

Letter from our Interim CEO



Spring is around the corner and it brings with it a renewed sense of strength and purpose at Planned Parenthood Northern California.

As you may have heard, a bill was released on March 6 by House Republicans that would repeal key provisions of the Affordable Care Act—including a provision to specifically block people with Medicaid coverage from accessing health care at Planned Parenthood health centers. Votes in both houses are still to come, and a signature by the President.

Read on for more information about this attack on our expert and compassionate care. Here is the bottom line:

Without Planned Parenthood, many people would lose access to the preventive care that they need, including cancer screenings, STD testing and treatment, contraceptive care, and abortion.

While misguided public officials continue to push a dangerous agenda, we stay focused on our mission with deep resolve. Denying care for people in need is just plain wrong—and it would have a devastating impact on patients across our service area, as well as the entire United States.

I extend a heartfelt thanks for your continued support and commitment to our mission.

Please enjoy this current update on all our work and activities.



Gilda Gonzales
Interim CEO
Planned Parenthood Northern California

Feature Story

Attack on Planned Parenthood in California and the United States



✓ **FACT:** [Fifty-four percent](#) of Planned Parenthood health centers in the United States are in health professional shortage areas, rural or medically underserved areas. Planned Parenthood health centers provide preventive health care to many who otherwise would have nowhere to turn for care.

✓ **FACT:** Blocking access to Planned Parenthood hurts people in communities who are struggling the most to get by - especially those with low incomes, and those living in areas with no other quality health care providers. This disproportionately impacts people who already face structural barriers to accessing care including people of color, immigrants, young people, and members of the LGBTQ community - among others including those whose identities overlap multiple spheres.

✓ **FACT:** Federal law already blocks federal funding from going to abortion services. This legislation instead blocks women and other people in need from accessing cancer screenings, birth control, HIV and STD testing, and other preventive and essential care at Planned Parenthood health centers.

✓ **FACT:** There is no blank check that Planned Parenthood gets from the federal government. There is no line item in the federal budget for our services. The term "defunding" Planned Parenthood is a misnomer. Instead, this type of legislation would "defund" millions of people who rely on Medicaid (called "Medi-Cal" in California) or other federal programs from accessing the health care provider that's been there for them for decades.



✓ **FACT:** Other providers cannot just absorb Planned Parenthood's patient base if it is cut off from federal programs. Some say that other providers will fill the gap, but the experts at the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the National Partnership for Women and Families said it flat out: [They can't](#). Even the executive director of the American Public Health Association has called such claims "[ludicrous](#)."

✓ **FACT:** Blocking access to Planned Parenthood is deeply unpopular. According to an independent poll released in January, 70% of American voters oppose defunding Planned Parenthood - including 50% of Trump voters. This goes along with 19 national polls that all show overwhelming support for Planned Parenthood.

✓ **FACT:** Legislation denying access to care at Planned Parenthood was a health disaster in Texas. Two Texas public health [investigators](#) wrote in *The Washington Post* that when Texas passed legislation it was devastating - and shouldn't be repeated in the rest of the country. A significant number of women also lost or had reduced access to

primary care providers as a consequence of limiting patient options.

✓ **FACT:** Although Planned Parenthood health centers comprised 10% of the country's safety-net centers that offered family planning care in [2010](#), they served 36% of patients served by such centers. In 21 percent of counties with a Planned Parenthood health center, Planned Parenthood was the only safety-net family planning provider; and in 68 percent of counties with a Planned Parenthood health center, Planned Parenthood served at least half of all safety-net family planning patients.

What's New at Planned Parenthood Northern California

Infertility Services



We are excited to announce that Planned Parenthood Northern California now offers infertility services at all of our full-service health centers. Infertility is a common concern among our patient population and we frequently get calls requesting infertility appointments. We are truly pleased that we can now directly address a concern shared by many of our patients.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), [infertility is a common problem in the United States](#):

"About 6% of married women 15-44 years of age in the United States are unable to get pregnant after one year of unprotected sex (infertility).

Also, about 12% of women 15-44 years of age in the United States have difficulty getting pregnant or carrying a pregnancy to term, regardless of marital status (impaired fecundity)."

Additionally, within the U.S. and internationally, [economic, racial, and geographic disparities exist](#) in access to infertility care.

In order to meet this need in our communities, we have refreshed key protocols, hosted a speaker on infertility for clinicians, and prepared referral resources for additional and follow-up care when needed.

Providing infertility care is a core part of our mission to enable people to have children if, when, and how they choose to do so. Planned Parenthood Northern California is proud to offer infertility services along with the full spectrum of sexual and reproductive health care for all people.

Acts of Courage Wrap-Up



On the evening of February 16, we came together for "Acts of Courage", an annual San Francisco event where we celebrate the accomplishments of outstanding people in our movement. This year, we were riveted by the stories of two amazing guests: Dr. Willie J. Parker, an abortion provider who offers services in Southern states, and Rebecca Traister, author of *All the Single Ladies*, a book that explores the powerful role of single women in American politics.

This year's event was historic. We celebrated our national 100-year anniversary. We reached a new level of support from sponsorships, ticket sales and our "fund-a-need" drive. We sold out weeks in advance

and packed an enormous ballroom with enthusiastic supporters. And we were especially inspired by the work of three poets who praised the legacy of Planned Parenthood. [Click here to relive the experience.](#)

We could not be more grateful for the incredible outpouring of love and support and look forward to every opportunity in the year ahead to reaffirm our commitment to each other, and to reproductive rights and justice.

Upcoming Events

A Choice Affair - Eureka

Planned Parenthood has fought tirelessly to advance a bold agenda for preventive health care and reproductive justice for decades. This year, supporters in the North Coast will enjoy what was entertaining in the 1970s and stand together to say "We Won't Go Back" to an era when abortion was not safe and legal throughout the United States.

This exciting dinner, with its silent and live auction, will feature Senator Mike McGuire as a guest auctioneer. Mark your calendar for Saturday, May 6 at 5:30 p.m. at the Sequoia Conference Center in Eureka.

To order your tickets starting at \$100 each, please visit: www.ppaction.org/achoiceaffair





StandUP! - Napa

Have you ever wanted to see Hillary Clinton sing a show tune, Donald Trump sing a rock song, or New Jersey Governor Chris Christie do classical ballet? This is the show for you!

The Capitol Steps have been a Washington, D.C. institution for over thirty years, providing a unique blend of musical and political comedy to our nation's capital and beyond. Each show consists of tasteful lampooning guaranteed to leave both sides of the political spectrum laughing.

The show is constantly changing, strenuously bipartisan, and includes songs about things in the news, such as "How Do You Solve a Problem Like Crimea," "Ain't No Pipeline, Now It's Gone," and "The iMpossible iWatch."

Join in the fun and support Planned Parenthood Northern California on Friday, May 5 from 5:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at the CIA at Copia in Napa. To order your tickets at \$250 each, please visit: www.ppaction.org/standup

Highlights



California Secretary of State Alex Padilla with ICEO Gilda Gonzales at our Concord office in February. We were delighted to have staff members greet and meet with him, and receive an update on his current projects.



On Tuesday, January 24, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors pledged their support for Planned Parenthood and promised to ensure that access to sexual and reproductive health services will not be restricted in San Francisco.

Straight from the Source

We love to get feedback on the expert and affordable health care we provide. Here is a recent sample from clients who took advantage of our online appointment service in January:

I absolutely love it here, the staff are very kind and helpful and make you feel safe, comfortable, and happy!

The staff was very knowledgeable and friendly. The doctor was professional and helpful offering knowledge of further resources.

I love Planned Parenthood! Fantastic smiling staff. Friendly, informative and comfortable. I get better care here than I ever had at any other doctors [sic] offices I've been to. They make these dreadful visits less painful and awkward. I felt cared for and understood rather than a burden as I would in other offices. Thank you so much!

I may have had to wait a few hours past my appointment time, they let me know they were running behind and asked if I wanted to reschedule. I still stayed and they even let me go and get something to eat and come back after closing. Everyone was so kind and made up for all of it. Will gladly return in the future.

Cheers and Jeers



Standing in Solidarity



A proud moment at our Concord administrative office as staff showed their support for "A Day Without a Woman".

On International Women's Day, March 8, Planned Parenthood Northern California stood in solidarity with the "A Day Without a Woman" protest. Many of our staff wore the color red in solidarity of this protest, to elevate the importance of women's issues in this country and abroad.



A Global Gag Rule "On Steroids"



The Global Gag rule signed by President Trump promises to be devastating to millions of women and children worldwide.

On his first day in office in January, President Trump reinstated a policy that bans U.S. foreign aid to providers who discuss abortion as a family planning option. The ban was first put into place in 1984 by then-President Reagan.

[According to global reproductive health expert Suzanne Ehlers](#), Trump's version of the global gag rule is "on steroids" and more sweeping than any previous version as the new rule could ban up to \$9.5 billion in U.S. foreign aid. "Organizations working on AIDS, malaria, or maternal and child health will have to make sure that none of their programs involves so much as an abortion referral."

Geeta Rao Gupta, a senior fellow at the United Nations Foundation who previously served as deputy executive director of UNICEF, gives the example of HIV/AIDS clinics that get U.S. funding to provide antiretrovirals: "If they're giving advice to women on what to do if they're pregnant and HIV positive, giving them all the options that exist, they cannot now receive money from the U.S."

What's the Difference When I Give?

Planned Parenthood Northern California and Planned Parenthood Federation of America

We are often asked what happens when we 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](http://www.plannedparenthood.org/northern-california) directly, and have all of your gift go to local services and to bettering the lives of people across our 20 counties from San Francisco to the Oregon border...

then you need to go to our affiliate website (support.ppnorcal.org) where 100% of your donation is directed to health and community services as well as essential education – right here, in Northern California.

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

then 50% of your gift will support health services, community service and education here in Northern California and 50% of your gift will also support national advocacy and education efforts.

Two ways to support our mission that protects rights and freedom, no matter what!

6 Ways to Support Us

The work to protect Planned Parenthood clients' access to care starts now. Your support is more important than ever.

<http://ppactionca.org/supportnorcal>



Sign Up



Give



Join



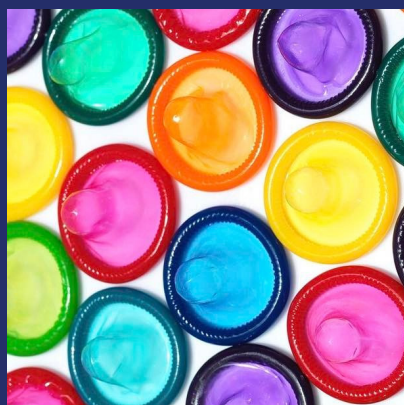
Speak Out



Get Care



Social Media



A New Way to Give

Planned Parenthood Northern California is growing and changing with the times. We were proud to make our debut on Instagram in January, and to offer supporters a new way to connect with us through our text to give program.

Text **PPgive** to 41444

Standard data and message rates apply. You can text STOP to quit or HELP for info at anytime.



Planned Parenthood Northern California

www.ppnorcal.org



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