

Abortion Access Under Fire by Chelly Hegan



“These laws are unconstitutional, unlawful and amoral. A patient’s health should drive important medical decisions, not a politician’s beliefs.”

This is a terrifying time for abortion rights in the United States. Anti-choice politicians are pushing dangerous policies that will threaten lives and disregard all individuals bodily autonomy.

In October of last year, Brett Kavanaugh was seated as the newest Supreme Court Justice. When this happened, everything changed. It became clear that the Court took an extreme shift to the right and that Roe was no longer safe. Those of us in the Pro-Choice movement were not the only ones to notice, and the drum beat to overturn Roe has grown louder and louder ever since.

We have seen a rash of extreme abortion bans sweeping the country (Alabama, Georgia, Iowa, Ohio, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, North Dakota, and Tennessee) all with one goal in mind – to bring a direct challenge of Roe v. Wade to the Supreme Court, and make abortion inaccessible and unsafe in this country. These laws are unconstitutional, unlawful and amoral.

The uprising of anti-choice rhetoric in the media and amongst lawmakers is outrageous and cruel. Our opposition is focused on shaming and stigmatizing abortion and abortion providers. And now, in Georgia, the new law goes as far as to criminalize those who have abortions, call for investigations into miscarriages, and threaten criminal charges against friends and family who aid people seeking abortion care. Alabama passed a bill that would ban abortion care under nearly all circumstances with no exception for rape or incest, and doctors could be jailed for life for providing abortion.

While these laws have passed they have not gone into effect, and they will be challenged in the courts. Today, abortion is still legal in all 50 states and can be obtained safely and compassionately at Planned Parenthoods across the country. Here in New York, we worked tirelessly to pass important legislation that codified Roe v. Wade into NYS law. Regardless of what happens on the national level, New Yorkers will be able to continue to provide abortion care for all who needs us.

We knew better than to give up. We knew the threat was real. This threat continues for so many of our neighbors all over our country. Together we have fought this fight, and sadly, our fight goes on. It is time for us to stand up for people all over this country to ensure everyone has access to safe and legal abortion.

What can you do?

- Volunteer
- Write a Letter to the Editor
- Call your Representative
- Speak out
- Donate to local grassroots organizations



#StoptheBans Rallies

UHPP joined the more than 500 #StoptheBans events nationwide last month. UHPP was thrilled to join with NYS Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul and 225 supporters outside our new Hudson Health Center! We know we have strong support across the country. We stand together with people of all ages, colors, abilities, immigration status, identities, and orientations to support reproductive rights and abortion access for all.

To get involved, contact Brittni at brittni@uhpp.org.



Planned Giving: The Road Ahead!



Photo credit: Nina Subin

UHPP Supporters Charles Burkhalter and Arne Svenson split their time between Hudson and New York City. Burkhalter owns an interior design company and Svenson is a fine art photographer; together they bring their visions to life through creative spaces. Beyond their deep appreciation for the arts, they also are very passionate about young people's access to honest education and ensuring that future generations have access to care. They recently decided to include Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood in their will. Charles and Arne know that the road ahead is long, and the fight is far from over. Through their generosity we can continue our fight for access for all who need us long into the future.

The threats to reproductive access are growing every day and we know that the services we provide in New York will need to be available for patients within our state and beyond for years to come. Our ability to do this depends on support from people like Charles and Arne. If you would like to learn more about making a gift to UHPP through your will, please contact: anne@uhpp.org or 518-512-9037.

PPGen Honored at UAlbany

The Planned Parenthood Generation chapter at UAlbany has grown from two members to a fully recognized campus student organization in just two years. On April 13, they were awarded the **President's Award for Leadership–The Justice Award** for standing up and supporting reproductive justice. There is no doubt that PPGen at University at Albany is an exceptional example of hard work, dedication and passion for a cause.

Pictured: EBoard of Planned Parenthood Generation



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New location:
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