

PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS' SPRING 2017 DIALOGUE



SALIDA SPOTLIGHT

As a safety net health care provider, Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains often serves as an entry point into the medical system as we are frequently the first place our patients ever come for care. Our Salida Health Center staff sees this reality on a daily basis:

Recently a patient came to the health center for an annual exam; ineligible for Medicare due to her age, this patient shared with our Salida Health Center Manager that she was experiencing symptoms of cervical cancer, but that her primary care provider refused to perform the pelvic exam and PaP test that she requested as he said she was, "too old". The patient lived in a remote part of the state and did not have many other providers to turn to for care. Unfortunately our staff discovered visible cancer during her examination.

Our staff ensured that she was connected with diagnostic care and cancer treatment. Without the low-cost, high quality health care of our rural health center like Salida, this patient would not have received the subsidized care she so desperately needed.

Ensuring subsidized care is available for the entire community, our Salida Health Center Manager personally organized a community event raising over \$10,500 to support our local patients! Since October, this event, plus several others, have raised nearly \$25,000 for the Salida Health Center. Each and every dollar raised allows us to serve the community with potentially life-saving reproductive health care. Without dedicated supporters like you and Shelley we could not continue providing compassionate care every day.

HEALTH CARE

Regardless of presidential results, women and families have trusted Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains to provide life-saving health care and education services for 100 years. We take this trust seriously. At PPRM, the health of our patients and the communities we serve is our top priority. We are committed to ensuring that women, men, and young people in the region continue to have access to high-quality, affordable health care and information -- no matter what.

Since the beginning of our Fiscal Year in October, PPRM has received a total of \$101,635 in donations from patients at our 29 health centers. These funds are allocated directly back to the health center. Patients reinvesting in our mission demonstrate their belief in the high quality of care we provide at PPRM. This is best illustrated by the feedback patients share through our anonymous electronic patient surveys:

“
RESPECT AND COMPASSION... I CAN THINK OF NO BETTER WORDS TO DESCRIBE HOW I WAS TREATED.
”

Without your, and our patients', generous support we would not be able to continue to provide high quality, low-cost reproductive health care to the entire PPRM community, no matter what. Now more than ever we look to the community to support our mission and ensure patients receive the timely and compassionate care they require.



ADVOCACY & ACTION

It's no secret that with the unexpected outcome of the presidential election we have seen the administration take an increasingly antagonistic stance against women's health and reproductive rights. The critical health care and education we provide across our region is our mission. The advocacy and electoral work is our survival. Our Public Affairs Department continues to lead the fight against attempts restricting a woman's access to reproductive health care. We need your support to continue this fight. Here are three ways to join us:

1. *Sign up today for plannedparenthoodaction.org/planned-parenthood-votes-colorado to take regular urgent actions to defend women's health!*
2. *Volunteer for the Health Center Advocacy Program and engage volunteers directly in our health centers.*
3. *Donate to Planned Parenthood Votes Colorado and Planned Parenthood Votes New Mexico. Now more than ever your financial support ensures our doors stay open no matter what.*

Sign me up! Contact Molly Swank for more information at Molly.Swank@pprm.org.



LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Despite overwhelming support for Planned Parenthood across the country we continue to see anti-women's health care bills introduced at an unprecedented level in all of our four states.

Our New Mexico team defeated 4 bills attempting to roll back access to reproductive health, including a 20-week abortion ban. In Wyoming we saw a total of 4 anti-abortion bills. Despite our best efforts, 2 passed into law: HB116 prohibits fetal tissue donation and HB182, which includes a 24 hour waiting period before receiving abortion care. In Colorado we helped to defeat 5 bills aimed at restricting and even eliminating access to abortion care and we passed a bipartisan bill that will allow women to pick up a 12 month supply of their birth control at one time—a huge win for contraception access. In Nevada we launched a historically proactive agenda with aims to increase access to contraception for Nevada women and we will keep you updated as the session progresses!

Stay tuned in our public affairs work through PPVotesColorado.org and PPVotesNewMexico.org to help us stand up for the health care our communities deserve!

EDUCATION



EDUCATION. NO MATTER WHAT.

The Responsible Sex Education Institute (the Institute) continuously evaluates the needs in our communities in order to evolve its program to maximize our impact. The Institute's vision for a stigma free society and mission to provide developmentally appropriate sex education, foster healthy relationships, and link young people to care are broad. As with all far-reaching ambitions we must take one step at a time and work within the constraints of our resources. Thus we are currently prioritizing our work and anticipate even more impact:

- 1.** The Institute is committed to providing direct education to the populations identified with some of the highest health disparities within our service area: American Indians, Latinos, and People Living with Disabilities.
- 2.** Our innovative In Case You're Curious (ICYC) text line is expanding so all youth have a trusted resource to ask their difficult questions.
- 3.** We are also aggressively expanding our training of youth serving professionals in response to an outpouring of requests. By training professionals already in schools like health and gym teachers, we are able to expand access to comprehensive sex education and have a lasting impact - even in communities where we don't have resources to have staff on the ground.

As we embark on this evolving chapter we ask for your support to continue providing this vital education. Want to donate? Text "donate" to 57890 to support PPRM's Institute programming.

TRAINING PROFESSIONALS TO BE SKILLED SEX EDUCATION PROVIDERS:

Professionals are trained through a program called the Sexual Health Educator Program (SHEP). The SHEP consists of a 1-3 day workshop of tailored modules give youth-serving professionals the skills they need to provide sex education to youth. To date in Fiscal Year 2017 we have provided SHEP to a total of 192 youth serving professionals across our affiliate. By investing in professionals, educators can increase the reach of institutionalized sex education; in fact, one teacher affects an average of 3,000 youth over the course of their career. By increasing our focus on the education and empowerment of other sexual health educators, we ensure more youth are receiving the education they so critically need.

SNAPSHOT



CORKS AND FORKS

On April 30th nearly 360 guests came together in solidarity, support, and celebration of our work in Southern Nevada. Our 8th Annual Corks & Forks fundraiser in Las Vegas, Nevada honored Elaine Wynn and US Senator Catherine Cortez Masto. The committee, co-chaired by PPRM Board Member, Ann Hatfield Merritt and former board member, Cindy Reiman exceeded event goals by raising over \$350,000! During the event finale, local committee volunteer Christy Molasky sang Andra Day's Rise Up with 30 plus volunteers on stage holding signs with reasons why they stand with Planned Parenthood. It was a successful night no one will forget.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Over \$61,000 has been raised since October 2016 through community-hosted events, including a Nevertheless, She Persisted tattoo event. Thank you for your commitment, passion and support! Want to get involved? For more information or to host an event to benefit Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains, contact lauren.archuleta@pprm.org.

Have you included Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains in your estate plans? Are you interested in learning more about how you can? For further information and details on this year's Guardians of Choice luncheon, in New Mexico, contact Ann Beyke, Major and Planned Gift Officer - ann.beyke@pprm.org or 505.944.2027.

BREAKFAST OF CHAMPIONS

The annual Breakfast of Champions event in New Mexico marked the anniversary of Roe v. Wade. This year our special guest was former Texas State Senator, Wendy Davis. With over 500 supporters in attendance, this event continues to exceed attendance and fundraising expectations. Over \$125,000 was raised in support of health services, education and advocacy in New Mexico.

COMMUNITIES WE SERVE

The health of our patients and the communities we serve is Planned Parenthood's top priority. After careful and extensive evaluation, PPRM is making some difficult but necessary organizational changes to ensure that we can continue to meet our patients' needs in both the short and long term. As part of these changes, PPRM will be closing 6 of our 29 health centers. Over the next few months, we will be consolidating our health centers in Casper, WY; Parker, CO; Longmont, CO; Nob Hill, NM; Rio Rancho, NM; and Farmington, NM. While we regret leaving any community, we believe our patients will still have access to care, ideally our care, and our staff will join us at other locations.

We remain committed to providing high-quality, compassionate care and education to our patients, and to advocating for expanded access to care for more patients over the long term. This strategic decision will allow us to maintain a fiscally solvent operation that will keep our doors open to patients in the region for the long term. As a nonprofit provider, we care deeply about the health of our patients, and are confident that this realignment of resources will enable us to continue serving patients in the region and uphold our commitment to expert, quality health care.



Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains

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WANT LESS MAIL?

Our Dialogue newsletter is now available via email. If you would prefer an electronic version of this newsletter, please send your email address to info.development@pprm.org.



In partnership with Planned Parenthood Federation of America, and their incentive bequest challenge, PPRM has identified 66 donors who have established and confirmed their bequest intentions. Bequest gifts from these donors will provide future gifts of over \$12M to PPRM.

THANK YOU! Because of those donors, PPRM will be able to provide healthcare services, sex education and advocacy to future generations. Interested in establishing a bequest with PPRM? Contact your local PPRM planned giving staff person below.

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