



MARCH 2023 CONNECTIONS

Welcome to the Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas monthly newsletter. As a member of our community, we would like to share the latest updates on the work at Planned Parenthood. We have also included important action alerts and upcoming events.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD LOBBY DAY

The 2023 Texas Legislative Session is underway and Planned Parenthood Lobby Day is Friday, April 14. Join us and help turn the Capitol pink by advocating to expand access to sexual and reproductive healthcare, restore abortion rights, and oppose bills that further restrict access to abortion, birth control, reproductive healthcare, and sex education, stigmatize LGBTQ youth and fail to address Texas' maternal mortality crisis.

Join us for Planned Parenthood Lobby Day on April 14 at the Texas Capitol!



SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION IN TEXAS

A special message to you from the Director of Community Health Education at Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas, Raul Rojas:

One of the most pressing issues we face today is the lack of comprehensive sex education for all Texans, particularly our LGBTQ+ youth. Basic sex education in many schools across the state is nonexistent. This means Texas is failing to address the needs and lived experiences of all Texans, especially queer youth, leaving people without the necessary information to make informed decisions about their sexual health. This lack of education puts Texas youth at risk of sexually transmitted infections, unintended pregnancies, and feelings of shame and stigma.

It is time for Texas to prioritize comprehensive sex education for Texas teens. Comprehensive sex education is a crucial component of freedom, and our responsibility as Texans is to ensure that young people, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity, have access to honest, inclusive sex education.

Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas' community health education programs are designed to be inclusive and non-judgmental. They help navigate through the information and guidance young people and parenting adults need to live a healthy life and have meaningful conversations. Think of how our communities benefit when young people can be fully educated and informed!

AMPLIFY AUSTIN

Amplify Austin is March 1-2
6:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Visit our Amplify Austin page and make your gift to support Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas! Our power hour is scheduled for Thursday, March 2, 12-1 PM. During this hour, your gift could go even further.



March is STI Awareness Month

Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are common and can cause negative health outcomes if left untreated. Many STIs have few symptoms so routine testing and treatment is important. Because of community support, we offer testing and treatment for STIs.

#3

Texas ranks third in congenital syphilis (2020 cdc.gov).

50%

1 in 2 sexually active young people in the US will contract a sexually transmitted infection (STI) by age 25 - and most won't know it.

Our most common services provided are:



Birth control to help patients plan and space their pregnancies.



Testing and treatment for STIs, HIV tests, and HIV prevention medication.



Lifesaving breast and cervical cancer screenings.

A NEWS CONNECTION

We have some great news to share from El Paso! With a vote of 7 to 1, the El Paso City Council approved a resolution that protects pregnant people by deprioritizing the investigation of someone seeking or receiving abortion care. Representatives Annello, Canales, Fierro, Hernandez, Kennedy, Rivera, and Salcido voted in favor of the resolution.

El Paso joins Austin, Dallas, and San Antonio in passing resolutions that advocate for access to abortions. Thanks to the community of El Paso and its local leaders for advocating for abortion access.

DALLAS COCKTAILS FOR A CAUSE

Come raise a toast to Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas at Dallas Cocktails for a Cause! This special evening will feature signature cocktails, light bites, lively entertainment, and the return of the ever-popular silent auction. Proceeds from this event benefit the mission of Planned Parenthood.



WAYS TO GIVE

Let us continue supporting high-quality healthcare services and sex education programs for generations to come. Contact Shawn Wills, Chief Development Officer, at (214) 363-3505 or shawn.wills@ppgt.org to learn how a legacy gift to Planned Parenthood can ensure commitment to high-quality care for all continues.

With your gift to Planned Parenthood, our community benefits from:

- Reductions in STIs through access to testing and treatment
- Honest, inclusive sex education
- Access to condoms, reducing the risk of STIs, including HIV

If you have a question, want to learn more, or want to get involved, please get in touch with the Development Office at (214) 254-3017 or development@ppgt.org.

