

# CHOICE Remarks

WINTER 2021

## Opening New Doors and Expanding Access, Now and into the Future!



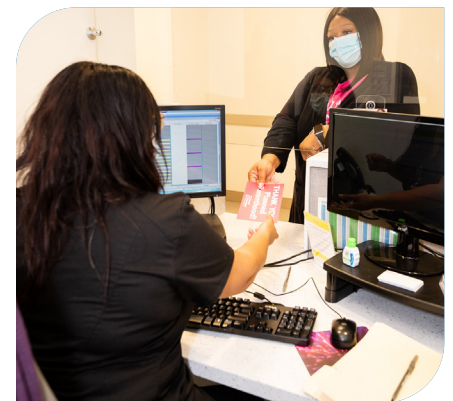
We launched *The Campaign for Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood: A Place for Everyone* in 2018 with a bold goal of raising \$7.2M to relocate our Hudson and Troy Health Centers and establish a Patient Access Fund. This fund will give us means to provide exceptional care to all who need it both now, and into the future. Three years later we are excited and proud to share that we are in the final stretch of this campaign with just \$1M left to raise.

As we began confronting COVID-19 we put our campaign on hold, but we didn't stop working. We launched telehealth care, opened an additional day of services in our Hudson Health Center and opened our facility in Troy, The Opalka Center for Reproductive Health and Education. We are now calling on our community to help us go all the way, to secure our

Patient Access Fund to protect service in our local area.

*"Our Patient Access Fund is our local war chest, preparing Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood for anything our opposition throws our way. We have long anticipated the federal restrictions on access to reproductive and sexual health care services,"* says Chelly Hegan, President/CEO of UHPP. Attacks on access to reproductive and sexual health care services continue as many states have passed dangerous legislation threatening our safety, our freedom, and our future. We can no longer rely on the Supreme Court to uphold our constitutional rights, making Our Patient Access Fund urgent and necessary.

Please consider a gift today to help us serve the patients that walk in our doors each day, and to make us ready for those who will need us in the future. Find out more by visiting our website at [uhpp.org](http://uhpp.org).



## UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS



### Day of Action

Join UHPP for our Virtual Day of Action 2021 with Planned Parenthood Empire

State Acts (PPESA) on Tuesday, March 9th. Please register online at [uhpp.org](http://uhpp.org).



### Lunch and Learn Series

Join UHPP for our new virtual series to learn about topics like our Legislative Agenda, the COVID vaccine and our new Digital Access Program. Find out more at [uhpp.org](http://uhpp.org).

## Celebrating our 2021 Advocate for Choice Awardee

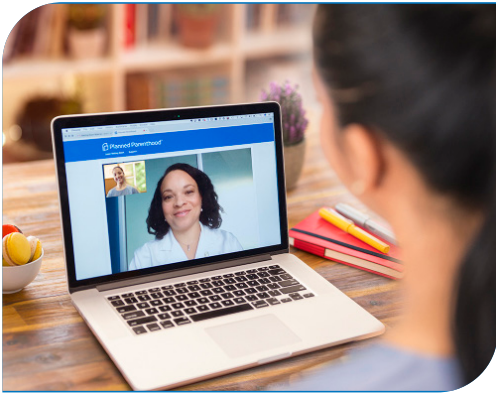
This year, we gathered virtually on January 25 for our Roe v. Wade Celebration of Choice. 2021 marks the 48th anniversary of Roe v. Wade and the 2nd anniversary of the New York State Reproductive Health Act (RHA). We were thrilled to be joined by the NYS Lieutenant Governor and listen in on a candid conversation between her and Liz Benjamin, our 2016 awardee of the Nellie Bly Award for Journalism. Lieutenant Governor Hochul's unwavering support of protecting abortion and access to reproductive and sexual health care makes her one of our strongest partners and allies. We are thrilled to honor her with our 2021 Advocate for Choice Award.



Our 2021 Advocate for Choice winner  
Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul

Now more than ever we need strong, public support for choice. Consider making a public stand by joining our Leadership Circle today. Members make a financial contribution of \$1,000 (\$500 if under 40 or over 80) and their names are published in local newspapers each year. To learn more about this program, visit [uhpp.org](http://uhpp.org) or email [dev@uhpp.org](mailto:dev@uhpp.org).

## UHPP Launches a Digital Access Program



2020 brought about many challenges, but with challenge comes innovation. To meet the needs of our patients, UHPP expanded our programming with the addition of a Digital Access Program (DAP). The program is designed to directly address the digital divide, connecting patients with reproductive health care while raising community awareness around telehealth services. Our Digital Access Specialist meets patients in the community with a tablet and hotspot to assist patients with scheduling, troubleshooting, and facilitating telehealth appointments. The DAP program allows us to meet patients where they are while ensuring our patients feel safe accessing essential reproductive health care, even during a pandemic.

## UHPP PODCAST: Spilling the TEA...Truth. Education. Advice.

In order to continue providing sexual health information during a pandemic, UHPP's Education Team launched a new podcast series titled "Spilling the TEA...Truth. Education. Advice." Currently, the podcast is hosted by two of UHPP's Sexual Health Educators who work together to create and release episodes on topics ranging from "How has COVID-19 Impacted Your Relationship" to "Debunking Sexual Myths." As they continue to record episodes, the team is open to inviting special guest speakers as they explore additional topics.

To listen, visit [uhpp.org](http://uhpp.org).



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