

big sky impact

WINTER 2016

NEWS &

EVENTS

Dearest Friends

In the days after November 8th, things seemed dark. The Presidential election results come as a shock to many of us, and it felt like an assault on the core principles of our nation that so many of us have fought to defend, for years, decades and generations. [Equality, equity, justice, acceptance](#). Access to health care now stands in the balance. Our immigrant friends and neighbors fear deportation. White supremacists now feel emboldened to share their message of hate. Here in Billings a swastika was painted on the rims, and I know there have been incidents of bias, hate and violence in many of our communities.



As an organization that serves the most vulnerable among us, we at Planned Parenthood feel the pain and fear of our patients. And as a reproductive rights advocate and health care provider, we will also be attacked as will the programs that our patients rely upon to get the care they deserve.

[Dark times, indeed.](#)

But there is this...we have received an outpouring of support. Donations are on the increase, flowers and snacks have been delivered for our staff, cards of thanks are arriving in our mailboxes. These things, like the holiday lights twinkling around us each night this season, bring hope. We know what we must do, and on the morning after the election our staff was there to do it...providing care, no matter what. We are firm in defense of our mission. These doors stay open.

[When I say these doors stay open, it is both a promise and a challenge.](#)

I promise that we will be nimble. That if and when we have to make hard decisions about our funding, we will make those decisions in the service of our patients. We will continue to turn the passion of our supporters into power, to make change in Helena and Washington.

And the challenge is for you. We will need your support now, more than ever. Your donations, of course, will help us continue to keep our doors open across this state. But we will also need your voices: in Helena to testify, in your local newspapers with letters to the editor supporting Planned Parenthood and calling out those who seek to come between patients and care, in your circle of friends sharing why you support this critical mission. Join like-minded advocates in Helena for the Women's March on January 21. Become a patient—your insurance's payment for services helps to underwrite the care we provide to low-income patients.

[You must be our light, so that we can be the light for those who count on us.](#)

Onward,



Martha

inside this issue

[One Hundred Years](#)

Planned Parenthood celebrates 100 years strong p.2

[Advocacy Impact:](#)

Post Election Re-cap p.3

[Save the Date:](#)

Broad Comedy returns to Helena p.4

[Health Centers](#)

p.4



Planned Parenthood celebrates their 100 year anniversary! For the past century Planned Parenthood has transformed women's health and empowered millions of people worldwide to make informed health decisions, forever changing the way they live, love, learn and work. Here in Montana, we began our commemoration of our Centennial Celebration with a storytelling event in Missoula and a film premier of "100 Years of Caring: A History of Planned Parenthood" in Great Falls where we proudly partnered with the Progressive Clergy Network of Montana. ▣



On October 16, 1916, Margaret Sanger — together with her sister Ethel Byrne and fellow activist Fania Mindell — open a birth control clinic in Brownsville, Brooklyn. Here, Margaret Sanger is surrounded by supporters.

Library of Congress, LC-USZ62-105460

100 YEARS STRONG



© Thinkstock, Getty Photos

“health-care decisions should be made by women, with their doctors and families — not politicians. lawmakers should stop playing politics with women's health and lives.” — Cecile Richards, President PPFA

YEAR-END GIVING: Please Stand With Planned Parenthood of Montana!

2017 is going to be full of challenges to women's reproductive health. We need your support now, more than ever. Please consider Planned Parenthood of Montana when you make your year-end giving decisions. Our doors stay open, no matter what — **but we will need your help.** All gifts are tax deductible. Please mail your gift to 1116 Grand Avenue, Suite 201, Billings, MT 59102, or make a donation online at www.plannedparenthood.org/montana. Thank you for your support!

PPMT Board of Directors

- Deborah Agnew, M.D., *Chair* • Billings
- Barbara Schneeman, *Vice Chair* • Billings
- Katie Ranta, *Treasurer* • Great Falls
- Bess Lovec, *Secretary* • Billings
- Evan Barrett • Butte
- Theresa Bushman • Bozeman
- Tess Carlson • Missoula
- Margaret Dufrechou • Helena
- Mimi Hall Gustafson • Missoula
- Maggy Rozycki Hiltner • Red Lodge
- Kari Kaiser • Billings
- Barbara Veis • Billings
- Mariah Welch • Missoula

PPAMT Board of Directors

- Tess Carlson, *Chair* • Missoula
- Evan Barrett, *Vice Chair* • Butte
- Stacie Anderson • Missoula
- Lacey Gallagher • Great Falls
- Judy Seneteny • Billings
- Barbara Schneeman • Billings
- Mariah Welch • Missoula

Planned Parenthood Advocates of Montana

Election Recap

Many in the Planned Parenthood community remain at a loss for words about the Presidential election and the decreasing number of pro-women's health advocates in Congress. Despite these tough losses, Montana has much to celebrate thanks to the work of Planned Parenthood Advocates of Montana PAC with the successful re-election of Governor Steve Bullock and Judge Dirk Sandefur's election to the Montana State Supreme Court.



Standing with Governor Bullock in Billings because he stands with Montana women and families.

Governor Steve Bullock's victory was a win for reproductive health and rights in Montana. The election results demonstrate that women's health and rights are front and center in the eyes of Montana voters and they demand that their elected officials support and protect those rights.

District Court Judge Dirk Sandefur of Great Falls defeated Kristen Juras to earn a place on Montana's Supreme Court. Sandefur, a PPAMT-endorsed candidate, pledged to uphold Montana's individual privacy laws, something Juras did not do. Sandefur (Justice No. 3) joins fellow non-partisan judges Mike McGrath (Chief Justice) and Jim Shea (Justice No. 6) with Supreme Court wins. Pro-women's health candidates for the Legislature also won their races.



Rallying in Missoula for pro-women's health care champions.

Planned Parenthood Advocates of Montana-endorsed candidates were part of a statewide movement that picked up seats in the House of Representatives, and Planned Parenthood of Montana's own Jen Gross, won Senate District 25 in Billings on election night.

Planned Parenthood Advocates of Montana PAC played a critically important role in these victories. Since September its volunteers and paid canvassers knocked on more than 75,000 doors in Missoula and Yellowstone counties and made thousands of phone calls across the state. The PAC's efforts also reached nearly 70,000 voters through direct mail.

Planned Parenthood advocacy and political organizations helped turn out voters and move voters toward women's health champions on election through our Montana efforts, our nationwide outreach, our ability to move key swing and base voters, and our strong support for women's health care issues.

We would not have been successful without the support of our volunteers and donors. Thanks to each of you who supported our efforts and helped keep Montana a place where women and families can access the health services they need without the unnecessary interference of politicians. ■

SAVE THE DATE!

For the bawdy and brilliant comedy of

Katie Goodman and BROAD COMEDY

Thursday, February 9, 2017

6:30pm at the Myrna Loy Center, Helena

in a special benefit performance for
Planned Parenthood of Montana.

General Admission: \$25

Student Price \$15 (over 18– mature content)

Also available are V.I.P. tickets for \$100. Includes private reception prior to show at 5:30 pm, featuring hors d'oeuvres and a talk by Planned Parenthood C.E.O. Martha Stahl. Special guest appearance by Katie Goodman, and priority seating in the first rows of the Myrna Loy Center. V.I.P. tickets are limited and must be reserved early.

We will also be announcing a SPECIAL GUEST who will be honored this year for their dedication to women's health in Montana. Stay tuned for more!

Special sponsorship packages are available, with block priority seating, event promotions and publicity. Please call Liz Harrison at 805.698.8109



Planned Parenthood of Montana

1116 Grand Ave, Suite 201
Billings, MT 59102

Non-profit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #88
Billings, MT

Planned Parenthood of Montana Health Centers

Billings West

(406) 656.9980
1844 Broadwater #4

Monday 8 am – 6 pm
Tuesday Closed
Wednesday Closed
Thursday 8 am – 6 pm
Friday 8 am – 6 pm

Billings Heights

(406) 869.5040
100 W. Wicks Lane

Monday Closed
Tuesday 8 am – 6 pm
Wednesday 8 am – 6 pm
Thursday Closed
Friday Closed

Great Falls

(406) 454.3431
211 9th Street South

Monday 8 am – 5:30 pm
Tuesday 8 am – 12 pm
Wednesday 8 am – 5:30 pm
Thursday Closed
Friday 8 am – 5:30 pm

Helena

(406) 443.7676
1500 Cannon Street

Monday 8 am – 5:30 pm
Tuesday Closed
Wednesday 11 am – 7 pm
Thursday Closed
Friday 8 am – 5:30 pm

Missoula

(406) 728.5490
219 E. Main Street

Monday 9 am – 6 pm
Tuesday 9 am – 6 pm
Wednesday Closed
Thursday 9 am – 6 pm
Friday 9 am – 6 pm

Saturday (First and third Saturday
of every month) 9 am – 12 pm

Billings Administration

Monday – Friday only
(406) 248.3636



plannedparenthood.org/montana