



## MAY 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.

### A NEWS CONNECTION: SUPREME COURT UPDATE

The U.S. Supreme Court issued a stay in the medication abortion case, which means mifepristone remains available for now. This is good news where abortion is legal, but here in Texas, abortion in almost every case remains banned, including medication abortion, despite the Supreme Court's ruling.

One anti-abortion judge should not be making healthcare decisions that impact the entire country and override the FDA's expertise.

*"We are relieved that access to mifepristone will remain protected while this meritless case proceeds. We can take a breath, but we are not losing our vigilance. Anti-abortion politicians and their allies will not stop until abortion is banned nationwide. Medication abortion is very much still under threat – as is abortion and access to other sexual and reproductive health care."*

**-Alexis McGill Johnson, Planned Parenthood Federation of America President**

### NEW PATIENT PORTAL SERVICE

We have exciting new technology for our patients! Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas is rolling out enhancements to our online patient portal service. The updated patient portal simplifies the on-line appointment process, provides secure access to medical history and health information, manages medications and refills, and opens up communication between patients and healthcare providers. Our community becomes stronger with convenient resources like the patient portal to access healthcare!



### PLANNED PARENTHOOD LOBBY DAY

Thanks to all our supporters who joined us, spoke up, and spoke out at the Texas Capitol for Lobby Day. By advocating to expand access to sexual and reproductive healthcare, restore abortion rights, and oppose bills that further restrict access to healthcare, we are making our voices heard for healthcare rights in Texas.



### EDUCATION: A KEY TO TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION

Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas provides age-appropriate, medically accurate sexual health education to more than 10,000 teens and parents annually. Our community health education programs provide the skills to support Texans in making well-informed decisions about their relationships and sexual health. Thanks to generous community support, Planned Parenthood's sexual health education programs are offered at no cost as a community service.

*"Young people who can talk to a parent or other trusted adult about sex and relationships are more likely to develop positive self-esteem, have healthy relationships, and make informed decisions."*

**-Linda Fyffe, Community Health Educator at Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas and PPFA Apple Advisory board member**



## May is Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month

Young people need inclusive, evidence-based sex education. Yet, almost half of teens in the US do not receive any information about birth control until after they have sex for the first time. By supporting Planned Parenthood, you provide comprehensive sex education in Texas and empower young people to make responsible choices.

# 24

The average teen birth rate across the US is 16 births per 1,000 teens. However, here in Texas, the birth rate is 24 births per 1,000 teens. [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)

# 9<sup>TH</sup>

Texas has the 9th highest teen pregnancy rate and #1 rate (tied with Alabama) of repeat teen pregnancy in the nation. [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) and [txcampaign.org](https://www.txcampaign.org)

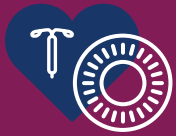
# 90%

90% of participants increased their knowledge of unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted infection (STI) prevention after attending a Planned Parenthood education event.



A baby is born to a teen mom in Texas every 22 minutes. [txcampaign.org](https://www.txcampaign.org)

## 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.

## DRAG BINGO FOR A CAUSE

Join us for the newest Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas fundraising event, Drag Bingo for a Cause, on May 4 at the Sunset Room in Austin. This will be a fun evening of specialty drinks, light bites, and colorful entertainment. Special guest Vylette Ward - known as "The Moves of ATX" - and other local drag queens will host five rounds of bingo with the opportunity to win prizes! Together, let's support the rights of all Texans and celebrate a world where everyone can live their lives fully, without judgment.



## 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](mailto: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:

- Honest, inclusive sex education
- Access to birth control, more important than ever due to Texas' extreme abortion ban
- Access to emergency contraception and health education resources

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](mailto:development@ppgt.org).

