



After ROLE



Letter from PPMM CEO Stacy Cross

Dear friends,

A year ago, June 24, 2022, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled to overturn *Roe v. Wade*.

Despite knowing it was coming, the ruling still felt like a shockingly cruel and unjust blow. We grieved in outrage, but continued to move forward with perseverance and conviction.



In the past year we have seen more patients than ever before from states where abortion has been severely limited or banned altogether. On page 2, PPMM staff offer a few of their stories from our first year without *Roe*.

The overturn of *Roe* also led legislatures across the U.S. to threaten to criminalize birth control and other essential health care, attack the LGBTQ+ community, and even limit what students in some states are allowed to learn.

Thanks to support from our communities – and you – PPMM operates 34 health centers that are safe, welcoming spaces for all, and we are honored to be involved in Pride celebrations across our affiliate. Read more about your local Pride events on page 6.

As we celebrate, we know there is still work to be done. Do you know how many bills have been introduced across the country in the past year that target trans people? You'll want to check out the stats shared in our Increasing Access to Sex Ed story on page 8.

Before you start turning pages, I want to thank you. *Roe v. Wade* was the floor for what abortion access should be. With help from staff, volunteers, and donors – like you – we're working toward a future where our reproductive freedoms are no longer up for debate.

Stacy

Stacy Cross
President & CEO



Post-Roe from the front lines

Since the *Dobbs* decision ended *Roe v. Wade* a year ago, patients, students, and community partners have reached out.

Today, PPMM staff members are sharing their stories with you.

Rachel, Patient Services

"I work in one of our Sacramento health centers, and the number of patients I've seen coming from out of state to receive basic health care is staggering. Utah, Nevada, Texas – so many young, scared people who have been made to feel alone, or who spent weeks trying to work with 'pregnancy crisis centers' whose goal was to string them along until their choice to have an abortion would no longer be legal."

Jennifer, Administration

"I work with health plans and many independent practice associations. With the decision to end federal abortion protections, I got condolence calls from my constituents. I had one association leader stop me at a conference to share their story of how their life was changed by Planned Parenthood. At the same conference, another attendee told me that they were scared for their daughter who was going away to school in a state that did not support abortion rights. She was considering pulling her daughter out of school. So many reeling from that instant change."

Sloan, PPMM Education

"As a peer education facilitator, I saw that, many of our high school peer ed volunteer recruits for summer were galvanized to speak out against the *Dobbs* decision and came to us for guidance on the best ways to advocate."

Wynne, Development

"When I heard that SCOTUS made the awful decision, I was on vacation, and I just sobbed. I got in my car and went home, cutting the trip short. All I wanted was to be with my Development team. Every person on our team gathered quickly on Zoom, and everyone on vacation came home to be on the call. We cried, and we rallied. And, we fought with all we had to keep it together, as we contacted our donors. I remember January of 1973, the joy and elation we felt at the *Roe* decision. I have lived under *Roe* longer than without it."

Jessica, Patient Services

"Twenty-five years ago I entered the world of abortion to give patients the kind of care I wanted my sisters and friends to get. It's been an honor this year to provide abortions for people in California and a horror that some of my patients were forced to leave the states where they live in order to seek care here.

"I won't forget the patient who left an airport alone early in the morning in Texas, flew through Minneapolis to save money on the ticket, Ubered to the health center, and flew back home alone the same evening.

"I am so proud that we were the safe place she could come for a straightforward and safe visit, with the everyday compassion that our staff extend to all abortion patients. But for every patient like this that I see, I imagine others sitting in faraway bathrooms with pregnancy tests in hand, for whom this same care is unthinkable out of reach.

"This is joyful and heartbreaking work." ■





Celebrating Pride with you

Pride events in the communities PPMM serves, from coastal and central California to northern Nevada, began in May and will continue through October.

Here are a few highlights from stories our grassroots organizers shared so far:

- PPMM staff and volunteers tabled at the Hayward Pride Prom to celebrate and educate youth about sexual and reproductive health care options available to them at our Hayward health center.
- Helping to kick off Pride month in San Jose, PPMM handed out swag during a night that was full of drag, culture, and love. Patients shared stories about how glad they were that PPMM was there for them.

- In Santa Cruz, we were excited to see our reproductive-rights champions and local officials, like Assemblymember Gail Pellerin, out in the community to spread love and community resources.
- PPMM was honored at this year's Fresno Pride: Central Valley Regional Director of Public Affairs Socorro Santillan was one of the Fresno Rainbow Pride Parade's grand marshalls!

You can read full Pride stories from our grassroots organizers in the digital version of this newsletter at ppmarmonte.org/newsletters.

Go to ppmarmonte.org/pride to sign up to support upcoming events in Northern Nevada, Central Valley, San Jose, Salinas, and Oakland.

Northern Nevada Pride: Reno July 22, Carson City Sept. 16
Central Valley Pride: Modesto Oct. 1, Visalia Oct. 14
Silicon Valley/Coast: San Jose Aug. 26-27, Salinas Nov. 14
Alameda: Oakland Sept. 10-11

With sex ed under attack, PPMM is increasing access



Did you know that, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, youth ages 15 to 24 account for 50% of all new STIs, but they represent just 25% of the sexually active population?

Yet only three states now require comprehensive sex education in schools, down from a meager five.

“Even in California, the post-Roe landscape has meant fewer places in our communities where youth can access comprehensive sex ed, which comprises LGBTQ+ inclusion as well as information about STIs and pregnancy-prevention,” said PPMM VP of Learning Courtney Macavinta.

Here’s the scenario described by a PPMM Education partner in East Kern County:

“It’s like we operate in a health care, birth control-access, and health-education desert. During the pandemic, we lost the lone provider we had that helped cut down the drive to Bakersfield from 113 miles to 62 miles. Today, if you must drive between Mojave through Tehachapi to a provider in Bakersfield, you’d better bring water, an umbrella, and a charged phone because you do not want to break down in this literal desert, either.

“So, in our geographic context in East Kern County, it makes sense why our teen pregnancy and STI rates are [above the national average].”

PPMM Education's strategy is focused on increasing access to sex ed for the now 3.6 million youth who live in PPMM territory. The FY23 version of PPMM Sex Ed for middle and high school students is our most successful comprehensive sex ed program to-date:

- Nearly 22,000 students enrolled through the end of the school year.
- In May alone, 10,000 students completed 75-100% their course.
- Nearly all pre/post knowledge-gains grew significantly for students compared to our FY22 courses in key measures, such as how to prevent STIs and unintended pregnancy.

Aligned with nine sets of standards and frameworks, PPMM's social-justice based sex ed is created with and for middle and high school students.

"I liked it the most because it was the first time I felt included in a sex ed class as a trans person," said one recent student in their post-survey.

Another shared: "I learned how dangerous the internet can be when it comes to human trafficking and grooming. I have been through this multiple times and didn't really know what was happening. Now I will reach out to someone to get it resolved."

You can learn more about the new PPMM Education sex ed e-courses at ppmarmonte.org/SexEd.

And check out this video: ppmarmonte.org/SexEdVideo (password **EdSeg2023**) to hear from Y-led, or Youth-led, members about digital learning for youth, from youth. ■

Comprehensive sex ed is:

- medically accurate
- developmentally and age appropriate
- culturally responsive
- not religious based and can't promote religion
- inclusive
- evidence-informed/based

It discusses and offers strategies focused on:

- reproductive and sexual anatomy
- bodily autonomy
- consent
- STI and pregnancy prevention
- abstinence
- barrier methods
- birth control
- pregnancy options, including abortion
- SOGIE (sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression)
- LGBTQ+ inclusive
- healthy relationships
- intimate partner violence
- sexual assault
- human trafficking
- how to access services and get support from caring adults

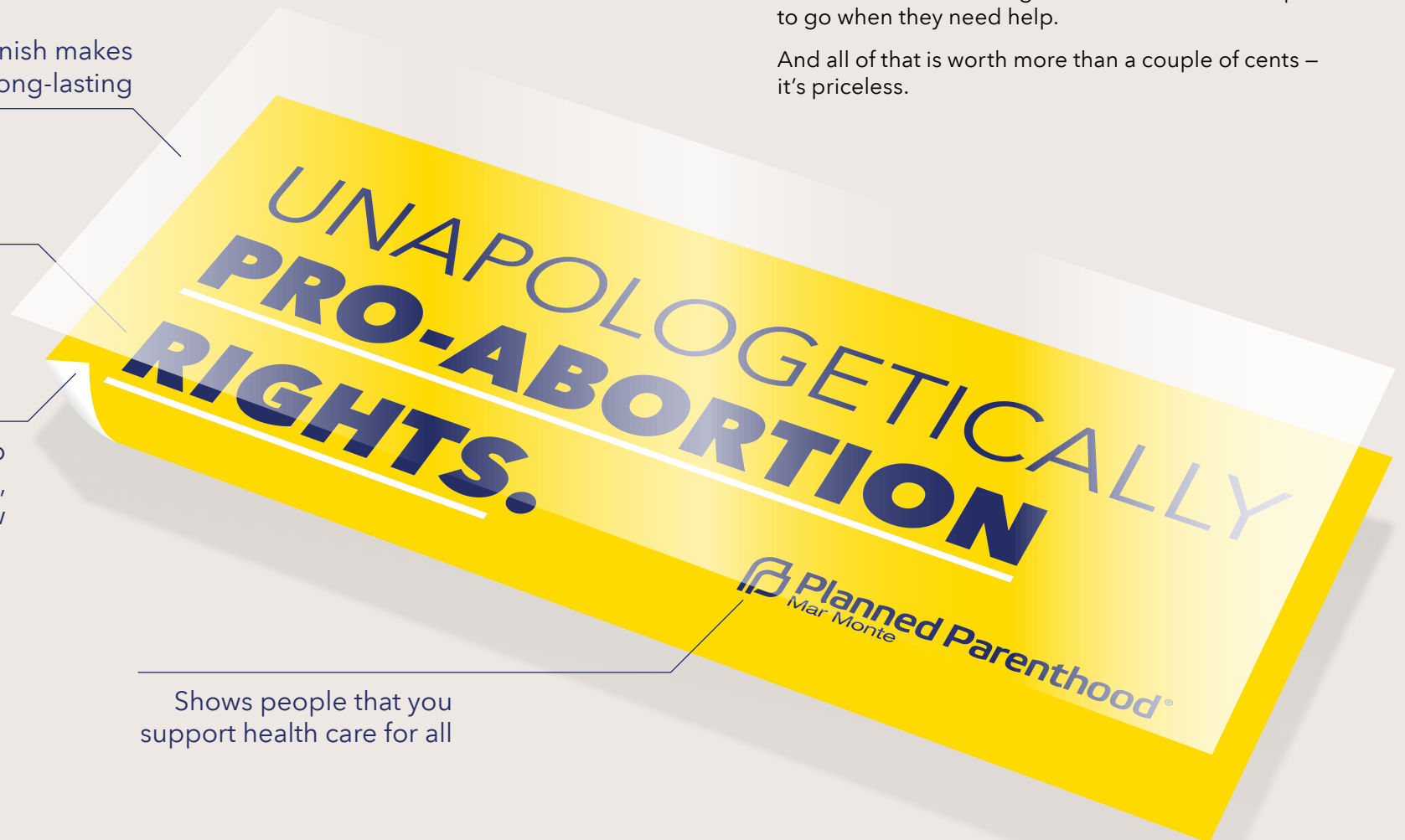
Anatomy of a Sticker

Protective finish makes your sticker long-lasting

Tells people what you value

Adhesive sticks to a bumper, bottle, or window

Shows people that you support health care for all



The sticker included with your newsletter isn't only a gift for you, in gratitude for all you do. This sticker is also an opportunity for you to do even more for your community.

Your sticker didn't cost much to produce. But when you proudly place it on the water bottle you carry to the office or gym, or use it anywhere your friends, family, and neighbors will see it, you're also advocating for health care for all. You're advocating for abortion access. You're reminding folks that there is a safe place to go when they need help.

And all of that is worth more than a couple of cents – it's priceless.

5 Things You Can Do Now

1. DONATE

You can make a donation today to support PPMM's mission: ppmarmonte.org/donate-today or call us at 408.795.3780

2. JOIN THE FIGHT FOREVER

You can join the fight to protect sexual and reproductive health - forever - by including PPMM in your will or trust at ppmarmonte.org/legacy

3. VOLUNTEER

Join hundreds of volunteers across PPMM who support our mission daily: ppmarmonte.org/volunteer

4. SHARE YOUR STORY

Inspire others by sharing your experience with Planned Parenthood's health services, education programs, and/or advocacy with our story collectors at ppmarmonte.org/my-story

5. WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

We've put together a short survey to get to know you better, improve our communications, and understand what motivates you to invest in your community through PPMM. We hope you will share your thoughts. Go to ppmarmonte.org/donorsurvey

To receive future editions of Planned Parenthood Mar Monte News in a digital format, sign up at ppmarmonte.org/newsletter



1691 The Alameda, San Jose, CA 95126
ppmarmonte.org | 408.795.3780