

AUGUST 2024

CONNECTIONS

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas monthly newsletter. As a member of our community, we would like to share the latest updates on the work you make possible at Planned Parenthood.



SPOTLIGHT ON OUR CHAT/TEXT PROGRAM

Thousands of Texans access important, timely sexual health information through our chat/text program. This program allows young people to chat with health educators about sexual health 7 days a week in real time. Educators answer the chats with medically accurate information and connect "chatters" to their local Planned Parenthood health center.

"I have some questions about pregnancy. I'm scared I might be pregnant.
...My mom doesn't know about me having sex, so I haven't taken a pregnancy
test. I don't know how I can buy one on my own."

—Chat/Texter

The chat line significantly increases the reach of sexual health education, especially for teens who otherwise do not have a way to access trusted,

accurate health information. Your support ensures young people receive important, timely health information they need to make well-informed decisions about their sexual health.



HEALTHCARE INFO FOR TEENS & PARENTS



Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas healthcare providers are here to talk with young adults about their bodies and their health with expertise and without judgment, so they have information to make informed decisions about their sexual health.

Because of your unwavering support and commitment, Planned Parenthood is a trusted resource for healthcare for young adults and to provide education programs to support parents in conversations with their children.

TAKE ACTION: PRIDE EVENTS RECAP

We were thrilled to participate in PRIDE celebrations with supporters in our communities including El Paso for the 19th annual Sun City Pride Parade. Our team rolled through in a classic "Cadi," a rainbow-decorated truck with our amazing supporters, and shared out stickers, buttons, and condoms.

We want El Pasoans to know that we're here providing healthcare and resources to the LGBTQIA+ community **not only during PRIDE month**, **but always**.





August Means Back To School

A healthy year ahead means having the resources to take care of your health. Sex education is not required in Texas schools, and each year **over 3.7 million Texas students do not receive even basic information** on protecting themselves from sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and unintended pregnancy. Because of your support, our patients have access to annual wellness exams, HPV vaccines, STI testing and treatment, and birth control. Most Texas high school seniors say they have already had sex, and most report they did not use a condom the last time they did.



63% of Texas high school seniors vs. 57% of 12th-graders nationally report that they have had sexual intercourse.



Nearly 25% of LGBTQIA+ youth were not taught about HIV/AIDS vs. 18% of non-LGBTQIA+ youth.



60% of Texas high school seniors vs. 50% of 12th-graders nationally report that they did not use a condom the last time they had sexual intercourse.

Our most common services provided are:



Birth control to help patients plan and space their pregnancies.



Testing and treatment for STIs, HIV tests, and HIV prevention medication.



Lifesaving breast and cervical cancer screenings.

A NEWS CONNECTION: TEXAS SENDS MILLIONS TO ANTI-ABORTION GROUPS WITH LITTLE ACCOUNTABILITY

An investigation by ProPublica and CBS News found that the state of Texas continues to direct state dollars to anti-abortion nonprofits despite few safety measures and on-going concerns about waste of tax dollars. **This politically motivated bi-annual funding by the Texas Legislature started at \$5 million in 2005 and is now at \$140 million.**

Texas has the highest number of uninsured residents in the country and ranks above the national average for maternal deaths.



Texas' extreme abortion bans and public health policies place Texans at risk, and **we stand with you in** advocating for healthcare without political interference. Thank you for standing with us to advocate for abortion access in Texas.

Scan the QR code to read the article.

WAYS TO GIVE

Support high-quality healthcare and sex education programs. Please get in touch with us today at **development@ppgt.org** or **214-254-3017** to learn how a legacy gift to Planned Parenthood ensures high-quality healthcare for generations ahead.

What's the difference between giving to Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas and Planned Parenthood Federation of America? When you donate directly to Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas, 100% of your gift supports local healthcare and sex education services across Central, East, North, and West Texas.

When you donate to the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, a portion of your gift supports local services, as well as national advocacy and sex education efforts.









If you have a question, want to learn more, or want to get involved, please get in touch with the Development Office at (214) 254-3017 or development@ppgt.org.