health coverage, including birth control coverage, provided directly by the health insurance company.

The new rule proposed by the Trump administration would allow any employer (nonprofit, small business, large corporation, private or publicly-held), school, or other entity — including health insurance companies — to stop offering birth control in their insurance plans based on moral or religious grounds.



The roll back “basically gives broad license to employers to discriminate against their employees and withhold a benefit guaranteed by law,” said Brigitte Amiri, senior staff attorney at the ACLU.

That’s why we are proud that on the same day as the rule change, California Attorney General Xavier Beccera filed a lawsuit challenging the new rule, which may impact as many as 6.8 million Californians.

Birth control is not controversial. It is health care that most women will use in the course of their lifetime. If birth control is no longer covered without a co-payment, millions will not be able to afford it, leading to increases in unintended pregnancy, premature births, and maternal mortality. Many women with low incomes must

often choose between birth control for herself or food and shelter for her children. During the first year of the ACA, coverage for contraception saved women an estimated \$1.4 billion on birth control pills alone.

Spotlight — Elvia

Meet Elvia Salazar, one of Planned Parenthood California Central Coast's Promotorxs (Community Peer Educator). She arrived in the United States 18 years ago at the age of 30.



"My husband and I came to this country in search of a better future for our children."

Upon her arrival, she settled in Santa Maria and within five years she moved into Los Adobes de Maria, a housing community for low income farm working families in Santa Maria.

Elvia soon became engaged and involved with her community and quickly noticed the lack of access to health care.

Jean K. Schuyler turns 90

One of Planned Parenthood California Central Coast's most honored supporters, Jean K. Schuyler, recently celebrated her 90th birthday! We celebrated Jean with a small luncheon with some of her closest Planned Parenthood friends.



"I had neighbors who had never gotten a pap smear or a breast exam, but thanks to Planned Parenthood they were able to get the care they needed. Planned Parenthood, for many in my community, is the only health care provider they have. Access to health care is a big problem in my community. I have friends who are undocumented and don't have the money to see a doctor when they're sick."

When the opportunity to become a Promotora for Planned Parenthood arose, she knew it was an opportunity to help her community.

"I realized that this was an opportunity for me to learn about local services and help my community."

Elvia Salazar has been a Promotora for Planned Parenthood California Central Coast since 2014.

"Last year we had eight Promotorxs in our program. After 40 hours of training, we held Cafecitos with our friends, families, neighbors and farmworkers. We talked about the importance of safe sex and annual HIV screening."

In the last three years, Elvia and the Promotorxs have educated and linked 490 people to health care services.

Elvia is proud to be a part of the Planned Parenthood family and is devoted to the wellbeing of her community by continuing her work through the Promotorxs program.

"I have taken friends into Planned Parenthood for their first Pap, breast cancer screening, HIV test and STI screenings. Planned Parenthood helps save lives, and I'm so glad that Planned Parenthood is here for my community."

New Services at PPCCC — PrEP and PEP

Planned Parenthood California Central Coast (PPCCC) is now offering PrEP and PEP, a drug regimen to help prevent HIV.

Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis, more commonly known as PrEP, is a daily drug regimen called Truvada, which interferes with HIV's ability to grow and establish a permanent infection in someone exposed to the virus. When taken correctly and consistently, PrEP can be more than 90 percent effective in protecting against HIV. When condoms are used in addition to PrEP, protection against HIV and other sexual transmitted infections increases.



PEP, Post-Exposure Prophylaxis, is a combination of anti-retroviral drugs that can be taken within three days of being exposed to the virus. PEP is effective in preventing HIV when administered correctly, but it is not 100%.

“PPCCC is committed to providing people with the resources and health services they need and deserve, and PrEP and PEP are great ways for our patients to prevent HIV. People rely on Planned Parenthood for high quality, nonjudgmental, compassionate care. Offering PrEP and PEP will allow us to meet a wider range of sexual and reproductive health care needs and do more to fight against HIV.” — Jenna Tosh, PPCCC President & CEO

While HIV incidence rates have remained stable over the last four years, it is estimated that at least 80% of HIV cases in Santa Barbara County occurred through sexual contact. PPCCC already provides rapid HIV testing and offers education on communication and healthy relationships, and a range of sexual and reproductive health issues including HIV and STI prevention. PrEP and PEP will help us do even more to reduce the spread of HIV and is offered at all five of our health centers on the Central Coast.



“Increasing access to PrEP is integral to the health and wellbeing of our communities and a step toward destigmatizing HIV-related health care. We hope the more people who know about PrEP — and how accessible it is—the more people will be empowered to seek it out.” — Jenna Tosh

PrEP is covered by most insurance plans, including Medi-Cal. PPCCC will offer PrEP office visits on a sliding scale to patients who do not have insurance or whose insurance does not cover the visits. PPCCC will also assist patients without prescription coverage in applying to the drug manufacturer's financial assistance program.

When we all help one another, everybody wins.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Safe, secure online donations: Your gift to PPCCC is protected by VeriSign. Enjoy secure credit card convenience when you visit www.ppcentralcoast.org and click the “Donate” link at the top of the page.

Pledge your monthly support: A small amount each month makes an important difference each year. Call Brittany at 805.722.1517 to start your gift.

Remember PPCCC in your will: “Tomorrow's dollars” are just as important as “today's dollars.” Adding a charitable bequest to your existing will takes just a quick phone call to your legal or estate advisor. Or call Sherry Madsen, VP Development, at 805.722.1516.

We are always looking for volunteers for the **Mary Jane McCord Planned Parenthood Book Sale**. Our volunteers work year-round sorting and pricing books for the sale. If you are interested in volunteering please visit booksale.ppcentralcoast.org or call Brittany at 805.722.1517.

Looking for other volunteer opportunities with PPCCC? Please email volunteers@ppcentralcoast.org



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Thank You Bequest Challenge Donors!

Last fall, Planned Parenthood started a Bequest Challenge. This is an initiative designed to increase the number of bequest intents for Planned Parenthood and to record both new and existing bequest commitments in as full detail as possible.

The challenge was set to end in June 2017, but thanks to the generosity of Deborah Simon of Indiana, Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) secured an additional \$20 million grant to continue the challenge initiative.

Nationwide more than 2,000 supporters identified themselves as bequest donors to Planned Parenthood, resulting in over \$320,000,000 in future bequests to Planned Parenthoods across the country.

We are thrilled to report that the \$9 million of future gifts to PPCCC identified through the Challenge put our affiliate in the top five of 55 participating affiliates. Thank you to each of our participating Challenge donors, and to all of our Legacy Society donors, for their generosity in providing a gift to benefit future generations of women, men and young people!

Additionally, as part of the Bequest Challenge, each bequest amount was matched up to 10% of its value through the challenge grant funds. As a result of our donors who participated, PPCCC was awarded \$225,000 in grants for our current operations. Again, thank you!



With the extension of the Bequest Challenge there is still time to participate! If you would like to receive the Bequest Challenge information or have questions, please contact Sherry at 805.722.1516 or sherry.madsen@ppcentralcoast.org.

THANK YOU TO OUR BEQUEST CHALLENGE PARTICIPANTS

Anonymous (4)

R & C Baccash

Mary Bankert

Carla Berkowitz

Leslie Sweem Bhutani and Ashish Bhutani

Louroe Fogo

Elinor and James Langer

Carol Spector

Susan and John Stenovec

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Julia and Jerry Springer

Judy and Jack Stapelmann

Lila Trachtenberg and George Handler

Deloria Zabriskie

*Please note that this list reflects **only** donors who participated in the Bequest Challenge. This is not a complete list of our Legacy Society Members.*