



CHOICE Remarks

SUMMER 2024

Navigating a Critical Moment

Two years into the Post Roe era, our nation once again stands at a critical juncture. Recently, the U.S. Supreme Court issued rulings on two pivotal cases directly impacting access to safe and legal abortion. In these decisions—specifically concerning the Mifepristone (abortion pill) case and the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA)—the Court had the opportunity to safeguard access. While it did not impose a full ban on Mifepristone and sent the EMTALA case back to the state level, the rulings underscored a clear message: there is an agenda aimed at controlling people’s lives, bodies, and futures, with the ultimate goal of instituting a nationwide abortion ban and making care unattainable for everyone.



While it may have felt like a “win,” do not mistake, this is just hitting the pause button. These attacks are part of a concerted effort by abortion opponents to erode individuals’ bodily autonomy and their access to quality healthcare. And they are just getting started.

Despite these challenges, New York saw some victories during its legislative session. These included the incorporation of the Reproductive Freedom and Equity Program into the budget, allocation of \$1 million in funding for abortion funds, and passage of the Hospital Transparency legislation. As the election approaches, the New York State Equal Rights Amendment has been restored to the ballot by a state appeals court and our work to educate our community to protect our rights and reproductive freedoms continues.

Given the stakes this year, it is more crucial than ever to actively engage and organize. This fall, UHPP will hold a Fall Advocacy Summit in Albany, featuring an afternoon of training sessions and strategic scenario planning. Participants will gain insights into navigating the current local and national landscapes from leaders at Planned Parenthood Empire State Acts, Planned Parenthood Federation of America, The New Yorkers for Equal Rights Ballot Initiative Committee, and more. We hope you’ll join us on October 9.

The last two years we have seen a nationwide reproductive health crisis. We know these assaults are part of a broader, orchestrated campaign by abortion opponents to undermine bodily autonomy and restrict access to essential healthcare services. At Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood, we will never back down and will continue to provide care, no matter what.

JOIN US: UPCOMING ADVOCACY EVENTS

Phone Banking and Canvassing; Join us to support our work on the **NYS Equal Rights Amendment.**

Join us for an upcoming phone bank or canvass – you will be trained on the spot, no experience necessary!

UHPP’s Fall Advocacy Summit;

Join us on Wednesday, October 9 at the Albany Capital Center, 55 Eagle St. Albany, NY from 12 to 4:30pm to learn more about the local and national abortion landscape, what is at stake, and how you can get involved.



UHPP's 90th Anniversary Gala!

On Thursday, June 13, UHPP celebrated its 90th Anniversary by hosting our annual gala at the Albany Capital Center. We celebrated the strong legacy of abortion access and commitment to reproductive freedom in New York State and UHPP's 90 years of delivering high-quality, compassionate, patient-focused care to all who need it.

We recognized the Save Burdett Birth Center Coalition with the Coalition and Community Partner Award, and UHPP's Abortion Doula Program with the Volunteer of the Year Award. Former UHPP President & CEO Patricia A. McGeown was awarded the Assemblymember George Michaels Award for Bravery.



Thank you again to our Presenting Sponsor, Godfrey Financial Associates, Inc. for their generous support, as well as our board members, gala sponsors, staff, volunteers, and guests who made the gala possible. The event was truly a night to remember, and we are so grateful to our community for making it such a success. See you in 2025!

Top: UHPP Board Chair Gwen Wright, Arielle King, Henry King, Sara Couch, Ashley Saupp, Liz Addeo, Jessica Allen Hayek, Tershia Ellis, Tisha Graham, and Rose Mitchell. Middle: UHPP Abortion Doulas Tamara Stewart and Mallory Emerson. Bottom: Former UHPP President & CEO Patricia A. McGeown and Albany Common Council Member Deborah Zamer.

Don't miss our next event!

End of Summer Celebration

Thursday September 12
5:30 PM at Union Street
Brewing Co.

716 Union St, Hudson, NY
[Learn more uhpp.org.](http://uhpp.org)

Teen Clinic Back in All Three Centers

Don't miss out on our confidential **Teen Clinics.**



UHPP has resumed running the Teen Clinic program across all three health centers! To promote the program, we launched a multimedia campaign focusing on empowering young people with knowledge and resources for informed decision-making. This program and campaign are funded by the New York State Comprehensive Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program.

In addition, UHPP is partnering with Perfect 10 in Hudson to facilitate an after-school group for approximately 25 young girls. Throughout the school year, these girls will participate in comprehensive sex education programming designed to foster healthy behaviors and positive life choices. This collaborative effort underscores our commitment to promoting reproductive health and well-being among adolescents, ensuring they have access to essential information and support.

Free Emergency Contraception: Online, in the Centers and in the Community!

Need emergency contraception?



Book online or call for your telehealth appointment.



We're here with you. Wherever you are.

Emergency Contraception (EC) is a safe and effective way to prevent pregnancy, and it's available at our health centers at no cost through a foundation grant. Additionally, you can make an appointment online to see a provider via telehealth if you have questions or concerns.

Last spring, UHPP and our Planned Parenthood Generation (PPGen) chapter at UAlbany began offering free EC at college community events. The student leaders were trained by our staff and will continue to distribute the over-the-counter medication on campus this fall.



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