



Amina Carter, MPH, PA-C, and Lead Clinician at PPSNE

Compassionate Abortion Care from People You Trust

PPSNE's proud abortion providers.

Since 1990, the right to abortion has been protected in Connecticut's state law. But legal protections alone cannot ensure access for every person seeking abortion care. The health care landscape has changed in the past 30 years, and it was time for Connecticut's law to be modernized and respond to the moment we are in.

This session, the Connecticut General Assembly passed the Reproductive Freedom Defense Act, with Governor Lamont swiftly signing the bill into law. **This legislation is a leap forward for abortion rights and access.** It allows advanced practice

clinicians (APCs) like nurse midwives, nurse practitioners, and physician's assistants to provide aspiration abortion, the most common in-clinic abortion procedure. The Reproductive Freedom Defense Act also helps shield Connecticut abortion providers and any patient forced to travel to our state for abortion care from lawsuits and targeted attacks by politicians in other states with extreme, radical abortion bans. This change comes at a critical moment. As we await the Supreme Court's anticipated decision to strike down *Roe vs. Wade*, and as extreme abortion bans spread across the country, PPSNE is prepared to offer abortion care to people no matter where they call home.

Abortion providers are on the front lines of sexual and reproductive health in communities across Connecticut and Rhode Island. **So, let's hear from them why access to abortion is so important – and what being an abortion provider means to them.**

(Meet our providers on page 4)

WHAT IS ASPIRATION ABORTION?

There are two types of abortion: abortion by pill (or medication abortion), typically taken at home, and abortion performed in-clinic. Abortion is one of the safest medical procedures.

Aspiration abortion is the most common form of in-clinic abortion procedure, using gentle suction to empty the uterus. Aspiration abortion is usually used up to 15 weeks after the last period.

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Five Years and Fighting Forward

A new era for PPSNE reflections and reaffirmations.

There are precious few moments to stop and take stock of everything that has happened since I became CEO of Planned Parenthood of Southern New England. But as I approach my five-year anniversary of leading this extraordinary organization, I am in awe of all that we have accomplished despite the incredibly challenging circumstances we have faced.

Looking back on these past several years provides a welcome reminder of the power of our partnership, which is more critical than ever. As we go to print on this issue of FOCUS, **the leaked draft of the Supreme Court's opinion in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* has confirmed our worst fears: the U.S. Supreme Court is prepared to overturn *Roe v. Wade*.**

Although the writing has been on the wall for decades, it is still no less devastating now that we are on the brink of it actually happening.

We knew this could happen, so here in Connecticut and Rhode Island we have been preparing for it. This is why we advocated with our legislative champions in Rhode Island to pass the Reproductive Privacy Act in 2019, codifying the protections of *Roe* into state law. This is why we worked in Connecticut this year to expand access to abortion and to tell states like Texas and Oklahoma that we won't stand for their outrageous attacks against patients and providers.

We were made for this moment. No matter what, our doors will be open and we will be there for our patients. Together, we will continue the fight to protect access to safe, legal abortion.

Your support is essential to ensuring that patients and communities can access the vital health care services and educational programs that PPSNE provides. You make it possible for PPSNE to continue serving as an effective advocate for reproductive health and rights in our two states. Thank you for being our unwavering partners in boldly advancing our vision of health equity for all.



Amanda Skinner, President and CEO

Every day, your partnership makes a difference in the lives of people across Connecticut and Rhode Island. The impact of your support is clear in our recent market research: our patients see us as a trusted health care resource. And I hope you will find inspiration in the words and actions of our proud abortion providers who remain steadfast in their dedication to provide compassionate, nonjudgmental care.

When I took this job, my predecessor Judy Tabar told me that being CEO of PPSNE would be "the hardest job you'll ever love." Five years later, those words ring true in ways that I could not have anticipated on my first day in June 2017. I have loved facing these challenges together, working with the people of PPSNE to care for our communities no matter what. **Thank you so much for being on this journey with us.**

Onward,
Amanda

SPRING LUNCHEON 2022: Virtual and In-Person!

Supporting PPSNE – no matter what.

On April 5th, the annual Spring Luncheon returned to the Stamford Marriott for the first time since 2019! We were thrilled to welcome guests both in person and virtually at our first-ever hybrid event. It was wonderful to be together with so many people who make this critical work possible, and we could feel the love from living rooms across the region as well! The 2022 Community Impact Award honored longtime PPSNE friend and supporter Jane Condon, who has emceed the luncheon since 2015. We were joined by Planned

Parenthood Federation of America President and CEO Alexis McGill Johnson and Dr. Julia Iyasere, Executive Director of the Dalio Center for Health Justice at NewYork-Presbyterian for a powerful discussion about what is at stake with the coming Supreme Court decision and as we face the reality of deep racial disparities in health outcomes – made even more visible by the COVID-19 pandemic. **Our heartfelt thanks to the amazing volunteer co-chairs, the host committee, and to all our supporters who made the event a great success!**



Event Co-Chairs with Spring Luncheon featured guests. L-R: Elissa Garber-Hyman, PPFA President and CEO Alexis McGill Johnson, Brice Russian, PPSNE President and CEO Amanda Skinner, Mini Nunna, Donna Moffly, Julia Iyasere, MD, and Carlyle Upton



PPSNE President and CEO Amanda Skinner (L) and PPFA President and CEO Alexis McGill Johnson



Longtime event emcee and Community Impact Award recipient Jane Condon



PPSNE Chief Operating Officer Zari Watkins with other attendees who showed their support by using Text to Give to make donations to PPSNE.

MEET **PPSNE's** PROUD ABORTION PROVIDERS

Do you wish to share your pride for our abortion providers? Share the Proud Abortion Provider webpage with photos and quotes on your social media: ppsne.org/providers



Amauche
DNP, APRN, WHNP-BC

• • • • •

“Abortion access is important because abortion is health care, and access to health care is a right.”



Jennifer
CNM

• • • • •

“Access to full reproductive health care and education is critical in allowing each person to realize their individual life goals. I love this work and am proud to provide abortion.”



Colleen
APRN

• • • • •

“Simply put: Abortion care is health care. Like all aspects of health care, abortion should be accessible without political interference and delivered with respect.”



Sarah G.

FNP-BC

• • • • •

“Reproductive choice is a fundamental right that should be available to everyone. Being an abortion provider means supporting people to make their own choice. It means truly living the calling of being a health care provider.”



Sarah W.

PA-C

• • • • •

“It means providing help, compassion and dignity in a time of real need. Abortion services are safe and should continue to be available and accessible – period. Care no matter what, no matter where!”



Gannon

CNM

• • • • •

“Being an abortion provider means I am able to provide compassionate care during difficult and not so difficult times and help patients to live the lives they desire. I can provide safe, legal, compassionate care to all.”

Research Shows: Planned Parenthood Delivers Top-Notch Care

Transforming the health care experience.

“Caring”, “efficient”, “helpful”, “friendly”—these are just some of the words people use to describe care at PPSNE.

Our health centers stand as a beacon for people seeking quality, compassionate care.

That’s the takeaway from recent market research conducted among Connecticut and Rhode Island residents, including PPSNE patients. This research helped us learn about the experiences of PPSNE patients and other consumers within the health care system, to understand their knowledge of Planned Parenthood, and to determine how people’s attitudes and beliefs create different opportunities to increase access to care.

PPSNE patients overwhelmingly have positive feelings towards the organization—95% of patients have positive attitudes and beliefs towards PPSNE. Patients reported feeling that they receive truly compassionate care from PPSNE clinicians and staff who, much like you, are dedicated to our mission. Having a level of pride in this work, and the lifesaving, nonjudgmental, high-quality care we provide, leads to a different kind of bond between patient and provider.

These findings demonstrate the impact of your support to the people who need PPSNE the most. Patients experience a true relationship, seeking care from providers they trust and know have their best interests at heart.



WORDS PATIENTS USE TO DESCRIBE THEIR EXPERIENCE AT PPSNE



96% of words used were positive

3% were neutral 1% were negative

We know high levels of satisfaction help repair trust with patients who must navigate a broken health care system and encourage them to return to a PPSNE health center for care whenever they need it. **Supporting PPSNE’s mission comes in all shapes and sizes, and without the access to Planned Parenthood you help provide, these patients would go without the critical care they need and deserve.**

By honoring the trusted relationship between patient and provider, PPSNE can provide a platform for patient stories and experiences that shine a light on what makes our health centers distinct. Sharing patient experiences shows how PPSNE is different—specifically for those who have put off their health care needs due to negative encounters within other parts of the health care system. **PPSNE’s unique approach to caring, compassionate service can show those marginalized by traditional health care that there is a place for them to get the care that they need and deserve.**

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Leaving a Legacy: Make a Lasting Impact

Making an enduring contribution.

The Hepburn Potter Legacy Society is named in memory of two lifelong advocates of reproductive freedom, Katharine Martha Houghton Hepburn and Dr. Charles Potter. This legacy society was established to recognize, honor, and thank those donors who have included PPSNE in their life or estate plans or those telling us of an intention to make a gift.

Members of our legacy society continue a powerful history of change. Their generosity allows us to continue to provide thorough and relevant education to our community's young people and affordable, confidential, and compassionate care for every one of our 65,000+ patients.

Longtime supporter Phil Ness was a champion of reproductive freedom and Planned Parenthood of Southern New England.



Phil's recent generous bequest ensures PPSNE can continue our mission of providing high-quality health care, education, and advocacy to advance equity and protect the fundamental right to sexual health and reproductive freedom for all.

We encourage you to let us know if you include PPSNE in your life or estate plans.

Not only so we can express our gratitude, but also to make sure you are up to date on all that is happening here at PPSNE. For more information about how you can establish your legacy, please contact Christopher Bellis at christopher.bellis@ppsne.org or 203-836-3419.

IT'S EASIER THAN YOU THINK

By becoming a member of the Hepburn Potter Legacy Society, you will help sustain access to sexual and reproductive health care and education for generations to come.

- » You can make a gift through your will with simple language.
- » You can make PPSNE a beneficiary of a retirement plan (IRA or 401k) or life insurance policy by filling out a Beneficiary or Change of Beneficiary form.
- » You can set up an annuity or trust that pays you income while leaving a meaningful gift to PPSNE.

HOW TO INCLUDE PPSNE IN YOUR WILL

You can include the following language in your will or codicil:

"I hereby give, devise, and bequeath \$_____ (or description of specific asset or % of net estate) to Planned Parenthood of Southern New England, 345 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, Connecticut 06511, for its general purposes."

This information is for general purposes only and is not intended as legal or financial advice. PPSNE recommends that if you are considering a life or estate gift, you consult with your financial or legal advisor. For more information, please contact us at 203.836.3419 or christopher.bellis@ppsne.org.

Research Shows: Planned Parenthood Delivers Top-Notch Care

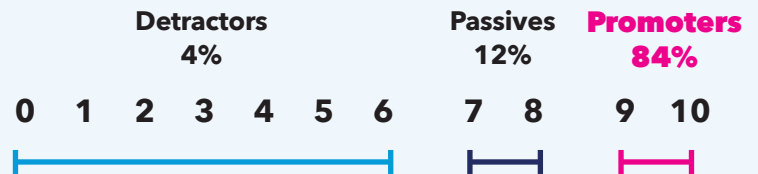
(Continued from page 6)

The research also showed that people who have never visited a PPSNE health center held the organization and our mission in high regard. This creates an opportunity to reach those individuals with messages that dispel common misconceptions about PPSNE, like only providing care for women, offering only reproductive health care and abortion, that there is a specific age of a Planned Parenthood patient, or questioning the quality of services. **By communicating about our services and patients in ways that help people see a place for themselves at PPSNE, we can expand access to health care we provide across Connecticut and Rhode Island.**

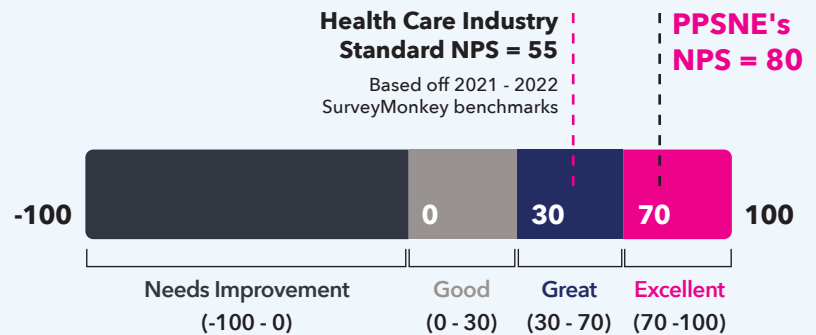
Additionally, supporters—like you—are critically important to spreading the word in a variety of ways: being a trusted messenger who fills the knowledge gap by introducing others to PPSNE, accessing services at our health centers for yourself, encouraging others to come here for care, or sharing information about the quality of the PPSNE experience for all ages and incomes. Each way you show your support advances the mission of providing high-quality health care, education, and advocacy to advance equity for all.

PATIENTS ARE LIKELY TO RECOMMEND PPSNE

How likely would you be to recommend PPSNE to a friend or colleague, on a scale where **0 = not at all likely**, and **10 = very likely**?



PPSNE STANDS WELL ABOVE INDUSTRY STANDARD NPS



What is NPS? Net promoter score (NPS) is a widely used market research metric that typically takes the form of a single survey question asking respondents to rate the likelihood that they would recommend a company, product, or a service to a friend or colleague.

Data based off patients (N=297) who indicated they received care from PPSNE in the past 3 years.

PPSNE Information

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