FEATURE STORY

Going a Step Beyond

For some of our pregnant and parenting clients enrolled in our case management programs, food insecurity can be a big concern. Especially in light of the current COVID-19 pandemic resulting in cuts to many social service programs, food insecurities have been magnified. For the past five years, Planned Parenthood Northern California (PPNorCal) has gone above and beyond to invest in our clients’ health, safety, and security by supplying weekly healthy meal kits. Every year, we distribute an average of 3,200 bags of groceries to low income pregnant or parenting young people, with each pack containing enough ingredients for three nutrient-dense meals for a family of four.

Prioritizing healthy lifestyles for those we serve can be essential in the trajectory of their health outcomes and future. Programs such as this are funded through grants and support from our generous donors. For more information on how you can support this program, please contact: info@ppnorcal.org.

Pictured to the left: PPNorCal Staff ready to distribute meal kits in Vallejo, CA.

SAN FRANCISCO FLAGSHIP HEALTH CENTER

The new San Francisco PPNorCal health center will open this year. Construction was paused in March to address the shelter-in-place order and implementation of new guidelines to ensure the on-site workers’ health and safety. This resulted in a delay in the original timeline. Regardless of any issues encountered, we continue to make progress and are currently able to meet our plan of completing the project later this year. Our vision of creating a bold, beautiful, safe space for our patients is becoming a reality—thank you to our supporters and community partners!

We look forward to sharing additional details as they become available.

Pictured below: Construction progress at Flagship location.

Pictured above: Flagship artist rendering.
Dear Friend,

The past few months have brought a slew of challenges to Planned Parenthood Northern California (PPNorCal). We are working nonstop to address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the state of California’s economic future, and ongoing barriers to equitable reproductive health care. Despite all, we remain committed to working harder and fearlessly for our patients’ well being.

The coronavirus crisis continues to worsen across the country and the challenges we currently face could never have been anticipated. The phased reopening strategy continues to raise questions and concerns on how we move forward as a community. This pandemic has made some people delay seeking care and as a result we have already seen an increase in unintended pregnancies and STI infections. Amidst the current atmosphere, we understand the hesitation to seek care but we want to be clear: at PPNorCal patient safety is of utmost priority and essential reproductive health care can’t wait. All PPNorCal health centers are open, safe, and more committed than ever to provide equitable, timely sexual health care to all who need it.

Lastly, I’d like to take this opportunity to congratulate Alexis McGill Johnson on being selected as permanent President/CEO of Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) and the Planned Parenthood Action Fund. Alexis has been acting President and CEO for the last year and served in leadership roles for both organizations for more than a decade. Alexis brings a researcher’s lens to the social justice issues of our time. She is a leader and bold advocate for reproductive rights and access to quality, affordable health care. We look forward to advancing Planned Parenthood’s national agenda under her leadership as we work to adapt to this ever-changing world.

With gratitude,

Gilda Gonzales
President and CEO
Planned Parenthood Northern California

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**WHAT’S NEW AT PLANNED PARENTHOOD NORTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**Introducing the Safe Haven Campaign**

Planned Parenthood Northern California continues to reduce disparities in access to health care. We believe everyone should have control of their own body and future. To continue offering inclusive, comprehensive sexual/reproductive care to those who need it the most, we are proud to announce the Safe Haven Campaign. We are excited to share this road map to secure a Safe Haven for our patients.

Our goal: $2,000,000 by January 2022
Please consider donating today!
www.wearepp.org/safehaven

Contact Leah White: lwhite@ppnorcal.org for more info!
Planned Parenthood Northern California is proud to be a leader in the census outreach effort. The COVID-19 pandemic eliminated our ability to conduct public outreach events and education.

One of the new and innovative ways we are increasing our census outreach is by partnering with outside organizations who provide food support across Northern California. We are including resources and educational materials about the importance of completing the census in all food distributions. By engaging in this targeted outreach, we have educated over 7,000 individuals that have pledged to complete their 2020 Census.

The census self-response period was extended to **October 31, 2020**, due to COVID-19. Each person not counted can impact the financial support of social services in the communities we serve. Incomplete census information also affects federal funding which accounts for more than one-third of the State of California’s spending. The number of U.S. House of Representatives seats California receives is determined by 2020 Census results. Incomplete participation could result in a loss of representation for the state of California in Washington D.C.

In order to ensure an equitable future for our state, we encourage your family and community members to complete the census at [www.my2020census.gov](http://www.my2020census.gov).

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**HIGHLIGHTS**

**We are #PPNorCalProud**

We are proud of the resiliency PPNorCal demonstrated throughout these past months. We will continue to keep our doors open with several changes and new safety precautions because we know that essential sexual health services cannot wait. We are especially proud of PPNorCal’s talented and dedicated staff who uphold our mission on the frontline every day. We asked our team why they continue to show up for our patients proudly. This is why we are #PPNorCalProud.

“I want them to have a safe space to come to!”

“I understand, respect, and care about their needs.”

“I love being able to help my community! #ALONETOGETHER”
**Last Month's Pride**

June marked the annual observance of LGBTQ+ Pride Month. This year also marked the 50th anniversary of the first Pride March, held in New York City on June 28, 1970, on the first anniversary of the 1969 Stonewall Uprising. It was led in part by transgender women of color and sparked the modern LGBTQ+ movement. Despite progress made since Stonewall, this year’s Pride Month came at an explosive time with a tremendous wave of racial injustice protests raging across the country.

At PPNorCal, we understand the fight for LGBTQ+ rights, reproductive rights, and racial justice are linked. We are proud to provide health care that’s inclusive and respectful. Our goal is to make every person who comes to us – whether by phone or in-person – feel welcomed, safe, and cared for, no matter what.

**SCOTUS Decisions**

PPNorCal is thrilled to celebrate the Supreme Court’s unexpected wins, from DACA to LGBTQ protections and access to abortion! We applaud the decisions in the following cases:

*June Medical Services v. Russo*

The historic 5-4 decision upholds abortion access. While California law protects the right to abortion, not all states do, and abortion access shouldn’t depend on your zip code. We are glad that the Supreme Court has taken a historical step forward in ensuring abortion access. **We will never stop advocating for access to abortion and continue to fight to protect our patients’ rights and freedoms.**

*DACA Case*

The Supreme Court ruled to strike down this Administration’s efforts to dismantle the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. This highly successful program protects nearly 700,000 young immigrants from deportation from the United States. This landmark victory protects immigrant youth and families from deportation, and in doing so, defends their access to health care and other critical services.

*LGBTQ+ Case*

In a 6-3 decision, the Court ruled to expand employment protections for LGBTQ+ people. It reinforced that under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, employers are prohibited from discriminating against LGBTQ+ workers. This ruling is a critical step forward in the fight for social justice and equal rights for all.

Even with these small victories, we know extensive challenges remain to protect bodily autonomy and freedom. The recent Supreme Court decision to allow employers and universities to decide whether their health insurance plans include birth control coverage illustrates the fragility of our reproductive freedom. We will do all we can to ensure those who need birth control and other sexual and reproductive health care can always access it.
Your Voice, Your Vote
This year, every Californian registered to vote will receive a mail-in ballot. California has safeguards for voting by mail, such as signature matching and unique barcodes on each ballot’s return envelope. Over the past decade, most California voters regularly vote by mail, and in the 2020 Primary Election, 72% of California voters chose to vote by mail. Make sure to register to vote or update your address as soon as possible:

RegisterToVote.ca.gov. If you’ve recently moved, don’t forget to update your voter registration and check your voter registration status at: VoterStatus.sos.ca.gov, at least 15 days before Election Day (October 19, 2020).

Due to COVID-19, your polling location may change, a list of polling locations will be available as early as October at: www.sos.ca.gov/elections/polling-place/.

Community Ambassador Program
During these times of social distancing – we created PPNorCal’s Community Ambassador Program in order to engage with our wonderful Pop Up event hosts and supporters. This group will respond to different tasks and challenges throughout the year. From hosting fundraisers on social media, to sewing face coverings for our health centers—our Ambassadors will be allies in preserving reproductive health care rights and access.

To learn more or become a PPNorCal Community Ambassador, please contact Kylie Jansing: kjansing@ppnorcal.org

Pictured above: Various Pop Up fundraisers and speaking engagements.
Planned Parenthood Northern California and Planned Parenthood Federation of America

We are often asked what happens when you give to Planned Parenthood Northern California versus the Federation.

We wanted to share with you the following guide to avoid any possible confusion.

If you want to give to Planned Parenthood Northern California directly, and have all of your gift go to local health care and education services to better the lives of people across 20 counties in Northern California...

Then you need to go to our affiliate website (support.ppnorcal.org) where 100% of your donation is directed to services right here, in Northern California.

If you go to Planned Parenthood Federation of America’s national website...

Approximately 50% of your gift will support health services and education here in Northern California and the other 50% of your gift will support national advocacy and education efforts.

Two ways to support our mission to protect health care, education, and justice. No matter what!