

# Choice News

## Letter from President & CEO



This year marks PPHP's 85th year of proving care, no matter what. It began as small groups of women working

together to provide essential reproductive health care to other women, giving their own time and money. These small groups began joining together to start what is now PPHP, an organization which provides a wide range of health care services across four counties, in 10 health centers, serving 32,000 individuals.

During our 85 years, we have faced challenges, and we continue to face them today from external factors working against us and the important work we do. Rest assured that our doors will stay open and we will continue providing health care services, education programs, and advocacy efforts for many years to come.

Thank you again for your continued support of PPHP. Whether you are a long-time supporter or a new supporter, we appreciate you.

In solidarity,

Vincent Russell  
President & CEO

## Celebrating 85 Years of Care at The Empower Gala

Nearly 300 guests turned out on Wednesday, October 3 at the DoubleTree in Tarrytown to celebrate our 85th anniversary at The Empower Gala. Guests enjoyed a buffet dinner, our special 85th Anniversary video, heard about the important work we have done so far in 2018, and about our vision for an even stronger PPHP in the future.

In addition to raising funds for our health care services, education programs, and advocacy efforts, the live auction featured a \$150,000 match, helping us raise an additional \$146,250 to support the renovations for White Plains.

We applaud the dedicated co-chairs Susan Chatzky, Terry Christie, Maria



Fidalgo, and Denise Lipson, and the members of event committee. We also extend our appreciation to everyone who supported the event through sponsorships, journal ads, ticket purchases, and the live auction.

If you would like more information about supporting the White Plains renovations, contact Jennifer Geider at (914) 467-7342.

## New Gender Affirming Care Services

In July, we began offering gender affirming care services to transgender, gender nonconforming, and non-binary patients in our Smithtown health center. These services include: hormone therapy, self-injection training, sensitive sexual and reproductive health care, and an extensive resource guide for primary health care, mental health services, dental care, legal services, support groups, and more.

We are committed to decreasing barriers to health care and are excited to offer these services to individuals in Suffolk County and the surrounding area who need care. In the few months that this program has been running, we have received

nothing but positive feedback from the patients who previously had to travel to Nassau County and New York City for these services.

We will expand these services to the White Plains health center in the near future to meet the needs in the Westchester County area.

**All New Yorkers, including transgender and gender nonconforming people, deserve dignity and respect.**

**#WeWelcomeYou**



## Huntington Health Center Grand Reopening

On Tuesday, August 21, we held the reopening and ribbon-cutting ceremony for our Huntington health center. The center closed earlier in the year to allow us to redesign and upgrade the existing space.

We are offering the same services as we previously did: birth control, emergency contraception, STI testing and treatment, HIV testing and counseling, PrEP, gynecological exams, HPV vaccine, abortion services, and menopause management. Our patients and staff are happy with the newly designed space.

We appreciate those who attended the ceremony and continue to support the health center.

## Suffolk Parents: Let's Talk

Our Education and Training Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) team has been successfully partnering with the Empower Assist Care (EAC) Network of Long Island to provide Let's Talk parent education programs to their network as well as our supporters. Since June, we have offered the program

seven times, reaching 99 parents, 51 of which received the program in Spanish. Most attendees came from surrounding communities including Brentwood, Central Islip, Amityville, and Wyandanch. At these sessions, parents learned about important topics including how to talk to children about sexuality, healthy relationships, and safe social media use for youth. Programs were facilitated in both English and Spanish.

If you are in Suffolk County and interested in learning more about the Let's Talk program, please contact Emily Briglia, Director, Education & Training, at (914) 220-1038.



## Summer Benefit Success

On Sunday, August 5 we held our annual Summer Benefit at Harmony Vineyards in Head of the Harbor. It was a wonderful afternoon as more than 100 guests enjoyed delicious food and flavorful wines.

We are grateful to the event sponsors and guests who helped make the event so successful, and for those who are supporting the renovations to the Smithtown health center. If you are interested in

supporting the renovations, please contact Jenifer Van Deinse, Director, Development, at (631) 240-1128.

## Supporting Community Partners

On Sunday, October 7, Acacia Bamberg Salatti, Vice President, External Affairs, and Aimee Frier, Community Health Educator, participated in the Sister to Sister International Inc.'s (STSI) Black Women and the Girl-Child event. Acacia presented on the Tapping Into Your Black Girl Magic panel to discuss empowerment in relationships and self-esteem. The moderator and panelists included Tiffany S.W. Hamilton, the Westchester Community College Associate Dean Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Chief Diversity Officer; Khadyja Sarr, STSI STEAM Sistah - Graduate Student at Boston University; and Honorable Shanae Williams, Yonkers Councilmember District 1.

Aimee participated in community outreach, answering questions from the event's attendees and providing educational materials about sexual and reproductive health. Lower Hudson Valley Perinatal Network and United Healthcare also participated in the exhibitors' showcase.

Partnering with STSI supports a core mission of PPHP by empowering young women to make health decisions and choices in their lives.

## Upcoming Events

For more details, visit [www.pphp.org](http://www.pphp.org) or contact Durrie Golding at [durrie.golding@pphp.org](mailto:durrie.golding@pphp.org) or (914) 467-7337.

### Giving Tuesday

Tuesday, November 27, 2018

Online at [www.pphp.org](http://www.pphp.org)

### Dirty Mouths Dirty Martinis Comedy Night

Saturday, January 12, 2019

Irvington Town Hall Theater, Irvington

### Cabaret Night in Huntington

March 2019

### East End Benefit

June 2019