

Letter from our CEO

Dear Friend,

We are facing unprecedented challenges on multiple fronts.

It is 2018, and the right to access abortion safely and legally in this country is on the line. With the retirement of Justice Anthony Kennedy from the Supreme Court of the United States, those who oppose us have not been shy about seeing this as their opportunity to erode access to abortion throughout this country. Trump promised to appoint justices only if they support overturning *Roe v. Wade*. Earlier this month, he announced his nominee, Brett Kavanaugh, as his pick for the next Supreme Court justice.

Access to abortion has been a constitutional right for 45 years. In fact [72% of Americans](#) - from all partisan affiliations - do not want to see *Roe vs. Wade* overturned. The data couldn't be clearer - Americans are united in support of *Roe vs. Wade*, and firmly against any attempts to overturn it. The sad reality is if *Roe vs. Wade* is overturned young people and future generations will have fewer rights than we do. Most women today have only known a country where they have the right to access abortion.

If the Senate does not intervene, the balance of the court will turn against the constitutional right to access abortion as well as other issues facing our communities and clients. Under the current administration, often the courts are the last and only check on harmful policy. We have seen the impact of courts on major issues, such as DACA, birth control, and the Muslim ban. The implications of the Supreme Court's members is serious and now is the time to contact your U.S. Senators to make sure your voice is heard.

Planned Parenthood Northern California (PPNorCal) remains committed to fighting for the most basic right of women to control their bodies and their futures. We will never stop - not now, not ever!



In this together,

Gilda Gonzales
President & CEO
Planned Parenthood Northern California

"No woman can call herself free who does not own and control her body. No woman can call herself free until she can choose consciously whether she will or will not be a mother."

- Margaret Sanger, 1918



PPNorCal Board Chair Transition

PPNorCal would like to express heartfelt thanks to Dr. Cynthia Gómez for her 7 years of exceptional leadership and service! Dr. Gómez joined the PPNorCal board in 2011, and most recently served as Board Chair before her term limit expired. Board service is an important volunteer role and Dr. Gómez's dedication, grace, and hard work did not go unnoticed. Thank you for all of your support!

PPNorCal welcomes new Board Chair, Nicole M. Barnett, RN, MBA, DHSc. Nicole joined the PPNorCal board in 2016 and most recently served as Board Vice Chair. We are thrilled to have her take on this important role and appreciate her enthusiasm and guidance. Welcome Nicole!



Feature Story

ACTION Needed! Join our Campaign to Help Defeat the Title X Gag Rule

On June 1, the Trump administration published a domestic gag rule, aimed at blocking access to Planned Parenthood under the Title X Family Planning Program. Title X is the nation's program for affordable birth control and reproductive health care. The program is available to help ensure that patients - regardless of their income, background, or whether or not they are insured - have access to **preventive reproductive health care, such as birth control, cancer screenings, STD testing, and treatment.**

This gag rule is dangerous and would do the following:

- Prohibit providers, nurses, hospitals, and community health centers from providing any information or talking to patients about abortion. Health care providers would not be able to answer questions about abortion. This would apply to all providers who serve the four million patients across the country through Title X.
- Impose new rules that are designed to make it impossible for millions of patients to get birth control or preventive care from reproductive health care providers like Planned Parenthood.

On June 12, local community members and elected officials rallied at San Francisco City Hall to demonstrate their support for Planned Parenthood and opposition to this dangerous policy. Here is a [video clip](#).

We are asking all supporters to **take action online against this dangerous gag rule** by adding their comments [here](#). The federal government is required to respond to every comment submitted. The comment period is open through July 31, and individuals may submit as many comments as they would like. Please join the effort to fight back on this misguided rule and encourage your family/friend network to act as well.

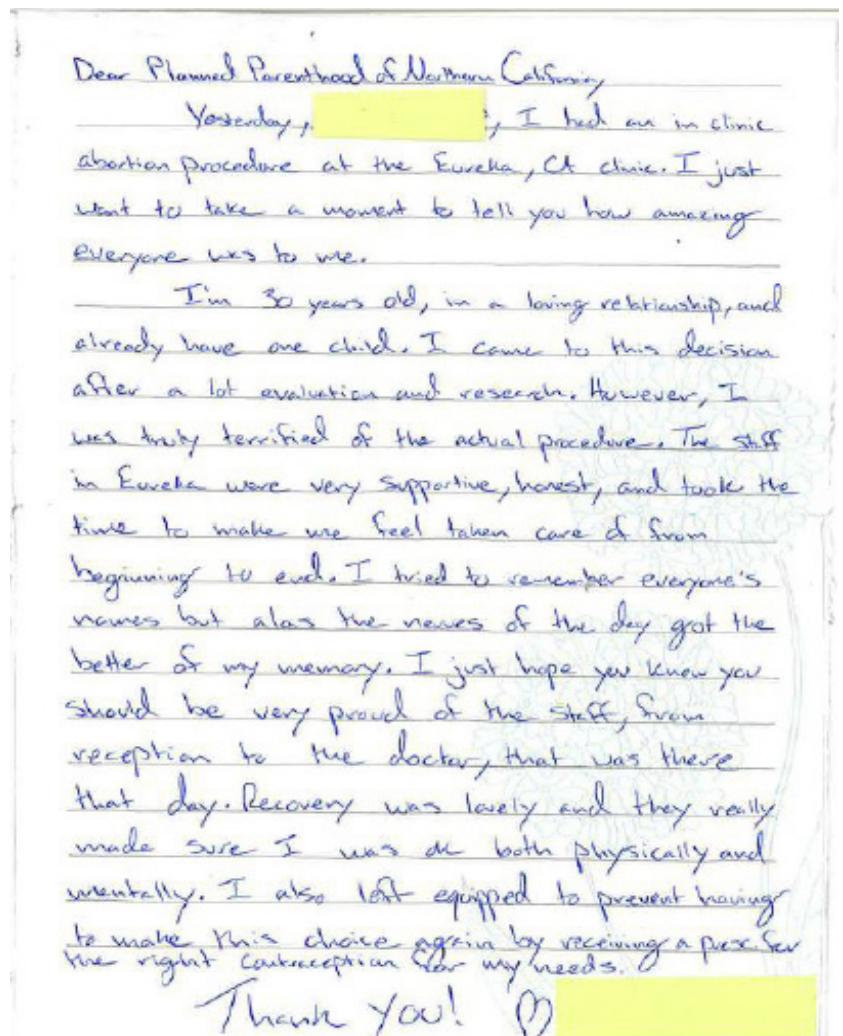
Planned Parenthood Northern California is going to fight for our patients and for the millions of people in this country who need access to quality reproductive health care.

We are in this fight together!

What does a gag rule do?

It is designed to:

- ✗ Deny people medical information, including abortion
- ✗ Block access to expert reproductive health providers like Planned Parenthood
- ✗ Take away people's basic rights and control over their bodies



This letter is an example of what our services mean to our patients and why Planned Parenthood is an important source of sensitive care for many.

What's New

Enhanced STD Pilot

In April, we started a pilot project at our Redding health center, with the goal of screening all patients with a positive pregnancy test on the same day for the four STDs on the rise in California and nationally: Gonorrhea, Chlamydia, HIV and Syphilis. Both Syphilis and Congenital Syphilis are at the highest rate in the past 20 years, and continue to rise. In addition, Redding is in a county that has a high Syphilis incidence and increasing. To view a snapshot of the latest statistics on sexually transmitted diseases in California, click [here](#).

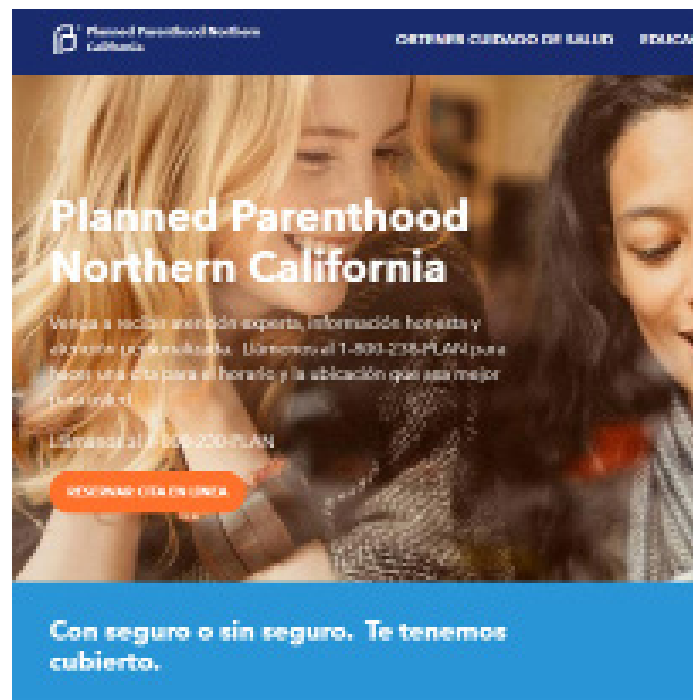
Traditionally at PPNorCal and other health centers, patients with a positive pregnancy test do not receive any other care that day. Patients may return for prenatal care or for abortion-related care, but many do not return, or get screened late in their pregnancy. This delay in screening can affect the developing pregnancy or cause long-term complications for the individual.

New Research Partnership

PPNorCal launched a new research partnership. We are participating in a study to collect specimens for the development of a new test for Gonorrhea and Chlamydia. If the studies are successful and the technology is approved, the test would detect Gonorrhea/Chlamydia at the point of care, reducing the wait for test results and the administration of treatment. The study is being conducted in our Concord Health Center. This partnership is consistent with our mission to engage in innovative studies relevant to our clinical practice. Conducting a clinical research project aimed at product development is a major step in the development of our affiliate research program.

PPNorCal Website is Fully Bilingual in English-Spanish!

We are proud to announce that our [PPNorCal website](#) is fully bilingual in English-Spanish. We are the **first** Planned Parenthood affiliate to make this change! This is important because such enhancements go a long way to building patient trust and understanding. Bilingual resources, such as this website, bridge the language gap and help ensure everyone's access to quality care and information.



Highlights

Capitol Day In Sacramento

On June 11, Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California held our annual lobby event - Capitol Day! PPNorCal staff and supporters convened from all over the state to carry our message on important policy goals. PPNorCal Action Fund conducted 11 lobby visits. Our staff and supporters had the opportunity to speak with their state legislators about issues important to PPNorCal's core mission. Senate Pro Temp Toni Atkins, a long time PP Champion and first female leader of the Senate, gave the keynote address to a crowd of committed supporters. Vice President of Community and Government Relations, Sofia Navarro, led a panel on the Social Determinants of Health.



Pictured: Gaby Quiroz, CA State Assembly Member Hon. Marc Levine, Shay Verger, and Jared Duldulao



Pictured: Suzanne Fox, Julia Fogelson, Sofia Navarro, and CA State Assembly Member Hon. Tony Thurmond

A Choice Affair

In April, Planned Parenthood Northern California hosted its annual Humboldt fundraising event gala, A Choice Affair—Under the Stars. Our guests enjoyed a vibrant reception and reveled in the silent and live auctions hosted by special guest auctioneer Senator Mike McGuire. This evening provided an opportunity to highlight our mission and accomplishments. Due to the strong support, we set a record for the Gala. All funds raised continue to support our programs and services.



Pictured: Humboldt Board of Advocates

Stand Up!

On May 5, Planned Parenthood Northern California hosted our annual fundraising event Stand Up! in Napa. This event was attended by over 165 supporters. Guests enjoyed a special performance by Beach Blanket Babylon, including a moving song they wrote just for us. The reception and after-party all filled the evening with much needed laughter and good cheer. But it wasn't just fun - the crowd showed their generosity through the live auction and Fund-A-Need, enabling us to raise much needed funds for programs and services. This strong outpouring of support enables us to remain a strong and sustainable health care provider for those who need us the most in Napa and across Northern California. We thank our extraordinary Napa Board of Advocates for their support in making this event a success.



PPNorCal Celebrates

Planned Parenthood Northern California participated in several Pride events throughout our service region. Over 260 supporters and staff marched in the largest of these celebrations, in San Francisco. In addition to the parade, PPNorCal tabled at various events during SF Pride weekend. As one of her last acts as PPNorCal Board Chair, Dr. Cynthia Gómez delivered an inspiring message on behalf of PPNorCal on Sunday at the Pride Main Stage. To view a video of Dr. Gómez in action, click [here](#). Our participation in these events allows us to celebrate together, and affirm our commitment to care for and stand with our LGBTQIA community.



PPNorCal Stands with Immigrants!

Most of you are aware of what occurred with immigrant families getting torn apart and children enduring trauma as they were separated from their parents. Many of us remain impacted by these atrocities, and troubled by how this situation is being handled.

On June 30, Planned Parenthood Northern California participated in three Stand Together Rallies in Eureka, Concord, and San Francisco. At the Concord Todos Santos rally, staff and volunteers tabled and shared information. Supporters and friends attended the Eureka rally with Planned Parenthood Keep Families Together tee-shirts and rally signs. Lastly, we had a team of Generation Action volunteers and staff meet at Dolores Park for the rally and march to San Francisco City Hall to express our ongoing support for keeping families together.

Dreamers, DACA recipients, and immigrants are part of the Planned Parenthood community and rely on Planned Parenthood for health care. We pledge to continue our support for all. No one should ever have to live in fear of detention, deportation, or separation from their loved ones.



PPNorCal remains committed to standing with all immigrants, and believes that families belong together. We also see firsthand how harsh immigration enforcement can stand in the way of families accessing health care in this country. No one's health should be compromised because of their immigration status – no matter what.



Supporters and friends attended the Eureka rally.



Gen Action volunteers and staff meet at Dolores Park for the rally and march to San Francisco City Hall.

Social Media Corner

This quarter we celebrated Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, Pride Month, and Immigrant Heritage Month.

While there are designated heritage month celebrations, our hope is to continue to acknowledge the contributions and achievements made by all groups of people in the United States throughout the year, not just during the heritage month celebrations.

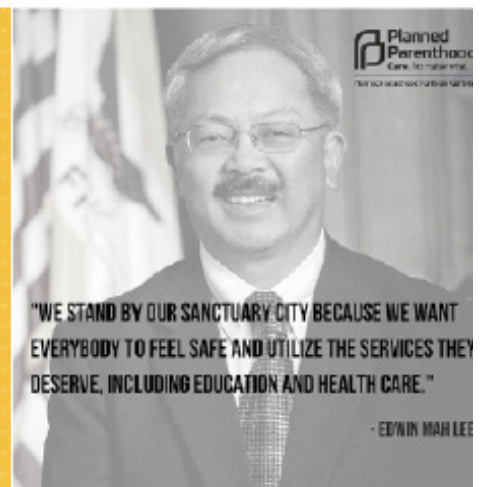
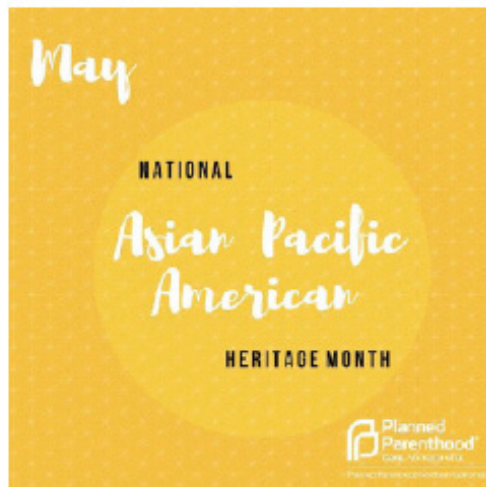
Asian Pacific American Heritage Month was first established in 1977 when Representatives Frank Horton and Norman Mineta and Senators Daniel Inouye and Spark Matsunaga introduced resolutions asking the President to declare the first ten days of May as Asian/Pacific Heritage Week.



"REMEMBER THAT CONSCIOUSNESS IS POWER."

TOMORROW'S WORLD IS YOURS TO BUILD."

- YURI KOCHIYAMA



"WE STAND BY OUR SANCTUARY CITY BECAUSE WE WANT EVERYBODY TO FEEL SAFE AND UTILIZE THE SERVICES THEY DESERVE, INCLUDING EDUCATION AND HEALTH CARE."

- EDWIN MAH LEE



LGBTQIA Pride Month is celebrated each year in the month of June to honor the 1969 Stonewall riots in Manhattan. The knowledge and outrage of the Stonewall Riots gave LGBTQIA advocates the momentum necessary to turn their cause into a true nationwide movement. This commemorative month allows us to recognize the impact that LGBTQIA individuals have had on history locally, nationally, and internationally.

June is Immigrant Heritage Month, a time to celebrate diversity and immigrants' shared American heritage. This month is dedicated to those who have contributed to the United States' communities, economy, and its vibrant diversity. One of the remarkable things about America is that nearly all of our families originally came from someplace else. This month encourages all to celebrate the monumental contributions that immigrants have made—and continue to make every day.



Cheers and Jeers



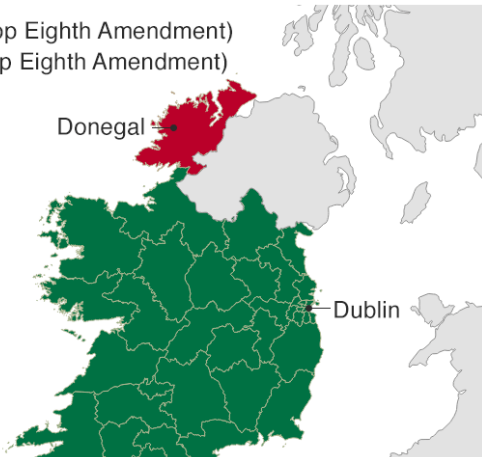
Ireland's Vote on Abortion



NIFLA v. Becerra decision from the Supreme Court

Irish abortion referendum: Results

- Yes (drop Eighth Amendment)
- No (keep Eighth Amendment)



In May, the Republic of Ireland voted to repeal one of the world's more restrictive abortion bans. The vote repeals the Eighth Amendment—a 1983 measure that conferred equal rights on the unborn fetus and the mother. The result of the referendum means that abortion can be legalized in the Republic of Ireland. Up until this vote, abortion was illegal except when a woman's life was at risk, but not in cases of rape, incest, or fatal fetal abnormality. With a turnout of 64.51%, all but one constituency voted in favor of the repeal. The only constituency to vote against repealing the Eighth amendment was Donegal. The surprising landslide cemented the liberal shift at a time when right-wing populism is on the rise in Europe and the Trump administration is imposing curbs on abortion rights in the US. According to The Irish Family Planning Association (IFPA), the UK Department of Health releases annual statistics on the number of women and girls from the Republic of Ireland who accessed services at abortion clinics in England and Wales. Between 1980 and 2017, at least 171,795 women and girls who accessed UK abortion services provided Irish addresses.

The Eighth Amendment and the campaign to repeal it was always about much more than abortion, it was about basic women's rights.

In a 5-4 decision, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down a law, also known as the [Reproductive FACT Act](#), that ultimately protects women from the dangerous and misleading practices of fake women's health centers. The Court ruled that both the disclosures for licensed and unlicensed centers likely violate their First Amendment rights. In a strongly-worded dissent, Justice Breyer (joined by Justices Ginsburg, Sotomayor and Kagan) criticized the majority for overlooking the significant women's health considerations behind the FACT Act, and explained that both the modest and factual nature of the required disclosures and the Court's prior precedents should have rendered the FACT Act constitutional.

The California law required state-licensed crisis pregnancy centers (CPCs) to inform women of the availability of free and low-cost comprehensive family planning, prenatal and abortion services. Unlicensed CPCs, including those that offer pregnancy testing or ultrasound imaging, would have been required to disclose to all clients that their facilities are not a state-licensed medical facility and have no licensed medical providers who provide or directly supervise the provision of services. The Ninth Circuit preliminarily upheld the law in three separate challenges, ruling that the disclosures that CPCs must make do not violate the First Amendment.

Fake women's health centers have a long and well-documented history of using deceptive practices. We are extremely disappointed by the Courts ruling - women are in real danger of receiving medically inaccurate information from these fake clinics.

What's the Difference When I Give?

Planned Parenthood Northern California and Planned Parenthood Federation of America

We are often asked what happens when you give to Planned Parenthood Northern California versus the Federation. We wanted to share with you the following guide to avoid any possible confusion.

If you want to give to [Planned Parenthood Northern California](#) directly, and have all of your gift go to local health care and education services to better the lives of people across 20 counties in Northern California:

You need to go to our affiliate website (support.ppnorcal.org) where 100% of your donation is directed to services right here, in Northern California.

If you go to Planned Parenthood Federation of America's national website:

Only a portion of your gift will benefit local services, in addition to national advocacy

Two ways to support our mission to protect health care, education, and justice. No matter what!

Legacies for Future Generations

Members of Planned Parenthood Northern California's "Legacy Circle" are an extraordinary group of people who share a commitment to safeguarding the future of Planned Parenthood. In doing so, they have named Planned Parenthood Northern California as a beneficiary in their estate plans.

We are most grateful for their generosity and support. If you would like to become a member of PPNorCal's Legacy Circle, or to learn more, please contact Tara at info@ppnorcal.org or (925) 887-5385.



Support Planned Parenthood Northern California! Make an appointment online, connect with community, and get involved!



Planned Parenthood Northern California

www.ppnorcal.org



Regional Offices:

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