

What's Happening in Helena?

Every other year, our citizen legislature takes up residence in Helena to conduct the business of governing the Treasure State. Our vice president of external affairs, Laura Terrill, has spent the past three months in Helena for the Montana Legislative Session. Here's her report.

Anti-women's health politicians in the Montana state Legislature have once again introduced numerous pieces of legislation to obliterate the right to make private health care decisions. All of the bills are unconstitutional, dangerous for women, replace medical judgment with political ideology, and are a blatant government overreach.

The most egregious attacks aim to ban abortion after 20 weeks of pregnancy (SB 329), ban abortion when politicians believe the fetus has a 50% survival rate outside the womb (SB 282), or amend our constitution to ban access to safe and legal abortion, criminalize miscarriage, and even ban some common forms of birth control (HB 595). None of these bills have an exception for the physical or mental health of the mother nor are there exceptions for victims of rape or incest.

These bills fail to take into account the complex situations a woman and her family can find themselves in — circumstances where they need every medical option available to them. Each of these bills could criminalize doctors for providing patients with care they deem medically necessary. Women and their doctors must have the ability to make medical decisions together, without government intervention.

Pro-women's health legislative champions and Governor Steve Bullock understand these are blatant attempts to deny Montana women the constitutional right to make private medical decisions. They trust women and are standing with our patients and Planned Parenthood of Montana to protect our rights to the full range of reproductive health care options, including abortion. We are working diligently to defeat each of these dangerous attacks on access to women's health.

Sign up on Facebook at "Planned Parenthood Advocates of Montana" for up-to-the-minute news and action items that need support!



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A message from martha





Just as I sat down at my computer to write this message, my phone began to buzz and chirp and sing out a flurry of emails, texts and social media notifications: the Affordable Care Act repeal bill had just been pulled. After a quick lap around Planned Parenthood of Montana's administrative office for high-fives with our team, I returned to my chair and immediately wondered: when will the next attack be launched?

I wasn't pondering the question from a place of pessimism, however, but with renewed faith that the vast majority of Americans, and Montanans, truly believe that health care is important and that it should be affordable. During the last few weeks, poll after poll should have reaffirmed that fact. After all, I was reading that 80% of Americans think that defunding Planned Parenthood is wrong. But thinking and

acting are different, and even for those of us drawn to activism, keeping up the pressure is hard when we feel like no amount of protesting, letter writing, lobbying, and petition signing will make a difference.

But you did it. Your pink hats, your march signs, your phone calls, your organizing won the day. And when the next attack comes, I know you will be there to defend the people who depend upon Planned Parenthood for services. So here I am, reaching out to *you* for a high-five!

We will take a few moments to breathe a sigh of relief and then we go right back to the important work, with some newly learned lessons. For me, these lessons are about resiliency and persistence. In the process of preparing for potential defunding, our Board of Directors and staff have been thinking hard about what Planned Parenthood of Montana needs to keep our doors open. While the intense pressure has relented, we must still move forward in thinking about how we continue to manifest our mission.

How will Planned Parenthood of Montana harness technology to expand the reach of health care and education programs? How do we embrace the support of eager volunteers and direct that energy to reduce unintended pregnancy and advocate for reproductive rights? How do we best steward your donations to create the future we all want, one where all Montanans have the right and ability to make personal medical decisions no matter where they live, or what their insurance status or income? That's the

I hope you will continue doing your work, too. We know there are extremists who will stop at nothing to end safe, legal abortion and to limit access to birth control and sexuality education. Your advocacy, volunteer hours, donations, and health care visits to our health centers are what powers the work of Planned Parenthood of Montana. I know the attacks will be relentless, but we are unstoppable. Please join me in making a commitment to stay strong, and move forward with commitment and purpose. *And, thank you.*

Onward!

Martha Stahl
President and CEO

work we will continue.

"you did it. Your pink hats, your march signs, your phone calls, your organizing won the day!

PPMT Board of Directors

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Advocacy

VOTE! MAY 25 SPECIAL ELECTION

Elect Rob Quist to the House of Representatives

On May 25 Montana will have the opportunity to send a pro-woman's health advocate to Congress! Rob Quist has earned the Planned Parenthood Action Fund's endorsement because he will fight to protect access to reproductive health care and firmly stands with Planned Parenthood. Rob knows our patients don't come to our health centers to make a political statement; they come to receive high-quality, non-judgmental health care they need and deserve.

"Bob believes women should have the right and freedom to make their own healthcare decisions without government intrusion. He stands against the defunding of planned parenthood, which provides vital health care services to thousands of Montana women."

Planned Parenthood Action Fund and Planned Parenthood Advocates of Montana will work tirelessly to educate voters about Rob Quist's strong support for access to reproductive health care, Planned Parenthood's continued involvement in Medicaid, equal pay for equal work, and the freedom to marry the person you love.

Montana will hold a special election on May 25 to fill our Congressional seat vacated by Mr. Zinke due to his appointment as Secretary of Interior. Be sure to cast your ballot in support of women's health and vote Rob Quist for Congress!

Lt. Gov. Mike Cooney Stands with Planned Parenthood of Montana

In early April, Planned Parenthood supporters from across the state gathered in Helena to "pink out" the Capitol and stand in solidarity for women's health care in Montana. At the gathering, Lt. Governor Mike Cooney made some powerful remarks; here is an excerpt:

"As a father and as a husband, I firmly believe that a woman's medical decisions should stay between herself, her doctor, her family, and her faith. It's the responsibility of the governor and me to protect this right to privacy regardless of what is thrown our way. Never forget your advocacy here today and what it means as you fight for the rights of others and as you empower all individuals to fight for quality and affordable health care. Never doubt the strength of your collective voices, especially when it truly matters and when lives are on the line."

Thank you, Lt. Governor Cooney!



THREE EASY THINGS YOU CAN DO NOW!

- Sign-up to volunteer with us at ppamt.org
- Like us on Facebook and stay informed about issues.
- Share your personal story at https://goo.gl/E7qlYb.

PPAMT Board of Directors

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A Unique Cookie Fundraiser



Planned Parenthood of Montana was very grateful to be the recipient of more than \$1,000 from the sale of "Boob Cookies" — a unique fundraiser that baker Holly Wiest created through her Cotton-Top Pastries in Helena. Holly designed the cookies, put out the word, and they started flying out the door.

Wiest says, "Support for Planned Parenthood is always important, but especially now as we transition to a new administration that's talked a lot about defunding the organization. When I was in my 20s, Planned Parenthood was the only place I was able to afford preventative care, birth control, and breast exams. I was uninsured and

primary care and OBYGN offices were way outside of my tight budget. Both my mother and maternal grandmother are breast cancer survivors, so I know the importance of vigilance and early detection. Planned Parenthood's low-cost clinics allowed me access to basic and essential care."



"Their [planned parenthood's] work is invaluable to millions of women across the country. I am proud to stand with them!" — Holly Wiest

About 1 in 8 U.S. women (about 12%) will develop invasive breast cancer during the course of their lifetime. In 2017, an estimated 252,710 new cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to be diagnosed in women in the U.S., along with 63,410 new cases of non-invasive (in situ) breast cancer. — U.S. Breast Cancer Statistics | Breastcancer.org

Broad Comedy Event Benefits Planned Parenthood of Montana Gov. Bullock Honored with the Champion for Choice Award

On February 9, 2017, close to 300 Planned Parenthood supporters attended an evening of hilarious, wildly entertaining, and always provocative comedy with Katie Goodman's Broad Comedy troupe at the Myrna Loy Center in Helena.

The event was sold out with a waiting list for tickets. "The support of all of our sponsors, Margaret Dufrechou, Ellen Feaver, Tranel Law Firm and Garnish Catering, and the dedication of all our volunteers is what made this event such a success," said Martha Stahl, CEO and President of Planned Parenthood of Montana and Planned Parenthood Advocates of Montana. "Now, more than



ever, we are grateful for those who stand with Planned Parenthood of Montana. Some 15,000 patients each year depend on us."

The evening included a special awards ceremony honoring Gov.



Steve Bullock for his outstanding support of women's reproductive health. The governor received a standing ovation after speaking to the audience and was presented with a commerative document.

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Bequest Challenge Update

The Bequest Challenge has been phenomenally successful. Since the launch of the Challenge, PPMT supporters have designated \$625,000 — resulting in

\$65,000 in immediate funding from Planned Parenthood Federation of America. Bequest gifts are one of our most important sources of future planning. They ensure that vital reproductive health care is available to the women, men and teens we serve.

Supporters can still participate in this great opportunity by confirming their intentions to leave PPMT a planned gift. The Bequest Challenge awards 10 percent of a bequest value up to \$25,000. If you do not want to disclose the bequest amount, PPFA will still award the participating affiliate \$1,000.

If you have any questions or want additional information about leaving a gift to PPMT through your estate please contact our major gifts officer, Christina Roberts, at 406-830-3491 or christina.roberts@ppmontana.org.

Thank you to all our PPMT supporters who participated in Bequest Challenge. Bequests are critically important to our work providing birth control, cancer screenings, STI testing and treatment, abortion services, and much more to thousands of Montanans every year.

Stewardship Committee

BILLINGS

Bequest Challenge

Raises \$65,000

Kastina Benoit
Bess Lovec
Sandra Schiavon
Barbara Schneeman
Judy Senteney
Nathalie Warren

BOZEMAN

Linda Babcock
Andi Baldwin
Sheri Blackwood
Theresa Bushman
Betsy Danforth
Betsy de Leiris
Billy McWilliams
Susan Sheard

HELENA

Margaret Dufrechou Candace Durran Margo Ensz Cathy Kendall Charity Watt Sheena Wilson

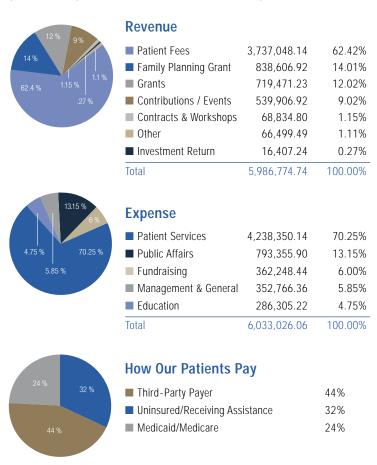
MISSOULA

Kira Canny Rachel Mindell Miranda Bradley Gayle Burchfield Amy Hetzler Jamie Iguchi Joycelyn Jacobs Mariah Welch Kristen Wood Nancy Zadra

 For information about our Stewardship Committee call Christina at 406.830.3491

Annual Report June 2015 – June 2016

Thanks to your generosity, we cared for close to 16,000 patients last year, presented medically-accurate sex education to thousands of teens and adults, and operated five Planned Parenthood of Montana health centers around the state. We're pleased to present our audited financial report, below.



Health Care Services

PPMT Patients	15,738
Contraceptive Units Dispensed	33,201
Birth Control Counseling	10,849
STI Screening	5,997
Pap Tests	2,573
Packs of Emergency Contraception dispensed	2,260
Units of Long-Acting Reversible Contraceptive provided	721

Did you know 42% of Title X patients in Montana are served by PPMT?

rour support has meant quality health care and education for thousands of montanans.

Thank you!

Give Local • May 4, 2017

This May 4th join thousands of other Montanans who are making a commitment to "give local" through a special day-only fundraiser. It's easy to participate. Log on to your community Give Local site, select Planned Parenthood of Montana from the drop-down menu, and make a donation. Add your voice to those who value reproductive health care and women's reproductive rights.

SPECIAL NEWS: A generous donor has offered to match, dollar for dollar, every donation made through Give Montana up to \$10,000. The impact of your gift will be doubled! So mark your calendars for Thursday, May 4th, from 9am – 9pm. Thank you!





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yellowstonegives.org

greaterhelenagives.org



Planned Parenthood of Montana

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Planned Parenthood of Montana Health Centers

Billings West

(406) 656.9980 1844 Broadwater #4

Monday 8 am – 6 pm Tuesday Closed Wednesday Closed Thursday 8 am – 6 pm Friday 8 am – 6 pm

Billings Heights

(406) 869.5040 100 W. Wicks Lane

Monday Closed
Tuesday 8 am – 6 pm
Wednesday . . . 8 am – 6 pm
Thursday Closed
Friday Closed

Great Falls

(406) 454.3431 211 9th Street South

Monday 8 am - 5:30 pm Tuesday 8 am - 12 pm Wednesday . . . 8 am - 5:30 pm Thursday. Closed Friday 8 am - 5:30 pm

Helena

(406) 443.7676 1500 Cannon Street

Monday 8 am – 5:30 pm Tuesday Closed Wednesday . . . 11 am – 7 pm Thursday Closed Friday 8 am – 5:30 pm

Missoula

(406) 728.5490 219 E. Main Street

Monday 9 am – 6 pm
Tuesday 9 am – 6 pm
Wednesday Closed
Thursday 9 am – 6 pm
Friday 9 am – 6 pm
Saturday (First and third Saturday)

Saturday (First and third Saturday of every month) . . 9 am – 12 pm

Billings Administration

Monday – Friday only (406) 248.3636





