



# Big Sky Impact

WINTER 2019

NEWS AND EVENTS

## PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF MONTANA CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF CARE

In the early 1960s, Gardner Cromwell, of Missoula, and his pastor attended a conference in Green Lake, Wisconsin held by the National Conference of Churches and the Canadian Council of Churches where Dr. Alan Guttmacher spoke about Planned Parenthood and family planning. A few years later, in Billings, a small group of volunteers began gathering to think about how to provide access to birth control to women in Yellowstone County. Between 1967 and 1969, these grassroots efforts coalesced into two Planned Parenthood programs—each forming to serve the family planning needs of people in their communities.

Over the last 50 years, Planned Parenthood of Montana has grown from its roots as a project of the health department in Missoula and a volunteer-led operation in a small office on Montana Avenue in Billings to a sophisticated health care organization with five health centers across Montana and more than 75 highly-skilled, professional staff.

Planned Parenthood of Montana (and its predecessor organizations in Billings, Missoula, Great Falls, and Helena), has been innovative, resourceful, and some would say, scrappy, for 50 years. Led by dedicated volunteers and staff, Planned Parenthood in Montana has weathered ideological storms and actual fires. We have expanded and protected access to sexual and reproductive health care using every tool available, from our human capital to lawsuits to technology to donor dollars.

From the beginning, we have taken pride in what we call the “three legged stool” of Planned Parenthood: health care, education, and advocacy. All three legs of the stool are necessary to achieve the positive outcomes of reduced unintended pregnancy and abortion, lower STI and teen pregnancy rates, and healthier babies. For people to get and stay healthy, it is not enough to provide only medical care; we must also change the culture around reproductive and sexual health through education and outreach programs, and we have to fight for people’s access to



this unbiased health care and information through advocacy efforts. It takes programs on all three fronts to affect change in the health outcomes of our communities. This is what Planned Parenthood of Montana has done for 50 years, and will continue to do as we embark on our next half-century.

This spring we will hold three celebrations, in Helena, Billings, and Missoula. Later in the year we will have anniversary parties in Great Falls and Bozeman. We invite you to celebrate this legacy and help build energy for the next 50 years by celebrating with PPMT in 2019.



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# A Message from MARTHA



**Anniversaries and birthdays** are natural moments of introspection. We think about the past, about what's gone well, and where we have opportunities to learn. In that spirit, as we prepare to celebrate 50 years of Planned Parenthood services in Montana, I have been revisiting our history. It's been a pleasure and a joy to sit with former Board and staff members and talk about the road travelled. Looking back on 50 years, it is easy to see how the work of the 60s, 70s, 80s, and 90s has led to the work of today.

**Providers at the Front** • In 1973, Planned Parenthood of Billings hired its first nurse practitioner (NP). While advanced practice clinicians are widely accepted today, Planned Parenthood was at the forefront of integrating these highly-skilled providers into patient care. Nurse practitioners were (and continue to be) so important to the work of Planned Parenthood that, in 1992, we established a professional training program for Registered Nurses to become NPs. Now, in 2019, the ACLU and the Center for Reproductive Rights,

along with two Montana NPs, have gone to the courts to extend the care that NPs can provide to abortion. Meanwhile, we continue training the providers of tomorrow as family practice residents complete rotations in our Missoula health center. (Learn more about how we continue to train medical providers through the SANE program on page 7, and about our clinical leadership on Page 6, where we welcome new Chief Medical Officer Dr. Joey Banks.)

**Care Beyond Our Walls** • In 1992, a series of anti-choice health care attacks targeted Planned Parenthood's Helena health center, including an arson fire that destroyed the building. Forced to close for recovery and rebuilding, Planned Parenthood partnered with the Migrant Council, who allowed us to reopen in their mobile van the day after the fire. Today, providing care beyond the walls of the health center is not a reactive strategy but rather a forward-thinking move to expand access. Patients from across the state can now visit Planned Parenthood from anywhere they have internet service, using Planned Parenthood Direct. (See page 6 for details.)

**Building Power through Advocacy** • In 1989, Planned Parenthood leaders gathered at a retreat at Chico Hot Springs and hatched a plan to create a statewide advocacy and political arm for the Planned Parenthood affiliates in Montana. (It wasn't until 1998 that all of the affiliates combined to form what is now Planned Parenthood of Montana.) Understanding the need to harness their collective strength to protect and promote sexual and reproductive health, those leaders started the work that continues today in the Montana Legislature (see page 3 for more). And because the more things change, the more they stay the same, Planned Parenthood's public affairs team still heads to Chico to make plans.

I am looking forward to visiting with more of you, and hearing all of your Planned Parenthood stories. In the meantime, feel free to reach out to me at [Martha.stahl@ppmontana.org](mailto:Martha.stahl@ppmontana.org) to share your memories.

Onward,

Martha Stahl, *President and CEO*

**P.S.** Looking at the past isn't always a trip far down memory lane. Sometimes we just need to review what happened in the previous fiscal year. Our 2017-2018 Annual Report is on pages 4 and 5.

## PPMT Board of Directors

Barbara Schneeman, *Chair* • Billings  
Linda Harris, *Treasurer* • Red Lodge  
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**Montana's 66th legislative session** convened in January. The state constitution allows the body to meet every two years for 90 business days. Planned Parenthood Advocates of Montana (PPAMT) assessed the more than 3,000 bill ideas introduced for their impact on our patients, communities, and our ability to continue to provide the high-quality health care for which we are known.

Our primary goal this session is to protect Montanans from a cadre of bills that seek to outlaw access to safe, legal abortion. These extreme measures, including policy bills and both constitutional and legislative referenda, are intended to shame women and interfere in the patient-doctor relationship. Medical providers, not politicians, know what is best for their patients, and we will continue to stand with women and families as they make the best medical decisions for themselves and their families.

We are excited to be introducing legislation this session to increase access to birth control by providing multiple

cycles of oral contraception for women at one time. Studies show that by doing so, we can reduce unintended pregnancies by a staggering 30%. Additionally, we will be working to help lift the sunset on Medicaid to preserve health coverage for the nearly 100,000 Montanans who rely on this incredibly successful program. Numerous eligibility restrictions are being discussed in an effort to kick people off the program, and we will be fighting for our patients and all who depend on Medicaid for their health care.

PPAMT is proud to continue our coalition work where we are working to protect and advance voting access and the rights of the LGBTQ and immigrant and refugee communities, monitoring the state budget for fairness and equity, and proposing progressive revenue ideas. We are deeply committed to this work because our patients not only need access to the reproductive health care they deserve, they also need communities free from violence, access to the ballot, and fiscal policies that do not balance the budget on the backs of hard working Montanans.



Planned Parenthood supporters raise their voices at the Montana Capital

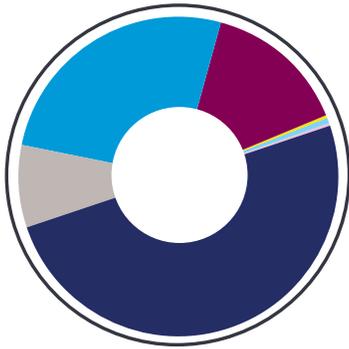
If you are not already receiving our weekly legislative session newsletter you can sign up by visiting <http://bit.ly/ppamtemail>.

**"NEVER BE AFRAID TO RAISE YOUR VOICE for honesty and truth and compassion against injustice and lying and greed. If people all over the world...would do this, it would change the earth."** — William Faulkner

## PPAMT Board of Directors

Evan Barrett, *Chair* • Butte  
Stacie Anderson, *Vice Chair* • Missoula  
Katie Ranta, *Treasurer* • Great Falls  
Barbara Schneeman, *Secretary* • Billings

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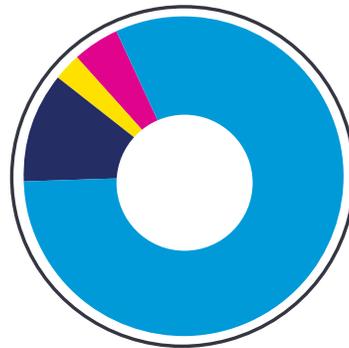


**Revenue**

## Revenue

■ Patient Fees	\$3,802,020	50.1 %
■ Fed. Family Planning Grant	\$616,216	8.0 %
■ Grants	\$1,996,187	26.0 %
■ Contributions	\$1,091,223	14.0 %
■ Contracts & Workshops	\$3,890	.1 %
■ Investment Return	\$51,987	.6 %
■ Other	\$10,144	1.2 %

\$7,571,667



**Expenses**

## Expenses

■ Patient Service	\$5,469,717	81.4 %
■ Education	\$754,028	11.2 %
■ Management & General	\$184,873	2.8 %
■ Fundraising	\$308,823	4.6 %

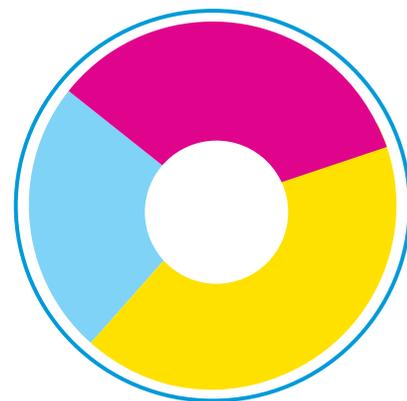
\$6,717,441

Net Income \$ 854,226

## Health Care Services Provided

Total number of patient visits	15,853
Number of female patients	8,555
Number of male patients	1,278
LARCs* provided	788
Contraceptive cycles dispensed	24,131
Emergency contraception dispensed	1,282
Breast exams performed	1,762
Cervical cancer screenings (Pap smears)	1,762
Tests for sexually transmitted diseases	13,768

\* Long-Acting Reversible Contraceptives



**How our Patients Pay**

■ Third-Party Payer	41.4 %
■ Uninsured/Receiving Assistance	24.5 %
■ Medicaid/Medicare	34.1 %



## PPMT Educators Reached:

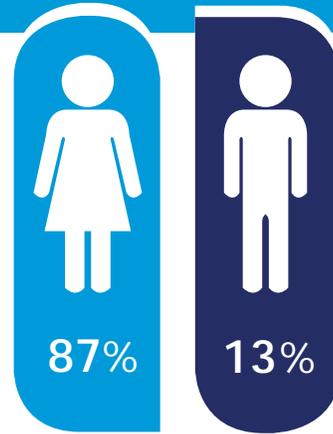
**1,664** participants through community education programming

**9** youth, as members of the Billings Teen Council program, meeting weekly throughout the school year.

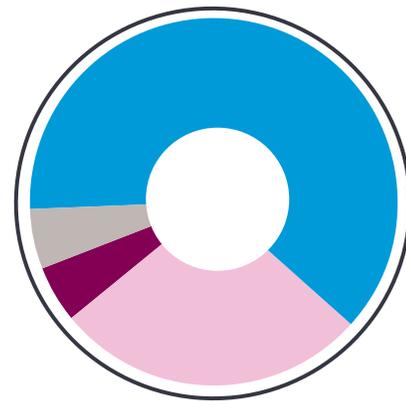
**35** medical professionals through Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Trainings

**17** teachers with sex ed curriculum training in Browning, MT

**4** PPMT educators with certification as trainers for Sex Ed Foundations: Core Skills Training for Educators



Patients by Gender



Patients by Age

■ Less than 18 years	5.0 %
■ 18 – 29 years	62.2 %
■ 30 – 44 years	27.4 %
■ 45 years or more	5.4 %

**Volunteers**  
completed 1,193 shifts for 3,579 hours!

SERVE  
EDUCATE  
RESPECT  
EMPOWER  
ENGAGE





## Welcome Dr. Joey Banks



**Dr. Joey Banks** has joined Planned Parenthood of Montana as our Chief Medical Officer. She brings a wealth of clinical experience to PPMT. For the last six years, Dr. Banks, a family practice physician, has provided sexual and reproductive health care and primary care at Blue Mountain Clinic in Missoula. During her time at Blue Mountain Clinic, she served as their medical lead for transgender care and was a preceptor for the Family Medicine Residency of Western Montana. Prior to moving to Missoula, Dr. Banks was a family physician in Tanzania. She also has a long-time connection with Planned Parenthood, having worked as a contract physician for Planned Parenthood of Northern New England, and as Medical Director for Planned Parenthood of Alaska. She holds a BA from Baylor University, attended the Indiana University School of Medicine, and completed her residency in family medicine in Alaska.

“Besides falling in love with Missoula, my family and I have also fallen in love with Montana,” says Dr. Banks. “For this reason, I am excited to begin my next mission-based work as the Chief Medical Officer for Planned Parenthood of Montana. The last two years in national politics have shown me that **every person** matters in our fight to preserve health care access without judgment, to ensure reproductive freedom, and to promote legislation that is in the best interest to all Montanans.”

We are thrilled to have Dr. Banks join PPMT. She will be based in our Missoula health center, and will provide clinical leadership for all of our health centers. When hiring Dr. Banks, PPMT was particularly drawn to her experience as a physician leader and to her dedication to training the next generation of providers in sexual and reproductive health care, including abortion.

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## Planned Parenthood Direct: Birth Control, Delivered.

**Planned Parenthood of Montana is committed** to exploring and testing technology solutions to expand access to quality sexual and reproductive health care that is easy to use and sustainable. We work to ensure all people get the reproductive health care they need, no matter what. September of 2018 marked an exciting moment in that history with the launch of Planned Parenthood Direct. The application allows users to chat with a PPMT provider online, through a secure messaging consultation system, and then receive birth control in the mail. PP Direct offers the same high quality care patients would receive during an in-clinic visit at a PPMT health center.



PP Direct is available at the App store or Google Play. Unlike traditional telemedicine which involves a live video and audio interaction between the patient and provider, PP Direct allows the patient to complete their portion of the visit at their convenience. The provider, working from a PPMT health center, responds and completes the visit within a specified timeframe. The pills are \$20 per cycle. If a user orders 12 cycles at once, they get the 13th free. Currently, the new app is self-pay only. We hope to accept select insurance plans in the future.

PP Direct was built upon decades of innovative health care and information delivery from Planned Parenthood and its affiliates nationwide. Planned Parenthood's websites in English and Spanish provide accurate, nonjudgmental information about contraception, sex, and reproductive health to six million visitors each month. Since launching in September, more than 60 patients across Montana have used the app to access birth control and 248 cycles of pills were distributed.



## Celebrating 20 years of SANE Training

Since 1998, PPMT has proudly provided Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) training to more than 400 medical professionals including registered nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants and physicians. In 2017, PPMT expanded to provide pediatric SANE training in addition to the annual adolescent/adult training. Generous funding has been provided by the Montana Board of Crime Control, American Association of University Women, as well as individual donors. SANE training teaches health care providers to treat child, adolescent and adult survivors of sexual assault in a compassionate, and timely manner, and to collect the forensic evidence necessary to prosecute offenders with the patient's and/or caregiver's consent. Sarah, a recent trainee, said, "The training was well organized, communication was stellar, and the information was amazing. Thank you PP for all you do on behalf of sexual assault victims across the state." The next SANE training will be April 1-5, 2019 in Missoula.

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" This has been hands-down the best training I have received in my 22 years of nursing!" Sarah, a SANE trainee

## Teen Council Lobby Day

Youth from both the Billings and Pryor Teen Council programs will participate in our first-ever Teen Council Lobby Day on February 11, in Helena, thanks to funding from the Quigley Hiltner Family Foundation. The Education and Public Affairs teams are partnering to offer this incredible learning and leadership opportunity for high school aged youth participating in the program. Youth will learn about the legislative process and the proposed bills this session that impact reproductive and sexual health. They will then create their own personal story as it relates to these issues and have an opportunity to share their stories with their legislators. Our youth are very much looking forward to this opportunity!

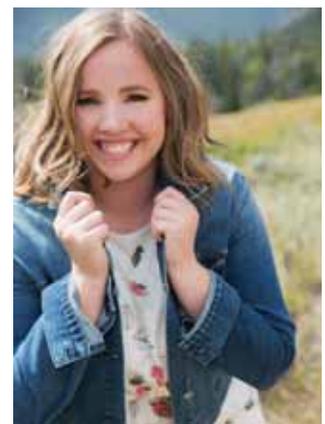


Jana Graham Photography



Makayla Heiser

"Kids our age often aren't given the opportunity to let their voice be heard, but I'm so thankful for Planned Parenthood and Teen Council for organizing this day where we change that." — Clara Bentler, a senior at Billings Senior High



Jana Graham Photography

Clara Bentler

"Lobby Day will give me an opportunity to let my voice be heard and have a better understanding of how to do that by meeting with my representatives." — Makayla Heiser, a senior at Billings Senior High



**Roe vs. Wade is based on a woman's fundamental right to privacy, a value that all Americans cherish. It established that decisions about whether to have a child do not and should not rest with the government. A woman – in consultation with her family, her physician, and her faith – is best qualified to make that decision.** — Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi

**Our Mission**

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



Planned Parenthood of Montana

1116 Grand Ave, Suite 201  
Billings, MT 59102

Non-profit Org  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit #88  
Billings, MT

**PPMT Health Centers**

**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 . . . . 8 am – 5:30 pm  
Tuesday . . . . . 8 am – noon  
Wednesday. 8 am – 5:30 pm  
Thursday. . . . . Closed  
Friday . . . . . 8 am – 5:30 pm

**Helena**

(406) 443.7676  
1500 Cannon Street

Monday . . . 8 am – 5:30 pm  
Tuesday . . . . . Closed  
Wednesday 11 am – 7 pm  
Thursday. . . . . Closed  
Friday . . . . 8 am – 5:30 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



**HELP US  
CELEBRATE  
50 YEARS OF CARE**

**HELENA | STAGGERING OX**  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27th • 5-8pm

**BILLINGS | THE DEPOT**  
SATURDAY, APRIL 6th • 5-8pm

**MISSOULA | UC BALLROOM**  
TUESDAY, APRIL 9th • 5-8pm

PLEASE VISIT:  
[WEAREPP.ORG/PPMT50TH](http://WEAREPP.ORG/PPMT50TH)