



PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF GREATER TEXAS: February Connections

Welcome to the second edition of Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas' monthly online newsletter. As a valued supporter of Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas, we would like to share with you information that relates to sexual and reproductive healthcare and demonstrates the importance of your support for Planned Parenthood health services, education, and advocacy. We will also highlight upcoming events we hope you can attend.

February is Birth Control Awareness Month

54% of pregnancies in Texas are unintended. 100% of birth control methods are available at Planned Parenthood.



In 2020, Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas prescribed 22,250 packs of birth control pills, enabling patients to take power over their reproductive health.

\$500

\$500 provides 20 patients with a month of birth control pills.

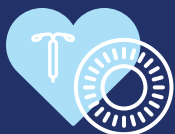


Long-acting, reversible methods of birth control like the IUD and implant offer 4-12 years of continuous coverage that are 99% effective at preventing pregnancy.

2,860

We provided 2,860 long-acting reversible contraceptive methods to patients in 2020.

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.

A NEWS CONNECTION

Texas gives Medicaid recipients using Planned Parenthood until Feb. 3 to find new health care provider

Planned Parenthood received a 30-day "grace" period before we are banned from serving Medicaid patients in our health centers by the Texas Governor. This "grace" period is not helpful for our patients since Texas has inadequate Medicaid providers to serve patients. Blocking Planned Parenthood from participating in Medicaid creates another barrier to birth control for Medicaid patients as not all medical doctors provide all birth control methods. Patients will lose birth control access when Planned Parenthood is excluded from Medicaid, but with your support, we will continue to be a trusted healthcare resource for Medicaid patients as long as we can.



TAKE ACTION

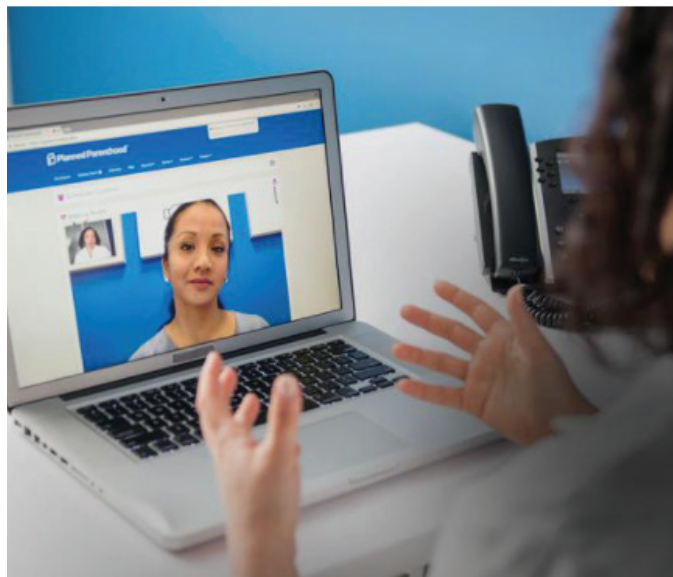
Contact Texas Governor Greg Abbott and tell him not to block care for Medicaid patients at Planned Parenthood - people need more access to healthcare during a pandemic, not less.

TACKLING BARRIERS TO BIRTH CONTROL ACCESS

In a study by the Guttmacher Institute, 33 percent of respondents said that due to the COVID-pandemic, they had trouble accessing birth control, or had to delay or cancel a visit to a provider for sexual and reproductive health services. Unfortunately, this is disproportionately true for women with low incomes and Black, Hispanic, and LGBTQIA women. You provide these women access to birth control by supporting Planned Parenthood. To expand access to birth control throughout the pandemic, we offer telemedicine services through Planned Parenthood Direct, our telemedicine app. It is available 24/7 for patients 18 and up for birth control like pills, the patch, and the ring.

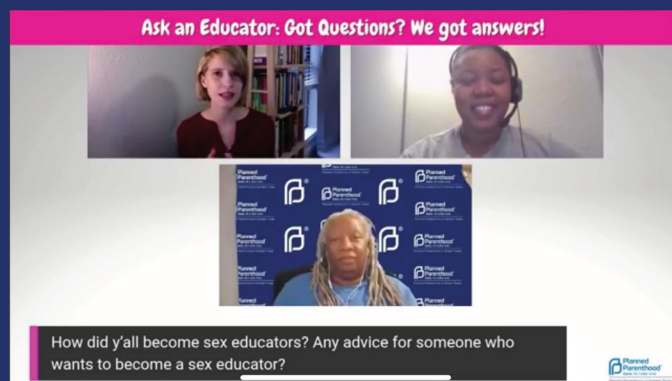
"I'm a high risk candidate for COVID-19, but I had to get my birth control pill script refilled. Telemedicine was a great way of attending my appointment."

- A Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas patient in Waco



THE HIV COLLECTIVE

PPGT received grant funding to implement HIV prevention education in McLennan and Tarrant County. This program, **The HIV Collective**, prioritizes reaching women who identify as heterosexual with partners who are incarcerated; transgender community members; and undocumented women whose first language is not English. This program offers monthly educational programming, including Facebook Live sessions, to reach participants during the COVID pandemic. The HIV Collective connects participants to a text/chat line, on-line healthcare appointments, and bilingual health education resources.



Amplify Austin

Amplify Austin is back March 4-5, 6:00 PM-6:00 PM

Make your gift early! Go to our Amplify Austin page, and you can give early to support Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas.

WAYS TO GIVE

Remembering Planned Parenthood in your will, trust, or through an annuity is one of the most meaningful gifts you can make for future generations. For more information on how you may include Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas in your estate plan, contact us at (214) 254-3017 or email us at development@ppgt.org.

Your gift of:

- **\$1,000** provides 1 patient with a long-acting reversible contraceptive
- **\$500** offers 5 patients peace of mind with emergency contraception and health education resources
- **\$250** allows 1 patient to take control of their own health with a cancer-screening colposcopy
- **\$100** creates healthier communities by making 500 safer sex encounters possible through the distribution of condoms

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.

