A Message from our President & CEO

Much has happened at PPRM, in our communities, and across the country since I took the helm as President & CEO in January 2022. A record number of over 2,800 patients traveled from out of state seeking our health care—that’s more than 20% of our abortion care patients. The Wyoming legislature passed a “trigger” bill to ban abortion care when the U.S. Supreme Court overturns Roe v. Wade. And, of course, we learned that’s exactly what the Supreme Court did on June 24th: strip away our liberty and freedom while threatening many other rights we have thought protected, like our critical rights to access birth control, our freedom to marry who we choose, freedom to love, and freedom to live full lives.

And at PPRM, with you by our side, we are ready for this moment. This spring, we received the largest gift in our history with a $20 million unrestricted grant from philanthropist MacKenzie Scott; our sexual health educators taught over 7,000 students; our talented health center staff remain committed to welcoming all patients regardless of their zip code; and in under 18 hours we joined with community partners to host rallies in Denver, Albuquerque, Las Cruces, and Las Vegas, NV in response to the Supreme Court’s outrageous leaked draft opinion. I especially want to recognize our supporters in Las Cruces who numbered over 100 people with a mic system plugged into a car!

I hope you find hope and inspiration in the stories and images of this Dialogue newsletter. While political attacks and hateful rhetoric are mercurial, our commitment to our patients and our communities is steadfast. We’re prepared. We’re not going anywhere. The responsibility of leading PPRM today is a privilege I don’t take lightly, and I’m grateful to be backed by a superb board of trustees and fierce cadre of staff, partners, and supporters like you. Thank you for your deep commitment to reproductive health and rights.

Adrienne Mansanares
PPRM President & CEO
GIFT PROFILE

Record-breaking gift received

On the heels of celebrating the conclusion of our successful Shaping Our Second Century campaign, we are thrilled to share that PPRM received a $20 million gift from philanthropist MacKenzie Scott. This historic gift, the largest we’ve received in our 106-year history, provides support needed to drive our mission, serving local communities as well as the anticipated wave of patients fleeing restrictive abortion care bans from across the country.

Scott joins with tens of thousands of PPRM donors supporting the work we do every day. This gift is a testament to the exceptional educational programming, responsive advocacy, and compassionate health care PPRM has provided day in and day out for more than a century.

There is no question we are living through a crisis in this country as we face unrelenting attacks on access to sexual and reproductive health care. During this unconscionable time for millions of people across the country who are trying to access basic health care, we must guarantee equitable access to care. Ms. Scott’s investment and expression of confidence bolster us as we begin to face the biggest threats to care in nearly 50 years.

The needs are greater than ever – and as we think about priorities that need funding now, as well as how to invest in the future to protect all patients, we will use this funding to help with:

- capital upgrades to facilities and innovative technology,
- continuing the expansion of our Virtual Care Center and telehealth,
- developing ways to serve abortion care patients traveling from out-of-state,
- providing Gender Affirming Hormonal Therapy to existing patients while also expanding this life-saving service,
- advancing our Equity and Belonging goals across our agency, and
- all the important work PPRM does each and every day.

As we celebrate this wonderful gift, we can’t forget that the needs in our communities are immense. We hope that more supporters will join MacKenzie Scott with their own investments in the health and wellbeing of our communities.

HEALTH CARE

Exponential patient increase

More than 6 months ago, Texas enacted its disastrous legislation, Senate Bill 8 (S.B. 8) which has decimated access to abortion care in that state. Because PPRM has worked with other partners to keep our region a safe haven for abortion access, we have seen an incredible increase in patients traveling from Texas to health centers across our affiliate. And that will only increase with the Supreme Court’s recent decision to overturn Roe v. Wade. Despite this reversal of 50 years of precedent, PPRM has continued to care for our patients and anyone from outside our region with compassion, and expanded our services to better serve all our communities and those patients having to travel to access care.

We began offering abortion care at our Northeast Heights health center in Albuquerque, increasing access for people in central New Mexico, and began seeing patients on Saturdays for the first time in Albuquerque.

Pictured Left: MacKenzie Scott at the 2018 Vanity Fair Oscar Party. Ms. Scott donated $275 million to Planned Parenthood Federation of America and 21 affiliates across the country.
PPRM continues to expand access by providing medication abortion care via telehealth in Colorado, New Mexico, and Nevada, an innovation that was particularly helpful for patients in the midst of the pandemic.

Today and every day, Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains will do everything we can to provide care to every patient who seeks it. We’re committed to ensuring patients have access to abortion care—regardless of where they live.

The Virtual Care Center

Our Virtual Care Center (VCC) is a critical component of meeting our patients where they are and guiding them through their care plans. The VCC consists of three distinct areas:

- the Call Center which handles all incoming calls from patients who are seeking an appointment,
- Centralized Follow-Up/Telehealth which operates telehealth services including post-appointment care,
- and Patient Navigation which helps patients coordinate their travel and other logistical needs.

The work of the Patient Navigation program continues to grow and expand, and can include securing financial resources, connecting increasingly high volumes of out of state patients to care, and developing referral processes to address the numerous barriers many traveling patients face. This year PPRM hired our first full-time patient navigator, and from September 2021 through May 2022 she helped 368 patients. Here’s what some of those patients had to say:

“I just wanted to say from the bottom of my heart thank you so much. You guys are so amazing and so incredible. I have no words other than thank you and I promise to donate as soon as I get back on my feet because this has really made a huge difference for me and I am so appreciative so thank you, thank you so much.”
– Patient from Mills, Wyoming

“I can’t explain how grateful I am for all of y’all and how y’all made me feel so comfortable, cared for, and made this mentally an easy process as this was a hard one. I truly can’t express the love I have for everyone that was part of this process! I’m at a loss for words on how grateful I am, and I wish I could show y’all!”
– Patient from San Antonio, TX

“I’m crying, this is going to help me so much! I’m so grateful.”
– Patient from Lorena, TX

The increase [in patient funds] has literally changed my life, my work environment, and my ability to serve. But more than that—it has changed my patients’ lives. I used to go home at night replaying in my head the stories and despair of the people who were not able to pay for their services. And now I don’t have to turn anyone away.”
TENDING TO OUR TEAM

Promoting equity and belonging

“My dad was a migrant farm worker in the San Luis Valley and my mom grew up in North Denver. I grew up hearing stories about the marches for the Farm Workers Unions and the Chicano rights movement. Both of my parents became educators because for them, education was power. I am honored to take on this role to honor my parents’ legacy and to make a PPRM that is inclusive and where we can build a culture of belonging, transparency, and support.”

This is how Daniela Fellman describes her inspiration to weave equity and belonging into every aspect of PPRM’s work and culture. We are delighted to announce her promotion into the role of Director of Equity & Belonging.

Daniela Fellman has taken on this responsibility after 15 years at PPRM in various roles including patient care, education, and as a leader in our diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) work. In her previous role, Daniela centered DEI in her work with schools as Education Program Manager by helping to align various school districts with their own values of inclusivity in classrooms. Daniela has also served as the co-lead of PPRM’s Solidarity Group for the past several years. She played a key part in establishing the group as a driver to meaningful change across the agency, including the development of our microaggression policy and the implementation of more equitable hiring practices.

As the Director of Equity and Belonging, Daniela will be working with every team in our agency to establish DEI goals, break down barriers, and embed DEI into all aspects of our work. Daniela’s deep knowledge of PPRM and her leadership in DEI spaces has prepared her perfectly for this role.

I am honored to take on this role to honor my parents’ legacy.”

DANIELA FELLMAN
DIRECTOR OF EQUITY & BELONGING

EDUCATION

New EASE curriculum

With over 10 years of experience working in this field, our Responsible Sex Education Institute (RSEI) saw the need to develop a sex ed curriculum specifically for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). We anticipate the Encouraging Autonomy through Sex Education (EASE) curriculum will be released in the fall of 2022.

With support from Planned Parenthood Federation of America, this curriculum was developed in partnership with Planned Parenthood Association of Utah and Planned Parenthood Arizona, to expand services and training to the larger southwest I/DD community and those that work with them. RSEI trained PP Utah and PP Arizona staff, who have since started teaching content in their communities.
Rapid-response organizing

Early in May, the Supreme Court’s draft of the majority opinion regarding the future of Roe v. Wade was leaked, and on June 24th our fears became real. PPRM has been working hard for years to prepare for this moment. Currently, three of the four states in our region are safe havens for access to care, but that protection isn’t guaranteed. We must constantly educate voters to support candidates who believe in reproductive health care, including abortion care. This protection is not just for our communities, but is work in preparation for more and more patients being forced to travel to our health centers for care.

Emotions are running high – and the stakes are even higher. It will take all of us together to protect access to safe, legal abortion in the years ahead.

Throughout the spring, organizers and activists have been making their voices heard. Immediately after the leak, we saw groups expressing their outrage all across the country, then even more came out on May 14 for Bans Off Our Bodies rallies, proving that this movement is strong. Countless others have donated to support the work of public affairs staff, volunteered to be local activists, volunteered at health centers, signed petitions, and shared content on social media. Because of this support, we can mobilize quickly. Extremely important state midterm elections take place this year. Staff will be working day and night to ensure people get out the vote to protect the care we all count on.
Support Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains

Want to give today? Visit wearepp.org/PPRM to make an immediate impact.

Support the political work of our PPRM Action Fund. PPRMAF works tirelessly to ensure pro-reproductive health majorities, protecting PPRM’s status as a safe haven for abortion care. Sustaining gifts are critical to this work. Become a member of the PPRM Action Fund Winner’s Circle today! Visit ppact.org/RMAF.

Planned Giving

Email info.development@pprm.org to learn more about the impact of planned and estate giving.

CARE.
No matter what.

If you or someone you know needs an abortion, call us at 800.230.7526, visit PPRM.org, or visit abortionfinder.org.

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