

Election 2016

Deciding the future of reproductive rights

For almost a decade now, we've become accustomed to hearing there has never been more at stake for women and families than in whatever mid-term or general election is looming. Regardless of the outcome of each election cycle, far-right extremists in Congress and state legislatures have doubled down on their efforts to tightly restrict or eliminate access to essential reproductive health care.

Unfortunately, the November 2016 election is no exception. The health of millions of women and the future of Planned Parenthood hang in the balance, depending on how many of those elected are supporters of reproductive rights.

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Election 2016

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This time we're not just talking about the threat of passing increasingly restrictive legislation to deny health-care access – laws that have already made it almost impossible to have an abortion or even the most effective contraception in some states. The stakes are higher in this election because the current vacancy on the U.S. Supreme Court represents either the greatest opportunity in years to have a Court majority that consistently upholds reproductive rights into the next decade – or the greatest threat ever that the *Roe v. Wade* decision will be overturned.

Meanwhile, the far-right majority in the House of Representatives has voted six times to defund Planned Parenthood as well as proposing a budget that would eliminate funding for the Family Planning Title X program. There is no sign that these legislators will relent, and only the President's veto stopped one effort to end federal funding for Planned Parenthood.

California Sen. Barbara Boxer, a stalwart supporter of reproductive health access, and Nevada Sen. Harry Reid – whose leadership was key to blocking repeated congressional attempts to defund Planned Parenthood – are retiring from the Senate. It is crucial that those elected to replace them share the unwavering commitment of their predecessors.



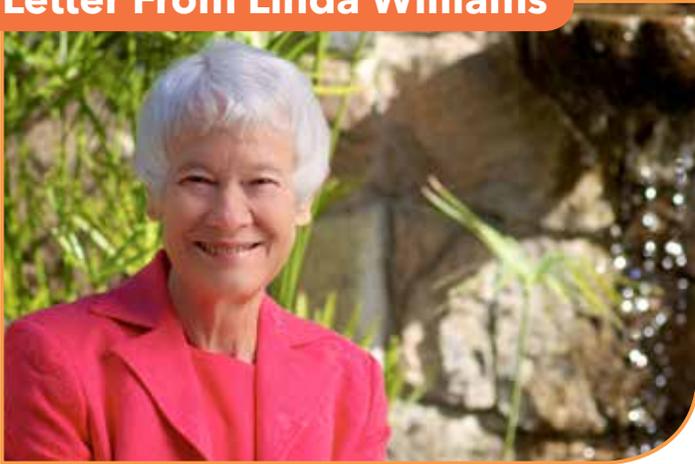
Even the future of the Affordable Care Act, the Obama administration's singular health care legacy, could be doomed if champions of health care reform and access are not elected. A key part of the ACA mandates coverage for contraception, and Medicaid expansion through ACA has meant that millions of previously uninsured women and families now have health coverage for the first time. This significant progress could evaporate if the election delivers a president and congressional majorities that are eager to fulfill their promise to repeal the ACA.

We would not have been able to weather this harsh political climate as resolutely as we have without our donors and supporters who have championed our services at every opportunity, including volunteering to phone-bank before elections, joining voter-registration drives, helping to get out the vote in important swing states, and making financial contributions.

Time and again, you have stood with us to let the people we serve know that we will be here for them, no matter what.

Would you like to volunteer? Volunteers are critical to our mission at Planned Parenthood Mar Monte. Sign up or learn more at ppmarmonte.org/act

Letter From Linda Williams



PPMM friends and supporters,

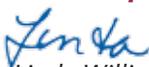
I wanted to let you know that after 27 remarkable years, I will be stepping down as CEO of PPMM at the end of April in 2017.

Some of you have been on this wild and wonderful roller coaster ride with me for more than a quarter-century. It started on my first day at Planned Parenthood in 1989 when the Governor of California eliminated two-thirds of the state's family planning budget, and it continues to the present as we face the most defining presidential election of our time. Many of you have joined us over the years, steadfastly supporting our mission and services that are so fundamental to women's ability to secure the future they strive for, for themselves and their families.

On behalf of the hundreds of thousands of women and families we have served together, thank you for your staunch commitment in the face of so many challenges over the years. It has been a privilege to work with all of you.

The Board of Directors has formed a search committee and is working with all deliberate speed to find an excellent new CEO in time to allow for a smooth transition. We will keep you informed of our progress.

With deep appreciation,


Linda Williams
President and CEO

Pros & Cons

NOTABLE QUOTES FROM CALIFORNIA AND AROUND THE COUNTRY



Pro

"Many procedures, including childbirth, are far more dangerous to patients yet are not subject to ambulatory surgical-center or hospital admitting-privileges requirements, including tonsillectomy, colonoscopy, and in-office dental surgery. ...TRAP laws like HB2 that do little or nothing for health, but rather strew impediments to abortion, cannot survive judicial inspection."

– Ruth Bader Ginsberg, Associate Justice US Supreme Court, regarding *Whole Women's Health v. Hellerstedt*



Pro

"As with any bold movement, ours is being fueled by a generation of activists and leaders—primarily women of color—who are challenging the country, and all of us, to be unapologetic champions for the rights of all people to access abortion and reproductive care with a lens of social justice."

– Cecile Richards, CEO PPFA



Con

"...This is an enormous victory for the Pro-Life Movement! Governor Pence is a pro-life trailblazer and Mr. Trump could not have made a better choice."

– Marjorie Dannenfelser, Susan B Anthony List



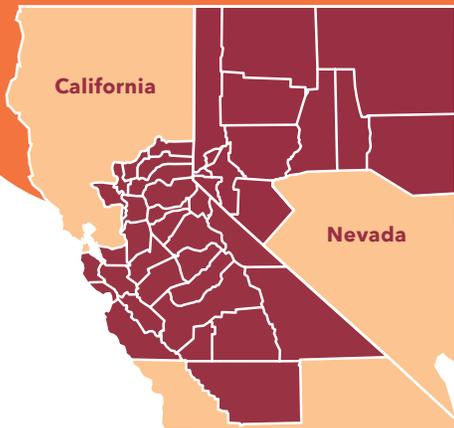
Con

"I'm glad the 1st Amendment rights of all citizen journalists have been vindicated today, and I would just note that Planned Parenthood is still under investigation by the United States Congress, as they should be, because they are the real criminals in this matter."

– David Daleiden (co-founder of so-called "Center for Medical Progress") following the news that the Texas Supreme Court had dropped the indictment on a technicality.

From Mar to Monte

NEWS FROM AROUND THE AFFILIATE: EDUCATION EDITION



PPMM's California education staff plays an important role in teaching curriculum aligned with the state's Healthy Youth Act, a new law requiring public middle and high schools to provide updated comprehensive sex ed that includes information about HIV-prevention. Here's just a sampling of some other things our educators are doing!

Silicon Valley Region: Educators conduct three **Teen Talk** groups for at-risk girls in middle schools where they learn about what makes healthy relationships. In addition, our staff provides customized curriculum to the developmentally delayed population.

The Coast: Our staff provides continuing, innovative programs in juvenile hall and other correctional settings. Educators have also updated the **Promotores** volunteer program, training college students in the migrant farm-working community to reach out with vital health information.

Great Valley South: This area, covering Madera to Kern Counties, is extremely conservative, and PPMM is often not welcomed in traditional school sites there. Our educators must be especially creative to inform teens about reproductive health, including working with, and through, community partners, such as the Boys and Girls Club, to reach out to youth where they gather.

Mid Great Valley: Educators in this area are doing impressive work with young Latinas in the community, particularly in Merced county. **Peer Educator** programs focus on training young people to talk about reproductive health issues with others of their age and experience.

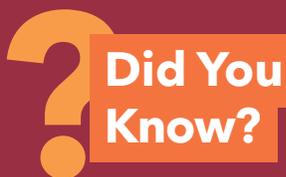
Great Valley North: Our staff in this region, which covers the Sacramento area, trained a diverse group of eight peer educators from six high schools. They developed a terrific video about what sexual consent means and held a fun teen night open house, "Keepin' it safe in the Sac," at the Capitol Plaza health center.

Northern Nevada: Nutrition has become a central focus of the Reno group that meets weekly for **Teen Success**, our award-winning affiliate-wide program that provides support for teen mothers to stay in school. Reno educators sponsor a quarterly Teen Success "power-cooking" class with community leaders, and the cook-ins help foster important mentorships for the young moms.



Peer Educators in Sacramento

To learn more about any of our educational programs or services, please contact us at (800) 330-8542 or PPMMEducation@ppmarmonte.org.



What is the difference between giving a gift to Planned Parenthood Mar Monte and Planned Parenthood Federation of America? (See page 6 for the answer.)

A Conversation with Two Generations of Supporters

We sat down with two Planned Parenthood Mar Monte supporters from different generations to talk about how far we've come in the past 100 years and where we hope to go.

Lorita Fisher of Monterey, CA, was born in 1922 in India. She graduated from Manchester College in Indiana and married classmate Glen Fisher in 1945. Lorita and Glen, who was a member of the State Department School of Foreign Service, worked around the world before moving to Monterey in 1983. It was then that Lorita began more than three decades as a self-described "professional volunteer" for many community service organizations.

Jakki Durón, a senior at the University of Nevada, Reno, was born in Los Angeles in 1992. Jakki works as a clerical aid at Reno High School and is a Planned Parenthood volunteer on her college campus.

When did you become a supporter of Planned Parenthood?

Lorita: I've been a supporter from the very, very beginning. This was one of the first causes that I associated with. I was always trying to persuade women that Planned Parenthood is a sort of life activity.

Jakki: I became a supporter (when) I had used their services and felt it was a judgement-free environment. When I saw that there was a student group on campus that advocated for PP, I wanted to join. I'm really interested in women's issues and the larger perspective of reproductive rights.

In your lifetime, what has been the biggest hurdle for women seeking health care and family planning health services?

L: There's a lack of understanding that women's health care is every bit as important as men's. And planning of one's family is an important part of health care.

J: Money. I think money is one of the biggest barriers, even as accessible as Planned Parenthood is. And (many) women don't have access to health care overall. They don't know where to get health care, and they don't know how they can pay for it.



Lorita Fisher

Photo courtesy of Nic Coury and the Monterey County Weekly



Jakki Durón

Have there been any backward steps in women's or family planning health care that you're surprised to see?

L: Neo-conservatives are too apt to use "family values" as an excuse for not doing enough for women's and children's health care. They are apt to take steps that lead to a reluctance to spend money on things that matter to women and families. I've seen some of that happening over the last ten years.

J: Yeah, I think since 2010 there have been more than 300 provisions to prevent abortion access, including defunding Planned Parenthood. We saw the Hobby Lobby case. Your employer can determine, based on their religious beliefs, whether or not they cover access to birth control.

What is your hope for future generations of Planned Parenthood supporters, patients and students?

L: That family planning will become accepted as absolutely normal.

J: My hope is that, along with reproductive rights, patients and students have access to all types of reproductive care, whether that's abortion or contraceptives.

Do you have a personal Planned Parenthood story? We'd love to hear it. Stories from our patients and supporters, even from years ago, even if shared anonymously, help us advocate for change. Learn more at ppmarmonte.org/my-story

Get Involved

DONATE

You can make a donation today to support PPMM's mission: ppmarmonte.org/donate-now

PLAN

You can help ensure a bright future for PPMM via legacy giving: ppmarmonte.org/legacy

CONNECT

Sign up to receive email alerts and information: ppmarmonte.org/email-signup

VISIT

Make an appointment at one of our 34 health centers or refer a friend or family member: ppmarmonte.org/visit

VOLUNTEER

Join hundreds of volunteers across PPMM who support our mission daily: ppmarmonte.org/volunteer

Follow us on Social Media:

 twitter.com/ppmarmonte

 fb.com/plannedparenthoodmm

 instagram.com/ppmarmonte

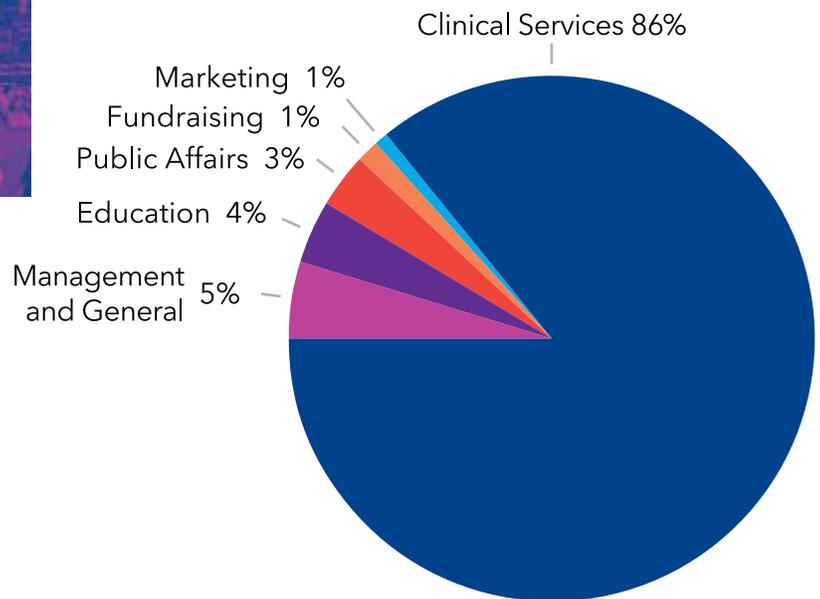
 youtube.com/PlannedParenthoodMM



Hot off the Presses

The FY16 Annual Report is now available online at www.ppmarmonte.org/annualreport

Throughout the annual report, you will see all that you helped make possible over the past year – and see just how we are stewarding your generous contributions. We are proud that **93% of PPMM's spending is directed towards our education programs, advocacy work, and direct health care.**



Did You Know?

Answer from Page 3

Planned Parenthood Mar Monte (PPMM), your regional Planned Parenthood affiliate, provides health care and education to our communities, while Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) is the organization that does national-level communication and advocacy.

PPMM: gifts support local health center services, education, and advocacy programs; an independent 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit; tax exempt; local – supports your community directly; and a direct health care provider to nearly 250,000 men, women, and teens.

PPFA, the national office: gifts support national communications, legal, and public affairs work; a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit organization; tax exempt; and provides online presence and technical support to affiliates.

To receive future editions of PPMM Mar Monte News in a digital format, sign up at ppmarmonte.org/newsletter

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