



LETTER FROM THE CEO
PPMM will continue to be a health care leader, despite abortion restrictions in other states

Hello Team,

The past month has been a very challenging and emotional time, especially with the recent Russian invasion of Ukraine, and my heart goes out to all of you who are Ukrainian-American or have family and friends in the region.

Here at home, it's also been a grim time for reproductive rights as an increasing number of states, including Florida, Arizona, and Utah, are rushing to pass "copycat bills" of the draconian six-week abortion ban in Texas. Meanwhile, as we wait for the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling on the constitutionality of Mississippi's 15-week abortion ban, more than 1,100 anti-abortion bills have been introduced in state legislatures – in just the past two months.

Planned Parenthood affiliates and reproductive justice partners in many states are putting up fierce battles against these oppressive and – so far – illegal bills. But if the Supreme Court overturns *Roe* or upholds the Mississippi law in June, as is expected, we will suddenly be in a different world for reproductive rights.

I'm so proud that in California, PPMM is playing such an important part of enhancing the ability of our state to serve abortion patients here and from other states as well. We are a key stakeholder, playing a critical role in the California Future of Abortion Council (Cal FAB), with a group of our staff members serving on the council.

Cal FAB comprises 40 organizations, including sexual/reproductive health care providers, reproductive rights and justice advocacy groups, legal and policy experts, researchers, and advocates working together with the support of California Gov. Gavin Newsom and legislative leadership.

Recommendations from the December 2021 Cal FAB report are designed to protect, strengthen, and expand abortion care in California. PPMM and Cal FAB believe it is imperative that we take the lead in this effort, reflecting California's proclamation that it is a "reproductive freedom state," ready to serve anyone who lives here or comes here for abortion care because of harsh restrictions in their home states.

I will keep you updated as our work together continues.

Trans rights

I also want to take a moment to tell you how proud I am of our staff who are providing gender affirming care at each of our health centers and our sex educators who provide comprehensive, accurate information to teens and youth. Their work literally saves lives.

As many of you may have read, the Governor of Texas recently told state health agencies that gender affirming care, the medical treatment provided to transgender youth, should be classified as "child abuse." The Texas Attorney General then declared that providing what is widely considered to be the standard of care in medicine will be subject to criminal investigation.

Let's be clear: It is disgraceful, cruel, and abusive to criminally investigate parents, educators, and licensed staff, including doctors and nurses, who support transgender youth that wish to align their bodies with their gender identities. Nevertheless, Alabama, Arizona, Idaho, and Oklahoma are following in the footsteps of the Texas A.G.

I am especially grateful that our statewide elected officials in California and Nevada are supportive of PPMM's work – in both abortion care and gender affirming care. However, there are still areas of both our states where it remains difficult to do this work free of outside pressure, and we are committed to providing this care for everyone who wants it.

Visalia Update

Finally, I want to let you know about the ongoing situation in the Central Valley city of Visalia, where we are encountering an 11th-hour challenge to the construction of our new, much larger health center, intended to serve far more people in a region that is critically short of health care providers.

The sudden objection of some community members to the site – which has already been approved by the city planning commission – is allegedly based on a concern about parking congestion and possible protest activity. But we know this opposition has a lot more to do with the values we stand for as an organization.

No matter what happens in the coming weeks, I want you to know that we are committed to serving more patients in Tulare County. And that will happen.

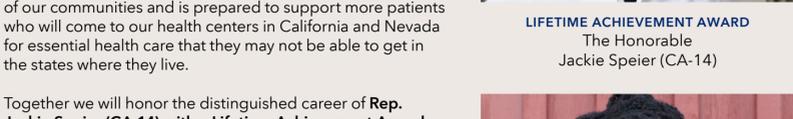
Thank you for being so strong and dedicated to our mission during some of the most stressful months in our organization's – and our nation's – history. I'm extremely grateful to you for being such steadfast supporters of our work, our patients, and the communities we serve.

In Solidarity,

Stacy

PENINSULA BREAKFAST

2022 VIRTUAL EVENT SERIES: ACCESS IS NON-NEGOTIABLE



Friday, March 11, 2022 • 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Please join us at the 27th Peninsula Breakfast on Friday, March 11 at 8:30 a.m. to hear about what Planned Parenthood Mar Monte is doing now to increase access to sexual and reproductive health care and sex ed.

State legislatures opposed to safe, legal abortion across the country have introduced over 1,100 bills in 2022 alone. **That's 1,100 bills in two months.** With this all-out assault on access to reproductive health care, it is critical that PPMM continues to expand health care and sex education to meet the needs of our communities and is prepared to support more patients who will come to our health centers in California and Nevada for essential health care that they may not be able to get in the states where they live.

Together we will honor the distinguished career of Rep. Jackie Speier (CA-14) with a Lifetime Achievement Award. Rep. Speier has blazing a path forward for women as well as working tirelessly for the LGBTQ+ community and the disenfranchised. A decade ago, she was the first member of Congress to share her personal abortion story on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives.

We will be joined by two fierce champions of reproductive rights, featured speaker, Rep. Lauren Underwood (IL-14) and Emcee Keesa Ocampo, founder and CEO of WeSparQ, a women-led content creation and communications firm based in San Francisco.

We are also excited to announce that we've just added to the program a special performance by premiere Bay Area Bollywood dance group, the Mona Khan Company!

We hope you can join us and support PPMM at this critical time. Ticket sales for the Peninsula Breakfast close on Wednesday, March 9 at 5:00 p.m.



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
The Honorable Jackie Speier (CA-14)



FEATURED SPEAKER
The Honorable Lauren Underwood (IL-14)

Sponsorship and Individual Tickets available now

Caring for the whole family at PPMM

Q&A with Family Medicine Care Coordination team leader, Dr. Margaux Lazarin

Some exciting changes are underway at PPMM, including the reorganization of what used to be called our primary care services into the new Family Medicine Care Coordination team, led by Associate Medical Director Dr. Margaux Lazarin. The FMM sat down with Dr. Lazarin, right after she returned from parental leave in early February, to talk about her plans for the team since its official re-launch in September 2021.

Full Mar Monte: Dr. Lazarin, can you explain the philosophy behind the name-change, last fall, to the Family Medicine Care Coordination team?

Dr. Margaux Lazarin: "Well, 'primary care' is a very broad term, and 'family medicine' is its own specialty. Words matter, and this name for the team makes it very clear that we emphasize taking care of families.

FMM: Can you tell us more about how the team re-organization is focused on family medicine?

Dr. Lazarin: We want people to know that our health centers are places where they can come for family care ranging from pediatrics – and we'll be starting prenatal care soon – to care for new parents, to preventive care for adolescents right on through to maternity care and preventive care for elderly people as well.

I think it's really beautiful that you can have your health center visit with your baby and also know that's where you can get care for yourself.

FMM: And PPMM has 10 health centers that have received national designation as patient-centered medical homes (PCHM), correct?

Dr. Lazarin: Yes! They are in South San Francisco, San Mateo, Redwood City, Blossom Hill (San Jose), Mountain View, the center at 1691 The Alameda in San Jose, Mar Monte Community Clinic (San Jose), Westside in Santa Cruz, Watsonville, and Family First in Fresno.

One of the advantages of having health centers that provide this care is that we already have a relationship with the patients because our staff is wonderfully trained to merge care for the whole person and not just focus on one service.

FMM: Can you tell us about Value Based Care Contracts (VBCCs) that PPMM has with health plans and how we have shifted the way we provide this health care?

Dr. Lazarin: This is a new method of tackling health care. Rather than focusing on volume, pay-for-performance-of-services, we are focusing on health outcomes. We're using a variety of metrics to determine how our patients are doing. For example, are we helping people keep their diabetes under control? Are our patients up to date on cancer screenings? The idea is to focus on value to patients, not the volume of patients.

FMM: Can you give us some examples of how our staff could help patients in a more holistic way than providing specific services in our health centers?

Dr. Lazarin: Well, if someone is having difficulty controlling their diabetes, we could see if they qualify for the CalFresh program (that helps people with low incomes to afford nutritious foods, including more fruits and vegetables.) We could see if they have Zoom-access to an exercise class at a community center. Our patient care coordinators (PCCs) specialize in finding out what resources our patients need.

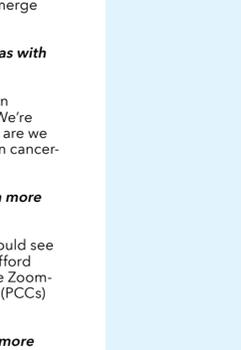
FMM: Speaking of our amazing patient care coordinators, can you tell us a bit more about how that role has been enhanced in this re-organization?

Dr. Lazarin: Sure! This role used to be known as "primary care coordinators," but we changed it to reflect that the coordinators are focusing on the whole patient. We've done a lot of research and investigating best practices as we redefined this role, and we've added registered nurses to an RN care team. PCCs can't prescribe medication, but now they can go immediately to an RN to arrange medication refills, for example, and ensure seamless continuity of services.

The PCCs also help patients with other essential aspects of holistic care including pre-visit planning, outreach, and managing referrals to other services. They are such an important part of the family medicine care that our team provides.

This is just one more way we have made it more convenient for our patients to get what they need more quickly and meet them where they are.

What fantastic innovation of care for our patients and communities. And congratulations on your new baby, Dr. Lazarin!



Assoc. Medical Dir.
Dr. Margaux Lazarin

Merced health center: Being there for patients when other doors are closed

What are you most proud of about the way your health center has responded, to patients and each other, during the pandemic? We're all very proud of being able to remain open for our patients during this life-changing time. Our top priority was making sure our patients still felt cared for when many other facilities in our area were not so accommodating. Many of us carried on despite facing personal and professional challenges related to the pandemic.

How would you describe the culture at your health center? We're very much like a family who strives to be supportive of one another and work as a team to solve problems as they arise. Many of us feel our day to day routine in providing patient care is very rewarding.

How does your health center staff best reflect the values of PPMM? We respect and honor all people while trying and learning new ways to provide excellent patient care.



Merced health center staff

Being Memorable

In this space, we spotlight health center staff members who have been mentioned by name in patient surveys for delivering a fantastic patient experience.

HSS Amy P. focuses on listening to patients at Capitol Plaza health center

Here's what people wrote on their patient surveys about HSS Amy P. at the Capitol Plaza health center:

"Amy was the best. She was super nice and helpful!"
"THANK YOU AMY!"



HSS Amy P. at Capitol Plaza, in Sacramento

When a patient comes in to the Capitol Plaza health center in Sacramento, HSS Amy P. wants to be sure they feel right away that they've come to the right place.

"I want to make sure to feel not only seen but heard," Amy said. "I want to make sure that they feel they have time to tell me their concerns and that they feel validated, right away. It's not just me 'signing them in.' It's more of a conversation."

She explained that, especially since the pandemic began, many patients come in feeling anxious and on edge: "Sometimes I'm just feel the stress coming off them, and I want them to know that we're going to get them what they need. I want them to feel that I'm working on this with them, and I know their time is valuable. We're going to make sure they are taken care of."

Just recently, Amy was helping a patient during a telehealth appointment where the person had a lot of questions. "This patient kept apologizing for asking so many questions, and I said there's no reason to apologize," she said. "I really wanted to make sure every question was answered, and this person was so grateful that I took that time. It felt really good to know they got off the phone feeling much better and more confident."

Love Notes Appreciation for PPMM staff, from donors and supporters

I believe in affordable access to women's health care and our right to make choices for our own bodies. Planned Parenthood brings a voice to women and the health issues that we face. You guys are AWESOME! Thank you for all that you do, every day.

– **Caroline, supporter from Sacramento region**

I stand with Planned Parenthood because I know, as a woman, in a time of crisis I will always have a place to turn with Planned Parenthood around.

– **Gabrielle, supporter from Sacramento region**

Growing up in the Central Valley, reproductive justice was something that was unfamiliar to me during my teen years into early adulthood. As I grew older, and was able to volunteer and collaborate with Planned Parenthood through an on-campus organization, I learned to view life and culture through a reproductive justice lens. Planned Parenthood helped me see the importance in having conversations, sharing our stories, and creating an inclusive environment for all in a way that I am so grateful for.

– **Marissa, supporter from Fresno region**

The Big Picture

Community faith leaders supporting the good work of PPMM

Our Public Affairs team has been developing an exciting network of progressive faith leaders from diverse religious traditions who have committed to speaking out publicly in support of PPMM, reproductive justice, and LGBTQ equality.

Most recently, one member of the network, an Episcopal priest, has been advocating for our new health center in Visalia – after the site's scheduled opening this month was suddenly impeded by anti-abortion groups – and Rev. Tim Kutzmark, of the Unitarian Universalists in Fresno, just arranged a special service titled "The 49th and Last Anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*."

Meanwhile, in Nevada, the Rev. Susan Foster of the United Methodist Church of Reno is working with our team to expand the faith network in that state.

This kind of innovative community work has made our interfaith network an extremely valuable ally in communities we serve. Currently, there are 19 active network members from 10 communities in California and Northern Nevada, representing twelve religious traditions. They have written op-eds, provided letters of support for funding applications, shared PPMM's social media posts, and welcomed Public Affairs team members to their congregations to share our mission and services.

For many affiliates across the country, including PPMM, Planned Parenthood health and education services began with the support of a local faith community. In Fresno, it was in the basement of the First Christian Church in 1971. That support has now flourished into an interfaith network of spiritual leaders speaking to the community about the importance of Planned Parenthood health care in a way that only they can.



A clergyman's PP pink socks: Fresno Rev. Tim Kutzmark standing for Planned Parenthood, as part of PPMM's interfaith network

Good Reads

Feb. 4, Visalia Valley Voice (op-ed by PPMM supporter)
Important to support new Planned Parenthood location in Visalia

Feb. 24, Jezebel
Texans are fleeing the state in droves to get abortions