

HEALTH CARE

Let's "PrEP" to end HIV!

As a leader in the field of HIV prevention, PPRM is committed to implementing and expanding our work in education, and medical care. PPRM's proven success engaging LGBTQ individuals in New Mexico, coupled with PPRM's early implementation of PrEP (Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis: the use of medications to stop the spread of HIV) services, uniquely positions PPRM to effectively serve our communities. Our network of health centers, combined with the reach of PPRM's Responsible Sex Education Institute, and our reputation as a culturally safe environment, create a strong foundation for expanding PrEP access and engaging more patients in the fight to end HIV.

We have recently leveraged our successes in New Mexico to receive additional funding from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). We are working to ensure access to PrEP, and expand our services and HIV education across Colorado.



TeleHealth

Our Las Vegas health centers began a TeleHealth program early in 2017. TeleHealth patients meet with their medical provider via a safe and secure video conference system, allowing our traveling doctors to see patients even when they aren't physically in the office. This opens up many more appointment windows and particularly helps our rural patients who might have a harder time scheduling in-office visits. Our patients have been truly thankful for this service and we couldn't be more proud to provide it.

Our Work Continues

The Wyoming Abortion Fund was established in 2004 through collective donations from Wyoming health



HIV Programs Team in New Mexico, clockwise from left: Ryan Garcia, Martin Walker, Rudy Montoya, Josh Garcia, Jax Sugars



Generous Las Vegas staff give blood to support their community.

care providers. The fund seeks to help any woman who is a Wyoming resident pay for an abortion procedure at the provider of her choice. Since its inception, the Wyoming Abortion fund has helped an average of 125 women per year access safe, affordable abortion care services.

The Vegas community talks and we listen! We're thrilled about the growth we're seeing in our two Las Vegas health centers and have recently hired an additional provider to join our incredible clinician crew serving Southern Nevada. This means that we are once again offering services 7 days a week. This is great news for our patients in Las Vegas who can now receive clinician care on the weekends.

Defunding efforts put lifesaving services at risk

By Stephanie Roberts
Las Vegas Charleston PP Health Center Manager
Las Vegas Sun, September 5, 2017

Ten years ago, I walked into my local Planned Parenthood as a volunteer, because I saw that there were not a lot of sources for people in my community for health care if they didn't have money or insurance. Planned Parenthood was it.

Now, I'm the manager at a Planned Parenthood health center here in Las Vegas. I help provide birth control, cancer screenings, and STI testing and treatment to thousands of patients every year. Yet since January, Sen. Dean Heller and Republican leadership in Congress have been trying to "defund" Planned Parenthood and repeal the Affordable Care Act. This would rip health care away from hundreds of thousands of Nevadans, and so many of the patients I see every day.

Never have I been so concerned about the future of my patients' health care. As a health care provider in Las Vegas I could not stay silent about this. Across Nevada over 16,000 people rely on Planned Parenthood. If Nevadans cannot come to us for care, I don't know where they'll go.

A couple years ago, a woman came to my health center, asking for birth control. This woman was in her 50s, so it seemed an unusual request, so we dug a little deeper to find out what was going on. It turned out that she had just moved from Alaska to Las Vegas. Back in Alaska, she went to an urgent care center with heavy bleeding, and they prescribed her hormonal birth control to stop it. It was a Band-Aid, but she said she couldn't afford any further treatment. That was not good enough for us. We enrolled her in a state cancer prevention program for women over 40, to cover the care that she needed. Our clinicians did a pap test and pelvic exam, and got her all the testing she needed. Heartbreakingly, it turned out that she had cancer, so we made sure she was in good hands with expert specialists who would treat her affordably.

I don't know what would have happened to that woman if she had gone anywhere else – honestly, I don't think there is anywhere else she could have gone. I only wish she had come to us sooner. It's people like this patient who inspired me to step up.



In April, we hosted a patient roundtable to hear stories from our patients and underscore the devastating impact that blocking access to care at Planned Parenthood would have in our community. What was absolutely clear was that, without Planned Parenthood, these patients would have nowhere else to go for care. That's also why I've called (U.S.) Senator Heller on a weekly basis. I wanted him to know the concerns and fears patients express when they visit us, not knowing if the health center doors will be open the next time they need us.

I will keep speaking out. And I will keep providing the best health care I can to as many Nevadans as I can. We need our elected officials to truly listen to us and represent us. They should be fighting just as hard to protect access to care as we fight every day to keep our doors open.

Our leaders in Washington have the responsibility to keep Americans safe and healthy. Without a doubt, cutting access to Planned Parenthood will put lives at risk. Our leaders must reject attempts to cut off millions from their trusted, irreplaceable health care provider and access to lifesaving preventive care. I will not sit silently while politicians like Sen. Heller attempt to take our health care away.

Making History on June 5, 2017

Thanks to you, our supporters and advocates, Colorado's Governor John Hickenlooper signed the 12-month Contraception Bill, allowing patients to pick up a one year supply of birth control instead of visiting the pharmacy every month for contraception that has already been prescribed. This bill is particularly helpful for those in rural communities or with limited transportation options. Our Public Affairs team worked tirelessly to help get this bill passed by researching, preparing materials, and working with stakeholders to get bi-partisan support.

HCAP Program and CIRC Partnership

A dedicated group of advocates are working regularly in our health centers to educate patients about the connection between protecting access to reproductive health care and receiving health care. Between July and October these advocates had 119 conversations with patients in health center waiting areas, signed up 88 new supporters, and dedicated 80 hours of volunteer time. Through a partnership with the Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition (CIRC), we provided a, "Know Your Rights" training for Denver-area activists in August. These activists are now sharing the information they learned with PP patients to inform them how to navigate Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) interactions, as well as, providing information and referrals for CIRC's ICE activity hotline.



LET'S TALK

October was Let's Talk Month - a month to focus on adults talking to the young people in their lives about sexual health and sexuality. In conjunction with this effort, PPRM's Responsible Sex Education Institute (RSEI) introduced two new resources for parents who are having "the talk" with the young people in their lives: a parent-focused Facebook page full of tips and resources, and text line called, "TALK," to get direct answers to difficult questions.

Did you know that youth who have open and honest conversations with their parents (or other adults in their life) about sex and sexuality, are more likely to delay sexual activity and to use condoms and contraception when they do become sexually active? And guess what - we know the majority of teens say they want to have these conversations about sex, and often, it's the adults who are most nervous about it. Never fear - RSEI is here to help.

Visit and like the RSEI page at www.facebook.com/Responsible-Sex-Education-Institute, to get helpful tips and resources on how to talk to youth about sex. If you have a specific question you want answered, they've got you covered there, too! Just text the word **TALK** to 57890 to connect to our TALK line. Ask away and a trained educator will respond to you within 24 hours.



RESPONSIBLE
SEX
EDUCATION
INSTITUTE

In Case You're Curious

Don't forget about our In Case You're Curious line for youth (or anyone). Text ICYC questions about sex, your body, relationships, birth control, STIs, and more! A qualified educator will get back to you within 24 hours. In Colorado, text ICYC to 57890, in New Mexico, text PPNM to 57890, in Las Vegas, text PPLV to 57890, and in Wyoming, text PPWY to 57890.

EVENTS



Champions of Choice - Lifetime Honoree and former First Lady, Dottie Lamm, and PPRMAF Executive Director, Sarah Taylor-Nanista



Champions of Choice - Speaker Patti Solis Doyle, and hosts James and Pamela Crowe

CHAMPIONS OF CHOICE

August 24th was a great night for Planned Parenthood Votes Colorado, celebrating the 2017 Champions of Choice. James and Pamela Crowe graciously opened their beautiful home and speaker Patti Solis Doyle, CNN commentator and former Hillary Clinton senior advisor, was fantastic, ending the night with a rallying cry for Planned Parenthood supporters to, "go, fight, win!" Thank you to all our generous sponsors and attendees who made this evening possible, over \$66,000 was raised for legislative and advocacy work across the state. Extra special thanks to our hosts, our speaker, and our many event sponsors.

SAVE THE DATE LAS VEGAS

Our annual Las Vegas celebration of solidarity and support is coming! Save the date now for **Corks & Forks** on April 18, 2018 at the Hard Rock Café.

SAVE THE DATES

Join us January 31st for Toast of the Town, an evening reception and fundraiser for Planned Parenthood Votes New Mexico where you can meet-and-greet acclaimed doctor, Willie Parker. The next morning, February 1st, Dr. Parker will be our keynote speaker at Breakfast of Champions, our annual Planned Parenthood in New Mexico fundraiser that marks the anniversary of Roe v. Wade. You won't want to miss either!

ABOUT: DR WILLIE PARKER

Dr. Willie J. Parker is a fierce reproductive justice advocate and an OB/GYN specializing in abortions, currently caring for patients in five states. Dr. Parker is the former Medical Director of Planned Parenthood Metropolitan Washington, DC. His work includes a focus on violence against women, sexual assault prevention, and reproductive health rights through advocacy, provision of contraceptive and abortion services, and men's reproductive health.

From his website, drwillieparker.com, "*In Life's Work, an outspoken, Christian reproductive justice advocate and abortion provider (one of the few doctors to provide such services to women in Mississippi and Alabama) pulls from his personal and professional journeys as well as the scientific training he received as a doctor to reveal how he came to believe, unequivocally, that helping women in need, without judgment, is precisely the Christian thing to do.*"



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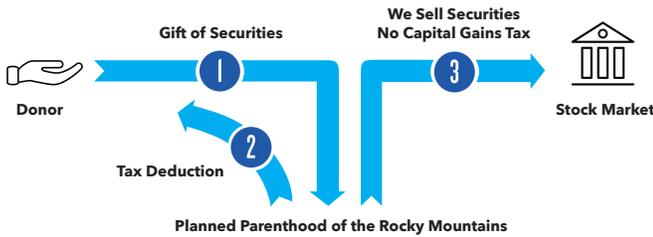
Our Dialogue newsletter is now available via email. If you would prefer an electronic version of this newsletter, please send your email address to info.development@pprm.org.



The women of Upside Events raised over \$10,000 for PPRM at a fundraiser in June. | Photo by Valerie Kraucunas

Bequest Challenge

We are happy to announce that Planned Parenthood Federation of America is continuing their incentive program and bequest challenge. That means they are donating an additional percentage of bequest gifts we identify this year... your gift goes further!



Because of planned gifts, PPRM will be able to provide health care services, sex education and advocacy to future generations. If you'd like more information or are interested in establishing a bequest with PPRM, please email info.development@pprm.org, or call Michelle at 303.813.7638. If you're in New Mexico, call Ann at 505.944.2027.

Want to stay updated?

Email info.development@pprm.org and ask to be put on our email lists, and be sure to follow us on Facebook @[ppoftherockymountains](https://www.facebook.com/ppoftherockymountains) and @[PPSN](https://www.facebook.com/PPSN).

Record Breaking Community Support

Over the last year, members of our four-state communities rallied - they conceptualized, created, organized and threw their own fundraisers to benefit Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains. From small art shows to large, upscale parties, these PPRM friends raised over \$144,000 to keep our mission strong! If this sounds like a challenge you'd like to take on by organizing your own party or fundraiser to benefit PPRM, email info.development@pprm.org or call 303.813.7638 and ask for information about "Party In a Box."

The Season to Give

Mark your calendars to support PPRM on Giving Tuesday, November 28. Visit ppaction.org/PPRMGT. In Colorado, don't forget to schedule your gift anytime between now and December 5 at ColoradoGives.org/PPRM.



Black Friday. Cyber Monday.

#GIVINGTUESDAY™

November 28, 2017