

Dear Friends,

In the wake of the Trump Administration's vow to defund Planned Parenthood, we at Planned Parenthood of Nassau County (PPNC) have been fielding questions from patients – patients just like Maria* – concerned about their access to reproductive health care in the months and years ahead. Last week, with the failure to repeal the Affordable Care Act, we won a major battle in protecting access to health care for millions of people across the country and thousands right here in our community. While the war is far from won, all of us at PPNC know one thing to be true: our doors will stay open because of your immense and generous outpouring of support.



Last year, at the age of 30, I knew I had a problem, but as an immigrant without insurance, I ignored it for over a year. Then a friend told me that Planned Parenthood of Nassau County would see me—even if I couldn't pay for the visit.

The people at PPNC were so kind, and they did several tests, including a pap smear. The results came back abnormal, and upon further testing, revealed that I had advanced cervical cancer. PPNC's medical staff wasted no time in referring me to an oncologist so I could begin treatment immediately.

Planned Parenthood not only treated me without charge—they treated me with respect and compassion. **PPNC saved my life and gave me hope for the future.**

*Name has been changed to respect the patient's privacy

If you've been following the news, you know that we are only at the beginning of what promises to be a long and dangerous crusade by an anti-choice-dominated government against women's health and reproductive rights. Since the inauguration, we have seen the Trump administration and Congress take a series of actions that are wholly detrimental to women's health and reproductive rights, including:

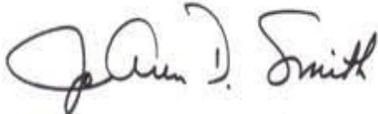
- Nominating Neil Gorsuch to the Supreme Court, a conservative judge with a deeply concerning record on women's health and rights;
- Voting to overturn a rule that protects health care for more than four million people who rely on Title X, the nation's family planning program;
- Reinstating an expanded version of the Global Gag Rule, which prevents international non-governmental organizations from receiving any U.S. global health funding if they provide, counsel, refer or advocate for abortion services;
- And of course, fast-tracking an extreme bill to repeal the Affordable Care Act and block Medicaid patients from accessing care at Planned Parenthood.

Fortunately, with your help and the millions of voices across the country who attended rallies and made countless calls to congressional representatives, the bill was pulled – a victory for all of the people who depend upon Planned Parenthood for the reproductive health care they need and deserve.

Although we achieved this great victory, we know the fight is not over. It is paramount that we maintain the high level of activism and support that we have garnered since the election in order to fight back against every assault that will be launched on women's health and rights. To keep the momentum going, we are in the process of developing an even stronger volunteer program and we ask that you stay tuned for more opportunities to get involved. In the meantime, we are truly grateful for ongoing donations during these tenuous times, as they help to ensure our ability to keep serving our patients.

On behalf of all of us at PPNC: Thank you for standing strong with Planned Parenthood during these most difficult times.

Sincerely and gratefully,



JoAnn D. Smith
President & CEO



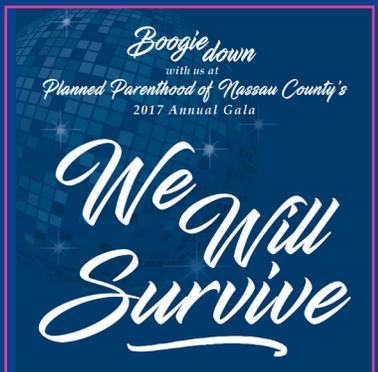
PS To learn how you can host an event for PPNC or to become more involved, [click here.](#)

Post-Election Support

Some of our Outstanding Community-Organized Events since November

We are so incredibly moved by the outpouring of support and grassroots activism of our community members, which has and continues to demonstrate to our neighbors and leaders that we will never stop fighting to protect our patients' rights to reproductive health care. Not a moment went by when people were not calling, reaching out, organizing, donating and showing up – loudly and proudly – and we are truly thankful. Here are several examples of the incredible community-organized and grassroots events that have occurred since November.

Upcoming Actions & Events



Join us at our 2017 Annual Gala – We Will Survive – on May 5! For more information and to purchase tickets, visit here: [Click here.](#)

Louie's Restaurant, Port Washington

Just one week after the election, a supporter from Port Washington organized a grassroots event where more than 150 Planned Parenthood supporters gathered to discuss ways in which they could become involved in advocacy work and support PPNC's efforts to keep our doors open over the next four years and beyond. PPNC's President & CEO, JoAnn D. Smith, spoke to thank those in attendance for their extraordinary support and to give an overview of what Planned Parenthood is bracing for under President Trump. This event demonstrated an incredible outpouring of support for Planned Parenthood in the wake of the Presidential election. We were so grateful to all who attended - and those who collectively donated more than \$12,500 to support PPNC's essential services.



JoAnn with event organizer Amanda Khalil, and board members Karen Seltzter and Robin Sigman

Thyme Restaurant, Roslyn

Following the momentum of the Port Washington event, Planned Parenthood supporter and Roslyn restaurant owner, Nancy Serna, hosted a motivating and inspiring open house at Thyme Restaurant on January 23rd. Running from 1 to 10 pm, this event, billed as "Stand with PP," provided a full day of



JoAnn with local supporters

community building and activism for both new and existing supporters. The day featured activism stations with opportunities to take immediate action, volunteer and donate, and provided informational resources to help supporters better understand the new political landscape facing Planned Parenthood. With more than 300 supporters in attendance - from ages 2 to 92 - "Stand with PP" was a tremendous success, and more than \$30,000 was raised.



Supportive notes from attendees at Thyme

Save the Date



PPNC's 2017 Luncheon

Featuring Keynote Speaker, Dr. Willie Parker, MD, MPH, MSc

Thursday, November 2nd, 2017



Willie J. Parker is a board-certified obstetrician and gynecologist who provides abortion care in the South and was featured in the documentary, "The Last Clinic." He grew up in Alabama working his way up to attend Harvard University and thereafter becoming the Medical Director at Planned Parenthood Metropolitan Washington DC. In addition to his medical training, he is trained in advocacy by the Physicians for Reproductive Health Leadership Training Initiative - an organization for which he serves on the board.

After seeing the dire need for more providers in the South, Parker left PP to begin traveling monthly from Chicago to Mississippi to provide abortion procedures at the one remaining abortion clinic left in the state - Jackson Women's Health Organization.

Dr. Parker has made immense contributions to Planned Parenthood and reproductive justice, and we are very excited to welcome him as our 2017 Luncheon Keynote Speaker.



JoAnn with PPHP Interim CEO Vincent Russell and PPNYC CEO Joan Malin



PPNC staff marching in NYC

Women's March

On January 21st, PPNC joined more than three million people at the Women's Marches across the country, demonstrating our support for women's health and reproductive rights in one of the most enormous protests in our nation's history. In marching, we sent a powerful message to our elected officials at the state and federal levels that all people deserve high-quality, affordable health care and the right to make their own decisions about their reproductive lives. In NYC alone, more than 1,600 people marched on behalf of PP – filling an entire city block with a sea of pink!

A special thank you to the numerous local companies, organizations and supporters who organized several events throughout this winter season in support of PPNC:

- Activists Bonnie Hilton Green and Eric Dobrin for your fundraising house parties
- Agent Provocateur at the Americana Manhasset for your Valentine's event with a percentage of the proceeds donated to PPNC
- Bar Method Roslyn for your Barre Class with proceeds donated to PPNC
- Om Sweet Om for hosting Spring into Action – a yoga, shopping & activism event
- Anya Weinberg for hosting a Zumba class for PPNC in her local community center



Eric Dobrin's House Party



Bonnie Hilton Green's House Party

Help Keep Our Doors Open

Monthly Donor:

Committed to Planned Parenthood and want to make it easy? Join our monthly giving program by selecting "Yes, automatically repeat this gift every month" when making a donation. Whether your gift is \$5 or \$5,000 – we are so grateful!

[Click here](#) to become a monthly donor.

IRA Charitable Rollover Gift:

Make a meaningful and extraordinary tax-free gift by contributing an IRA Charitable Rollover Gift to PPNC. In doing this, the IRS allows you to give up to \$100,000 this calendar year from your individual IRA account. The benefit to you is that the contribution may satisfy your entire required minimum distribution & is TAX-FREE.

Even though the money is coming from your IRA, it is excluded from your taxable income!*

(*To qualify for this benefit, you must be 70 ½ years or older. Married couples can each donate up to \$100,000 from their individual IRA accounts.)

To participate in an IRA charitable rollover gift or for more information, please call (516) 750-2663.

Activism/Volunteer Engagement

PINK OUT AND POWER UP: PPNC's Latest Activism Efforts

Since the election, PPNC has seen an unprecedented number of supporters taking action by volunteering with Planned Parenthood. Moreover, not only are individuals signing up to attend our events, they are hosting their own to engage their friends and family in this fight!

PPNC's activism efforts have focused on contacting our representatives in every level of government through letter writing, phone calls and lobby visits to demand that they stop these attacks on Planned Parenthood and reproductive rights.

Following our participation at the monumental NYC Women's March, on January 30th, PPNC brought 129 advocates to Albany for the Planned Parenthood Empire State Acts (PPESA) Annual Day of Action to meet with all 15 of our state representatives – more than doubling the number of advocates we have brought in past years. With a total of 1,700 participants from across the state, this Day of Action was New York's largest one yet.

Throughout February, PPNC built on this momentum and continued to meet with our congressional representatives, as well as key state senators with nearly 70 volunteers participating in these local efforts.

Donate through
Amazon.com:

Enjoy some "Retail Therapy" and support PPNC at the same time! Shop Amazon.com using the following link and a percentage of your order will be donated to PPNC: [Click here.](#)



Save our Healthcare Rally



Local Town Hall with Representative Tom Suozzi



JoAnn visiting the
Ethical Humanist Society



Day of Action meeting with
Assemblyman Charles Lavine



Day of Action meeting with Senator John Brooks



Meeting with Representative Kathleen Rice

In addition, our incredible advocates have sent over 700 letters and postcards to numerous key politicians, including Speaker Ryan, Senator Flanagan, and Senator McConnell.

Lastly, on March 1st, PPNC attended PPFA's Patient Provider Lobby Day in Washington, D.C. to meet with our representatives and advocate for voting against any efforts to defund Planned Parenthood.

We know that we could not have endured the fight thus far – nor could we have experienced the victory that we did on Friday – without you. We are so proud and thankful to have you alongside us as the fight continues.

Health Center Update

PPNC Now Providing HIV Prevention Pill – PrEP!

For more than 20 years, PPNC has been working to reduce the disproportionate rate of HIV infection among women of color through outreach, evidence-based education, HIV testing, and linkage to treatment services. Always on the cutting edge of public health advancements, this past December, PPNC's staff members were thrilled to have expanded our HIV prevention services to include the provision of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP), a medication regimen that is highly effective at preventing HIV infection when used as prescribed. Despite the challenges we are facing, PPNC is always moving forward with new services and treatments to ensure that people in our community stay safe and healthy.



Thank You

As you can see, despite the hostile political climate, PPNC is forging on and continuing to put our patients first, thanks to your generous ongoing support and activism. In closing and solidarity, I will share a poem written by loyal PPNC supporter and *President Emeritus* of Adelphi University, Robert A. Scott:

"Everyman" **By Robert A. Scott**

I am a patriot
who loves my nation and
the ideals on which it stands;

I am an American

who believes that my country
has grown and developed through
successive waves of immigrants who
subscribe to our common values;

I am a citizen who strives to ensure the continued vitality of the Bill of Rights
and the Constitution;

I am a veteran, and the son of a veteran,
who knows that heroic figures are those who sacrifice for the common good;

I am a student of history and politics
who knows the value of diplomacy
and the role of the military in ensuring our nation's security;

I am an educator
who teaches critical thinking
and independence of thought;

I am a leader
who believes that, in all things,
truth matters, integrity counts;

I am a father and grandfather
who wants my family, and your family,
and everyone's family, to enjoy the fruits of democracy,
the responsibilities of freedom, and the privileges of citizenship;

I am an advocate of informed
and civil debate, and abhor how
divisive politics has become;

I am a religious person
who believes in tolerance
and knows that you can
be right without my
being wrong;

I am a mourner
who grieves for all those
we honor today, those
of the North and those of
the South;

I am a father, a friend, a professional, a citizen.
I am "everyman."
I am your neighbor.
And, in the end, we are one.

Robert A. Scott (© 2017)
is President Emeritus and
University Professor Emeritus,
Adelphi University. Each year
at Adelphi, he would speak at
the Memorial Day Ceremony
in Garden City. In 2006, after
reading Philip Roth's "Every-
man," reflecting on the late
Middle Ages morality play of
the same name, and thinking
about the death of a friend's
son in Iraq, he composed this
verse for his Memorial Day
"talk."