



For more information about PPHP services and programs, please call (914) 467-7329, or visit www.pphp.org.

Health Center Locations: Huntington, Mt. Vernon, New Rochelle, Patchogue, Riverhead, Smithtown, Spring Valley, West Islip, White Plains, Yonkers

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Choice News



Attacks Against Planned Parenthood

In July 2015, a fraudulent smear campaign was launched against Planned Parenthood with the intent to shut down the organization and end safe and legal abortion services. The campaign, by a fake company called "Biomax" funded by the Center for Medical Progress (CMP), featured heavily edited videos of Planned Parenthood staff members and alleged that Planned Parenthood was illegally selling fetal tissue donations, which was of course not true.

The attack led to five Congressional investigations, five hours of incredible testimony from Planned Parenthood President Cecile Richards before Congress, state investigations, multiple Congressional votes to defund Planned Parenthood, a shut-down of all Planned Parenthood websites for several days, defunding of Planned Parenthood affiliates' services from the state level, and most tragic, a shooting at a health center in Colorado Springs in November that killed three people.

To counter these attacks, PPFA created

the "I Stand with PP" campaign mobilizing hundreds of thousands of supporters, including the medical community, coalition partners, legislators, and activists, across the country. Much of the activity is conducted through social media, but several national events took place, including #PinkOut: National Day of Action on September 29.

PPHP has dedicated significant resources to communications with all stakeholders, meeting with the press, submitting op-ed pieces and letters to the editor, holding rallies and honk-and-wave events, and collecting letters of support from the community and our patients.

As the safety of our patients and staff are the top priority for everyone, our management team is reviewing all security protocols while working with local and state law enforcement, security experts, and the FBI, to create a safe environment for everyone.

In January, 2016, Planned Parenthood

filed a federal lawsuit against CMP and individuals involved in the fraudulent campaign. Additionally, David Daleiden and Susan Merritt were indicted in Texas.

Through all of this, polls continue to show that the majority of the country supports Planned Parenthood and the services it provides. "We have survived attacks before and we will survive this one, too," said Reina Schiffrin, President/CEO, PPHP.



Top: NY Lt. Gov. Kathy Hochul at a press conference on Aug. 18.
Bottom: NY State and Westchester County legislators, US Congresswoman Nita Lowey, Reina Schiffrin, Joan Rosen (PPHP Board Vice Chair) and teen advocate Louise Olay at a rally at PPHP's White Plains health center on Sept. 29.

Calendar of Events

East End Benefit

Sunday, May 29
Visit www.pphp.org for more information.

To donate to PPHP, visit www.pphp.org/donate or call (914) 467-7337.

Interested in volunteering with PPHP?
There are a variety of activities throughout the year for volunteers. Please call (914) 467-7341 for more information.

Donate today! Help PPHP keep its doors open for the women, men, and young people it serves. Please make a tax-deductible donation at www.pphp.org/donate or use the enclosed envelope. To include PPHP in your estate plans, contact Janet Pollack, Vice President, Development, at (914) 467-7317 or janet.pollack@pphp.org.



Images, clockwise: Teen volunteers at Honk and Wave at PPHP's Spring Valley health center on Aug. 27. Empower Gala on Oct. 21, at Rye Town Hilton. The Vagina Monologues on Nov. 14 at Arc Stages in Pleasantville. PPHP Paint Night on Dec. 16 at Muse Paintbar in White Plains. Emerging Leaders Council Spelling Bee on Oct. 1 in Setauket.

Message from the President



Dear Friends,

As you know 2015 was a challenging year for us, but your never-ending support is greatly appreciated by our patients, staff, and volunteers. Looking ahead, I believe 2016 will have its challenges as well, but we will continue to provide care, no matter what.

We had many successes in 2015 that I am proud of: increased use of long-acting reversible contraception (LARC) by our patients following a surgical abortion, training for health center staff to expand our male and LGBTQ services, launch of our Patient Education and Engagement Portal in our health centers, and surpassing our fundraising goal.

This will be an important year as we will elect a new President. Please be sure you are registered to vote and are following the candidates to know who supports the issues that are important to you.

Follow us on social media to stay aware of current issues affecting reproductive health and education, as well as upcoming events in your area.

Best,

Reina Schiffrin, MPH



Brian LaForgia, Vince Russell, Ann Marie Bentsi-Addison, and Jennifer Danback joined PPHP in 2015. (Anthony Campanella not pictured)

New Leadership at PPHP

In 2015, PPHP welcomed several new staff members in key leadership roles in the organization:

Ann Marie Bentsi-Addison, RN, CNM, CNS, MSN, M. Div., Director, Patient Services, is responsible for coordinating, monitoring, and supervising clinical programs according to standards and guidelines. She is responsible for assuring the quality of clinical programming at PPHP.

Anthony Campanella, Director, Facilities and Security, has a broad background in facilities and asset management. In this role Tony is responsible for the management of facilities and security at the 10 health centers and administrative office in Hawthorne.

Jennifer Danback, MS, Director, Human Resources and Compliance, provides direction and leadership on all human resources related issues—retaining and recognizing staff, recruiting and staffing needs, coaching and counseling staff, establishing and reviewing policies and procedures, and overseeing benefit programs. Jennifer joined PPHP with many years of experience in such areas as employee relations, talent acquisition, compensation, benefits, and compliance and workplace safety initiatives.

Brian LaForgia, MS, Director, Clinical Information Systems, is responsible for oversight and management of all Clinical Information Systems

(CIS), including the eClinicalWorks Electronic Health Records and Practice Management system. Brian comes to PPHP with over 15 years experience in health information technology and electronic health records (EHR) implementation and project management.

Vincent Russell, MS, Chief Operating Officer, is responsible for effectively managing the medical services programs and operational activities of the affiliate, providing administrative leadership and supervision of health center operations, medical services, call center operations, and clinical information systems. The COO provides leadership to the operations team to enhance and facilitate effective, efficient interdepartmental activities and short- and long-term goals of the organization. Vince has extensive experience in managing multiple out-patient clinical sites as well as implementing new services and creating favorable financial outcomes.

"I am excited to have added these new, talented and dedicated professionals to PPHP's Leadership Team. Each brings a wealth of experience in their field to our organization," said Reina Schiffrin, President/CEO, PPHP. "Everyone is offering innovative ideas to improve our services."



Donor Spotlight: Betsy Palmedo

Betsy Palmedo started volunteering at a Planned Parenthood health center in Patchogue, NY, in 1966 and has been giving her time and energy ever since.

"I was brought up believing that it is important to have the number of children you want when you want them," shared Betsy. "I began volunteering at Planned Parenthood when I was pregnant with my first child, helping out however I could."

Over the years, Betsy participated in rallies in Albany, NY, and Washington, DC, advocating for women's rights and access to health care. She hosted Planned Parenthood Suffolk County's (PPSC) first wine-tasting event in 1989 at her Long Island home. (PPSC later merged with Planned Parenthood Westchester, Rockland, and Putnam forming PPHP). Betsy also served on the PPSC Board of Directors. Betsy has even stood outside of health centers engaging drivers to honk their support for Planned Parenthood, and called pharmacies to see if they had

emergency contraception available once it was approved by the FDA.

Betsy continues to support PPHP, most recently by serving on its Summer Benefit committee, the event that began in her home in 1989, and is helping to plan this year's benefit.

"I am dismayed at what I see happening in politics now with women's health care, and I want to be more involved."

Everyone at PPHP greatly appreciates Betsy's commitment and dedication to increasing access to women's health care for 50 years.



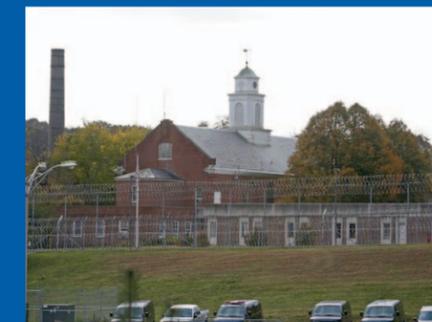
PPHP Education Services in Women's Correctional Facilities

Each month, Thalia Nakouzi, PPHP's Sexuality Educator and Trainer, visits Bedford Hills Correctional Facility, a maximum security prison, and Taconic Correctional Facility, a medium security prison, as part of a pre-release program. Both of these facilities are for women, and Thalia discusses PPHP's services, birth control options, and the importance of good women's health care in general.

The women in this transitional program will be released from the correctional facility with 120 days, and will live in the community near the prison, so they may become patients in one of our health centers in Westchester County. At the Bedford Hills facility, there are usually four to eight women in each session, and at the Taconic facility, there are

15 to 20 women.

Many of these women have limited knowledge about the wide range of birth control options now available or don't know where to obtain reproductive health care services. This program is beneficial to them and to our goal of providing women with educational information they can use in the future.



Bedford Hills Correctional Facility

Volunteers through our Health Center Advocacy Program collected stories from people in our health centers.

Emilio shared his story:

“If it weren't for Planned Parenthood, I do not believe that my fiancée and I would be in the same safe, stable, and happy place. Not only does it give her and I peace of mind, but they also have given us the extraordinary opportunity to become educated individuals. Planned Parenthood is absolutely vital to the public and defunding it would be detrimental.”