



Planned Parenthood of Northern New England **NEWS SOURCE**

Fall 2020

Dear Friends,

For more than 50 years, PPNNE has been caring for patients, fighting for sexual and reproductive health care access and rights, and serving as a resource for students, parents, teachers, and health professionals. We have faced continuous challenges, most notably in the past four years. While we have come to expect and plan for the unexpected, we never could have imagined how a global pandemic would transform the world, highlight systemic injustices and demand that we do more.

Coming at a time when our country was beginning to talk about its history of injustice and systemic racism, COVID-19 further exposed the cracks in our system. Racial disparities, like those that exist in sexual and reproductive health outcomes, quickly appeared in COVID outcomes. Over the summer, Maine saw the highest rates of COVID related racial disparities in the country with Black and African American Mainers 20 times more likely than white Mainers to get the virus.

COVID outcomes provided more evidence of the racism embedded in our systems and the racial harassment and police brutality experienced by George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and far too many others underscored it yet again. As an organization committed to making this country more equal and more just, we took stock. We saw that we needed to do our work differently. We need to slow down, center people of color and listen deeply. We need to examine our organization, understand how historic and systemic racism operates within it and systematically change it. We have begun that work, and I'm proud to share PPNNE's Anti-Racism Commitments in this News Source.

While we mourn their passing, Congressman John Lewis and U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's legacies of humility and perseverance inspire us to continue their pursuit of equality and give us the tools to do the hard work before us. As Justice Ginsburg said, "Real change, enduring change, happens one step at a time." The threat to the equality enabled by abortion rights is plain with her passing. We will face this challenge as we have every other – one at a time.

Inside this newsletter, you'll read about the expert care PPNNE staff have provided throughout the pandemic, regardless of a patient's ability to pay, and the steps you can take to make lasting change. These include making a plan to vote in our region and a wonderful opportunity to have your gift, if made before November 15th, matched – **TRIPLING** the impact of your gift in this critical year.

I am asking you to believe that we can make lasting change. To be inspired by all that we do together each day and know that we can do more. Thank you for your continued support – this work would not be possible without you.

Onwards,

Meagan Gallagher
President & CEO



 **Planned Parenthood**[®]
of Northern New England

Serving Maine, New Hampshire, & Vermont

784 Hercules Drive, Suite 110, Colchester, VT 05446
supportus@ppnne.org | 1-800-287-8188 ext 9704
www.ppnne.org

VOTE!



Your **vote** matters.
Your **voice** matters.

If you haven't already, make a plan to vote by November 3rd.

Voting is what makes our democracy work. Your vote matters! Use your vote to lift up the issues that affect your community. We can all make a difference, not only by our votes, but by **encouraging others to vote** as well. Please talk to your friends and family!

No matter where you live, **if voting in person, make sure to wear a mask and stay six feet apart** from others to protect the health and safety of your community.

The links below provide **all the info you need to register and to vote absentee or in person.** Each state has different deadlines and rules.

Maine

www.maine.gov/sos

New Hampshire

www.nh.gov/sos

Vermont

<https://sos.vermont.gov>

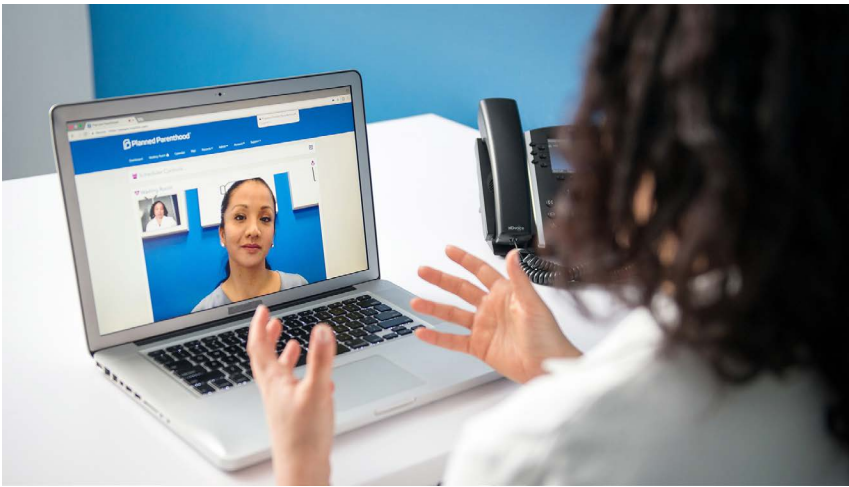


In Her Honor

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg paved the way for gender equality, reproductive rights, LGBTQ+ freedom, and health care for all. Until her last breath, she fought for what was right. She fought for us all.

We thank her and will work to carry on her legacy.

HERE FOR OUR PATIENTS. ALWAYS.



We've been providing trusted, confidential care for 55 years, and **with you by our side, we'll be here for 55 more.** During this pandemic we are continuing to adapt and innovate. PPNNE's extensive telehealth services now include at-home STD testing and at-home contraceptive shots. **Your support makes this, and so much more, possible.**

Amidst all this change, we are proud to share with you not only has PPNNE been able to continue serving all who come to us for care regardless of ability to pay, but that our patients are profoundly grateful for their care.

PPNNE patient satisfaction scores during the second quarter, at the height of the pandemic, were in the 97th percentile, **the highest they have ever been.**

In the words of one patient:

“ I had a wonderful, safe, and comforting visit in the midst of a global pandemic. **That was everything and I'm grateful.** ”

- PPNNE Patient

PPNNE'S ANTI-RACISM COMMITMENTS

PPNNE believes **racism is a public health crisis.** In order to address this crisis, we are committed to examining our institutional systems and policies to identify and eradicate systems of oppression.

PPNNE has begun this work with the following...

- Promoted a staff member into a newly formed role of Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, and Organizational Culture.
- Conduct an organizational assessment to identify priorities and create a workplan to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Evaluate our hiring practices to build a workforce that is at least as diverse as our patient population.
- Disaggregate health outcomes, patient satisfaction, and staff engagement data by race to understand racial disparities in the care we provide.
- Continue to work with BIPOC-led organizations to support their policy priorities.

2 to 1 match IS ON!

We know that sexual and reproductive health care needs don't simply stop during a pandemic. We provide care to everyone – regardless of their race, gender, religion, immigration status, sexual orientation, zip code, or ability to pay.

**We are there for each and every person.
Because you are there with us.**

In these unprecedented times, a group of generous PPNNE supporters have joined together to inspire you to make YOUR GIFT, today. **Give whatever you can to PPNNE by November 15th**, and your donation will be **tripled** thanks to a special \$350,000 Challenge Match they created.

Please make your gift today.

Not only will **your donation be tripled**, but you will make it possible for patients to receive quality, affordable health care and for PPNNE to fight for access to health care and reproductive rights in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, **NO MATTER WHAT!**

You can make your gift online at www.ppnne.org/donate, or by using the enclosed envelope.

With your help we can
be there for our patients...
No Matter What.

YOUR GIFT COULD HELP PROVIDE:



\$60

Three months of birth control pills.

With match, 9 months of birth control pills!



\$150

Six doses of emergency contraception.

With match, 18 doses!



\$300

Initial transgender appointment with hormone therapy and consultation.

With match, 3 therapies!



\$500

Three well-person visits with Pap smear, breast exam, and STD testing.

With match, 9 visits!



\$1,000

Deep Canvass training for 20 volunteers.

With match we can train 60 volunteers!



\$2,500

LARC (long acting reversible contraception) insertion for 6 patients.

With match, LARC for 18 patients!



\$5,000

Twenty hours of training for youth peer educators in VT, NH, or ME.

With match, 60 hours of training!



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