## Planned Parenthood®

# Your Partner for a Healthy Community

Quarterly Newsletter July · August · September 2019

Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas is expanding healthcare access. Planned Parenthood Direct, a new telemedicine app, is now available statewide for anyone with access to a mobile phone. App users receive timely birth control (pills, patch, and ring), and urinary tract infection treatment. This new resource is especially important for Texans in rural communities without access to transportation or a nearby health center.

Unfortunately, statewide politicians again created additional barriers to reproductive healthcare. A controversial new law banning partnerships between local governments and Planned Parenthood passed the Texas Legislature and takes effect September 1st. This law (SB 22) targets partnerships like Planned Parenthood's E. 7th Street Health Center

leased from the City of Austin with local community support for more than 40 years. From "pop up" clinics on community college campuses to condom distribution programs to reduce STD and HIV rates, SB 22 creates new challenges to providing healthcare and education, especially for uninsured and low-income patients in our communities.

Because of you, we stand strong and are here to serve all who need our care, no matter what. Thank you.

With Gratitude, Ken

Ken Lambrecht, President & CEO Click here to see our supporters stand strong at the Capitol

# Cagaria MSS

### SAVE THESE DATES FOR UPCOMING FUNDRAISERS

North Texas Giving Day Thursday, September 19

Dallas Cocktails for a Cause Thursday, October 3

Austin Annual Dinner &
Cocktails for a Cause After Party
Saturday, November 9
Hilton Austin
Keynote: Laverne Cox

El Paso Giving Day Thursday, November 14

**Giving Tuesday** Tuesday, December 3

**Dallas Annual Awards Luncheon** Friday, March 6

Advance reservations required and sponsorships available for events. Please call 855.314.0799 ext 10183 or email events@ppgt.org for more info.

### **Putting Healthcare and Education into Patients' Hands**



One of Planned Parenthood's top priorities is increasing access to healthcare and health education. We offer innovative options for Texans to connect with us digitally, 24/7 online appointment scheduling and chat/text lines to connect with health experts. Apps like Planned Parenthood Direct and the Spot On period tracker offer trusted information, birth control (pills, patch & ring) and UTI treatment.

Learn more by downloading Spot On and Planned Parenthood Direct in your Android or Apple app store.

# Planned Parenthood Outreach to Reduce Birth Control Barriers

Recent research by the Texas Policy Evaluation Project highlighted barriers to birth control access for community college students. Cost and insurance access can put preferred birth control methods out of reach. Planned Parenthood visited campuses in Austin, Dallas, Denton, El Paso, Fort Worth, Paris, Tyler, and Waco to educate students about available birth control options and connect students to area Planned Parenthood health services.





Emmy-nominated actress, film producer and equal rights advocate, Laverne Cox, will be the Austin Annual Dinner keynote speaker on November 9.







### YOUR PARTNER FOR A HEALTHY COMMUNITY

Making a healthier Texas by connecting with communities in central, east, north and west Texas.



Fort Worth Volunteer Night brings new friends together to connect Planned Parenthood with the community.



In May, advocates, including former State Senator Wendy Davis, joined us at the #StoptheBans rally in Austin in support of abortion access.



Advocates and staff from EI Paso at the Texas Capitol House Gallery opposing attacks on local healthcare (SB 22) with State Senator José Rodríguez.



In June, activists and supporters joined Planned Parenthood in the Dallas Pride Parade. LGBTQ rights include reproductive rights.



PPGT supporters participate in an adult egg hunt in April. Eggs were filled with lube, condoms and other health and education resources for adults.



PPGT volunteers and supporters celebrate El Paso's Pride Night at a Chihuahuas baseball game.

### **HEALTHCARE YOU CAN TRUST**

### Background:

Dr. Amna Dermish is a board certified OB/GYN and Regional Medical Director for Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas with a Masters degree in Clinical Research. Dr. Dermish provides medication and surgical abortions and oversees Planned Parenthood's transgender healthcare services including gender affirming hormone therapy.

### In her words:

As an OB-GYN, I love that I get to provide care through all stages of my patients' lives, from their teenage years until menopause.



Meet Dr. Dermish, one of the Planned Parenthood health experts who bring compassionate, high-quality care to patients every day.

Planned Parenthood's clinicians average more than 21 years of healthcare experience, and include Physicians, Women's Health Care Nurse Practitioners, Family Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, and other advanced levels of certification and licensure.

### **Teens Develop Leadership Skills**

Planned Parenthood's education programs provide teens with skills and information to support their ability to make well-informed and positive decisions about relationships and sexual health to reduce unintended teen pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections (STIs). In addition, teens work with Planned Parenthood educators directly through internships and a Youth Leadership Council.

These programs provide valuable communication and leadership skills while teens learn about sexual health issues to serve as peer educators. Recent highlights by teen participants include developing healthcare ads, interviewing on a local radio program, and more.

Learn more at education@ppgt.org

