

Big Sky Impact

FALL 2019

NEWS AND EVENTS

WE HAD A BIRTHDAY BASH!

In an era of rapidly changing interests, information, and expectations it is unusual for an organization to live to see its 50th anniversary. It is even more unusual when it happens in the American West, where 50 years is a good share of any state or community's lifespan. When Planned Parenthood of Montana hit its 50th in 2019 we knew a party was in order. Well, actually five parties were in order. **We can't wait to celebrate 100!**



Julie Yard and Virgo Fatale of the Mister Sisters
See more birthday bash photos on page 5.

\$167,888 raised
720 dinners served
6 honorees toasted
2 drag queens & **1** baton twirler
88 table bouquets

With gratitude to our Bozeman 50th Celebration
Sponsors: Suzanne Wilson, Blue Cross Blue Shield,
Iris Model, Pacific Source, LumenAd and Ruth Lott

HONORING PPMT HEROES!

In our last newsletter we shared the honorees from our Billings, Helena and Missoula events. At our Great Falls and Bozeman events we celebrated the following PPMT heroes.

Great Falls 50th Honoree — the Reverend Ronald C. Greene

Ron is a graduate of Northwest Christian College in Eugene, OR, Lexington Theological Seminary, and San Francisco Theological Seminary. Using Planned Parenthood resources, Bible Study, and values clarification Ron developed a youth sexuality education program for an Eastern Washington rural church in the 1980s. He served on the Clergy Advisory Committee of Planned Parenthood of the Inland Northwest from 1994 until 2002 in Spokane, WA, where he escorted patients during Operation Rescue protests. Ron also assisted in the interfaith rededication of the Spokane Valley Clinic after a bombing by white supremacists. After moving to Great Falls as minister of Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Ron joined the Planned Parenthood of Montana Board, serving as chair from 2006 until 2008, and was active on the PPFA Clergy Advocacy Board from 2010 until 2014. He has lobbied in Helena and Washington, D.C., for reproductive health care rights and LGBTQ justice. Ron and his wife, the Rev. Ruth Fletcher, have two adult sons and two step-grandchildren.



The Reverends Ruth Fletcher and Ron Greene

Bozeman 50th Honoree — Representative Laurie Bishop

Laurie Bishop lives in Livingston, representing her community in the Montana House of Representatives and serving as Minority Caucus Chair. Laurie got her start in issue-advocacy lobbying on a bill to provide comprehensive sexual health education to Montana students. Now, as a member of the House Judiciary committee and caucus leader, Laurie champions the fight to protect access to reproductive health care. When not serving in Helena, she is the Director of the Montana Afterschool Alliance, working statewide to support and advocate for sustainable, high-quality, out-of-school-time programs. For more than 15 years Laurie has worked to support Montana children and families as an administrator for youth-development nonprofits and with Graduation Matters Montana at the Office of Public Instruction. She and her husband Storrs met in their dorm at Syracuse University and have called Montana home for themselves, their kids and family members since 1996.



Martha Stahl with
Rep. Laurie Bishop

A Message from MARTHA



Dear Friends,

More than a million Planned Parenthood patients across the country lost their ability to access free or low-cost family planning services at local health centers when Planned Parenthood was forced out of the Title X program. The personal and public health impact of those patients delaying or forgoing care because they can't afford it will be profound. (for more on Title X, and the impact of the loss of funding at PPMT, turn to page 6)

At the same time, the Supreme Court has agreed to hear its first abortion case with Justice Kavanaugh on the bench. In this case, *Jane Medical Services v. Gee*, the Court will consider a Louisiana state law requiring abortion providers to have admitting privileges. Court watchers have noted that the same and similar requirements were ruled unconstitutional just three terms ago, in *Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt*. Will the Court overturn its previous finding that such restrictions impose an undue burden on patients?

The June case is the first of many working their way through the courts in the wake of a "race to bottom" in recent years, as state legislatures passed laws restricting access to abortion care. (There is some good news: in late October a court overturned draconian abortion restrictions in Alabama set to go into effect in November. So, for now, abortion is still legal in all 50 states.)

Watching this perfect storm of restrictions to both contraceptive and abortion access is terrifying. Meanwhile here in Montana, we are working to expand access to all sexual and reproductive health care services.

Planned Parenthood now provides on-line visits for birth control services for people across Montana. Birth control visits are no longer confined to health center exam rooms. Our app, PP Direct, connects Montanans, via secure chat, to our clinicians who answer questions, prescribe birth control pills, and arrange for them to be mailed to the patient.

And Montana is now the ninth state in the country to offer medication abortion by mail. For three years we have offered telemedicine abortion care between our health centers, connecting our patients with providers. We are now expanding this care through a research study that allows Montanans to stay in their home communities for abortion. The patient receives the required tests, including ultrasound, from a local provider or lab and the results are sent to the PPMT team. Our team meets virtually with the patient prior to sending the medication. (For more on the project, see page 6.)

Expanding access is an obligation. Already, 20–25% of abortion patients at PPMT come from outside of Montana. This could increase if Roe is overturned or gutted. Our participation in the medication abortion mail study will increase access within Montana while we collect the necessary data to change the labeling on medication abortion drugs, so they are more easily accessible across our country.

Expanding access and removing barriers takes all of us. It takes activists to lobby in Helena against restrictions on care, elected officials to expand access to birth control and sex education, donors to fund innovative approaches, and partners, like the remaining Title X providers in Montana, to keep the reproductive health care safety net in our state intact. Thank you for standing with Planned Parenthood.

Onward,

Martha Stahl, President and CEO

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Advocacy



ADVOCACY SPOTLIGHT

Cory Hudson-Orellana is a fourth-year management student at the University of Montana. She was born in Chile and lived in Japan since she was six years old. She came to Missoula and the University of Montana as an international student, and has been here since she was 18.

Cory first got involved with Planned Parenthood for a class project in the fall of 2019. As an international student, she only learned about Planned Parenthood after arriving in Montana. She knew she stood with Planned Parenthood in their beliefs but had never been a patient or volunteer.

Cory has been doing outreach in the community and on campus about Planned Parenthood's health services. She is also part of the Planned Parenthood campus group, Planned Parenthood Generation Action – UM, which is part of a national network and movement of young people across identities and issues that organizes with, by, and for their generation to achieve reproductive freedom.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

"I love how close and supportive this community is. My journey with Planned Parenthood started with a class assignment, but I would like to keep volunteering for Planned Parenthood as long as I can!"

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she, her, and hers
he, him, and his
they, them, and theirs ...

Here are some ways you can recognize and celebrate International Pronouns every day to continue to make our communities safe and inclusive for everyone:

- Include your pronouns on name tags at meetings and events.
- Add your pronouns to your e-mail signature block, e.g. Jane Smith (she, her, hers)
- Practice sharing your pronouns and asking others for theirs (not only folks who you feel unsure about).

By taking these steps, PPMT is working to create an inclusive and supportive environment for our patients, staff, and volunteers. We welcome and encourage you to join us.

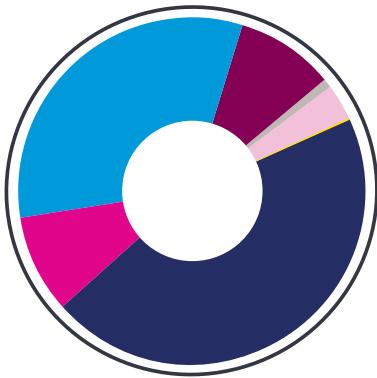
IF YOU ARE WONDERING...

- What are pronouns, why do they matter?
- How do I use pronouns?
- What if I make a mistake?
- How do I share my pronouns?
- How do I ask for someone's pronouns?
- How do I use gender inclusive language?

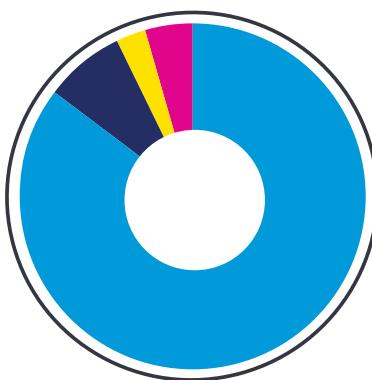
Please visit mypronouns.org

Annual REPORT

July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019



Revenue



Expenses

Revenue

Patient Fees	\$4,049,897	45 %
Grants & Contracts	\$2,886,719	32 %
Contributions	\$824,359	9 %
Fed. Family Planning Grant	\$798,602	9 %
Other	\$290,002	3 %
Investment Return	\$49,462	1 %
Workshops & Training	\$3,339	> .1 %
	\$8,902,380	

Expenses

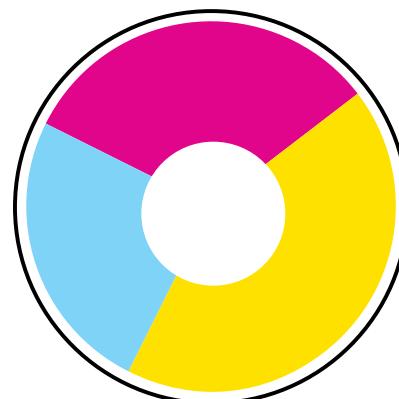
Patient Service	\$7,103,227	85 %
Public Affairs & Education	\$636,709	8 %
Fundraising	\$359,878	4 %
Management & General	\$231,421	3 %
	\$8,331,235	

Net Income **\$571,145**

Health Care Services Provided

Total number of patient visits	14,719
Number of female patients	7,864
Number of male patients	1,267
LARCs* provided	692
Contraceptive cycles dispensed	20,864
Emergency contraception dispensed	1,007
Breast exams performed	2,711
Cervical cancer screenings (Pap smears)	1,522
Tests for sexually transmitted diseases	14,646

* Long-Acting Reversible Contraceptives



How our Patients Pay

Third-Party Payer	43%
Medicaid/Medicare	32%
Uninsured/Receiving Assistance	25%

Big Sky IMPACT



PPMT Education Activities

2,510 participants in community education programming

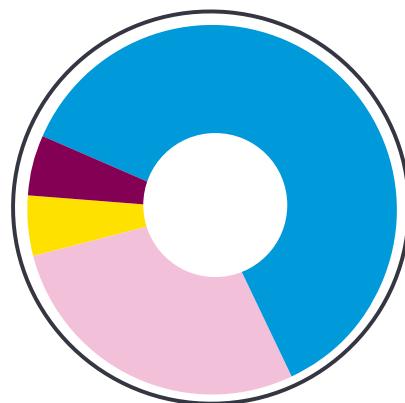
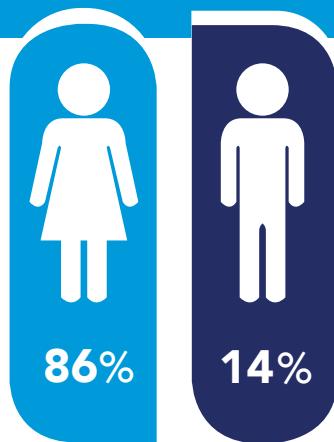
13 Teen Council members

35 medical professionals trained through Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Trainings

8 Fort Belnap Public Health Nurses received Foundations and Making Proud Choices training



**SERVE
EDUCATE
RESPECT
EMPOWER
CELEBRATE!**



**Patients
by Age**

Less than 18 years	5.5 %
18 – 29 years	61.3 %
30 – 44 years	28.0 %
45 years or more	5.1 %

PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF MONTANA'S BIRTHDAY BASH





EXPANDING ACCESS TO CARE: PPMT LAUNCHES STUDY

PPMT is always working to expand access to abortion care. Starting November 1, some patients can now have a medication abortion in the privacy of their own home, without ever coming to a PPMT health center. This expansion is a partnership with Gynuity Health Projects.

The goal of the TelAbortion research study, also known as "Meds by Mail," is to create a more convenient, patient-centered method of abortion. Dr. Elizabeth Raymond, Gynuity Project Director, explained that "Gynuity designed the TelAbortion study to evaluate the feasibility and acceptability of enabling people to obtain medical abortion from their homes without having to come in person to an abortion facility. We expect that this approach will be especially relevant to the large rural and frontier populations in Montana, and we're excited to be working with PPMT on the project."

How does it work? When a patient calls PPMT seeking an abortion, call center staff presents Meds by Mail as an option, along with traditional abortion services offered in our health centers. If the patient expresses interest, they undergo a brief screening to assess initial eligibility, including questions about the dating of the pregnancy, contraindications to medical abortion, and the patient's age.

"Our very first patient to schedule a Meds by Mail appointment said she had been worried about her work, studies, and winter weather. She was excited and relieved not to have to travel three hours just to pick up her medications."

— Ali Kelly, Abortion Services Coordinator



TelAbortion

Safe. Effective. Private. Convenient.

If the patient is potentially eligible, PPMT schedules a video evaluation and the patient obtains an ultrasound and necessary lab tests at a facility in their community. On the day of the evaluation, the patient connects with a PPMT clinician by video. After again informing the patient of all of her options and obtaining informed consent, the clinician completes a detailed health history, reviews the ultrasound and lab results, and discusses a follow-up plan. If the clinician deems the patient eligible and the patient wishes to proceed, medications are mailed to the patient. Several days later, PPMT staff follow up with the patient to confirm that the abortion is complete, and to ask questions about the patient's experience and satisfaction with this service. The study has been approved by an ethics board, is HIPAA compliant, and completely confidential.

Dana Northcraft, Senior Director of Innovation & Policy with Planned Parenthood Federation of America reported that "we are pleased that PPMT has joined PPFA and other Planned Parenthood affiliates in engaging in this ambitious research to expand patients' access to medication abortion, both for Montanans and those living in neighboring states where abortion access is particularly under attack."

Gynuity is a nonprofit research organization whose mission is to develop and advocate for the use of scientific, clinical and programmatic evidence in reproductive and maternal health, assuring that each individual benefits from the fruits of medical science and technology. For more information about Gynuity, visit gynuity.org. For more information about the study, visit the PPMT website plannedparenthood.org/montana or telabortion.org.

THE TITLE X CONUNDRUM

Most Planned Parenthood supporters are aware of the important role Title X federal family planning funds played for our patients in Montana and around the nation. Those funds supported low- or no-cost health services for our most vulnerable neighbors. Title X funds were distributed to providers for non-abortion health care services for low-income patients. When the Trump-Pence administration placed a gag rule on health providers who receive Title X funds (meaning the provider can no longer refer a pregnant patient to an abortion provider), Planned Parenthood withdrew from the Title X program. We believe that every patient should receive all available medical information, without judgment or discrimination. Today, as we at Planned Parenthood of Montana face a new norm of providing health care services without the sliding fee options available from Title X funds, we must tighten our belts, become more resourceful in our operations, and look to our extraordinary donors to bridge the funding gap that was previously filled by Title X. Our patients still need our financial support, and we are intent on continuing their care, no matter what.



CURRICULUM PROJECT

This summer we brought you news of the Native and Rural Curriculum Project. This is PPMT Education Department's program to develop a new comprehensive sexuality education curriculum. The project is designed to address the specific needs and barriers to reproductive health care that are experienced by youth in rural areas, including in and around Montana's Indian Reservations. We are proud to say the project is off to a good start!

PPMT is partnering with Dr. Elizabeth Schroeder, a well-known sexuality education consultant, trainer, and author, to help design the curriculum to best fit the needs of the youth in Montana. Focus groups with youth and adults in rural Indigenous communities were completed in November to learn what will resonate with students. The data from those gatherings will inform what the curriculum covers and how it is designed.

This work is the first of its kind at PPMT and we expect it to greatly contribute to the field of sexuality education and reproductive health. We look forward to keeping you updated on the progress of the project.

"I think we should teach [sexuality] the way we teach every other topic in school. Start basic. Build that scaffolding in a way that is age and developmentally appropriate." ... for example, "My son is learning algebra now in the eighth grade, but it's not the first time he's getting math. It's antithetical that we wouldn't do the same with sexuality."

— Dr. Elizabeth Schroeder

Hello And Goodbyes From The Education Department

The PPMT education department is proud to welcome the newest team member, Kristy CalfRobe. Kristy is serving as the Indigenous Communities Education and Training Specialist, and is located in Browning, Montana. Kristy is an enrolled member of the Blackfeet Tribe and a mother to three adorable daughters. She studied Health and Human Performance at the University of Montana and was a UM Peer Health Educator for four years.



Kristy CalfRobe

Also, join us in welcoming Kate Nessan as PPMT's next Director of Learning. Kate has been a dedicated and tire-less educator with PPMT for the last 14 years and has been serving as the Interim Director since May. Kate walks our shared values every day and is deeply committed to our mission of ensuring all Montanans, particularly young people, have access to comprehensive, medically accurate sex education. Kate was chosen for this position after the retirement of Jill Baker, who spent the last 17 years fearlessly leading PPMT's Education Department. Jill has left a lasting impression on the sexual health and reproductive field and PPMT is eternally grateful for her passion and dedication to the work.

Kristy, along with Kate and Joli Mathis, an Education and Training Specialist in Billings, will be focusing on providing compassionate, inclusive, and effective programming and training to Montana youth and professionals.



Joli Mathis

SUPPORT FOR OUR PATIENTS

As our calendar year comes to a close and you consider year-end giving opportunities, we ask you to put Planned Parenthood into your philanthropic plans. What we will offer in return for your support is our promise to steward your gift with integrity and to use it wisely to the benefit of our patients.

Your year-end contribution can be offered through many ways. We are here to help you with gifts of appreciated stock, qualifying IRA distributions, planned gifts, online donations at www.plannedparenthood.org/montana, a credit/debit card donation by phone, or a check in the mail.

We are all in this together, and we couldn't have better partners than you — our faithful donors, advocates, and ambassadors.

Care. No matter what.

Ready to make a gift before year-end? Your options are nearly endless.

- Use the envelope inserted in this newsletter to give by credit card or check.
- Call us! We are here to help you process a gift. Call Kelley at (406) 869.5006.
- Donate today at www.wearepp.org/giveppmt
- With assistance from your financial advisor or broker you can send a gift of stock.
- Make a qualified distribution to Intermountain Planned Parenthood from your Retirement Fund.
- Include us in your estate plans. Need help? Call Christina at (406) 830.3491.
- Stop by our administrative office in Billings or one of our health centers to drop off your contribution.

For more info on giving visit: www.plannedparenthood.org/planned-parenthood-montana/get-involved-locally/donate



Planned Parenthood of Montana

1116 Grand Ave, Suite 201
Billings, MT 59102

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PPMT Health Centers

You asked and we answered! We expanded hours in Helena and Great Falls to accommodate our patients' needs.

Billings West

(406) 656.9980
1844 Broadwater #4
Monday 8 am – 6 pm
Tuesday 8 am – 6 pm
Wednesday Closed
Thursday..... 8 am – 6 pm
Friday 8 am – 6 pm

Billings Heights

(406) 869.5040
100 W. Wicks Lane
Monday Closed
Tuesday Closed
Wednesday ...8 am – 6 pm
Thursday..... Closed
Friday Closed

Great Falls

(406) 454.3431
211 9th Street South
Monday 9 am – 5:30 pm
Tuesday 9 am – 5:30 pm
Wednesday. 9 am – 5:30 pm
Thursday... 9 am – 5:30 pm
Friday 9 am – 5:30 pm

Helena

(406) 443.7676
1500 Cannon Street
Monday 9 am – 6 pm
Tuesday 9 am – 6 pm
Wednesday 11 am – 7 pm
Thursday.... 9 am – 6 pm
Friday 9 am – 6 pm

Missoula

(406) 728.5490
219 E. Main Street
Monday 9 am – 6 pm
Tuesday 9 am – 6 pm
Wednesday Closed
Thursday.... 9 am – 6 pm
Friday 9 am – 6 pm
Saturday ... 10 am – 2 pm
(First and third Saturday
of every month)

Billings Administration

Monday – Friday only
(406) 248.3636



Our Mission

Planned Parenthood of Montana leads by providing, promoting, and protecting sexual and reproductive health care and education for all Montanans.



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