

PERSISTANT RESISTANCE: PPAMT Volunteers Attend Power of Pink

Nearly 2,000 Planned Parenthood supporters gathered in Detroit in late July for **Power of Pink**—Planned Parenthood Action Fund's largest volunteer gathering ever! Attendees from across the country learned about organizing the Planned Parenthood way—as well-informed and connected volunteers.

Montana's cohort of 22 attendees hailed from all across the state, coming from Pablo, Missoula, Billings, Helena, and Bozeman. Volunteers attended workshops on abortion storytelling, organizing with communities of color, running to win, and ensuring our campaigns are inclusive of LGBTQ sexual and reproductive health issues. They were inspired by leaders across the movement, including Black Lives Matter co-founder Alicia Garza; Flint, Michigan, activist and organizer Nayyirah Shariff; and former President of Planned Parenthood Action Fund, Cecile Richards.

"These young Montanans care deeply for their communities—they know that everyone deserves to live in communities free from violence and fear of police brutality, to have clean drinking water, to be paid fair wages and to work in safe and harassment-free conditions, to have the unrestricted ability to vote, and to have access to quality, affordable health care, including abortion," said Rachel Pauli, Planned Parenthood Advocates of Montana's Organizing & Outreach Manager.



Power of Pink attendees in Detroit, Michigan, honed their organizing skills.

One of the conference attendees, Rachel Twoteeth-Pichardo, shared,

"My experience at Power of Pink was amazing! I loved how diverse the entire conference was, from the workshops to the people. Planned Parenthood is a place where anyone can fit in and be accepted."

"Power of Pink gave our already powerful volunteers the training and information to continue making change in their communities in partnership with Planned Parenthood Advocates and our allies. We are all in this together, and establishing connections through inspiring experiences, like Power of Pink, sets the foundation for forever

friendships in persistent resistance," said Pauli.



Power of Pink attendees will continue good work in their communities at a deeper level. They will focus on educating voters about this November's election issues and candidates, and carry on the organizing work in Montana to ensure access to the full range of sexual and reproductive health care free from government interference.

SCOTUS: Montanans Make Their Voices Heard

When we learned that President Trump had nominated Judge Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court, there was no doubt that Kavanaugh's confirmation would impact access to health care, including access to abortion, for decades to come. There is also no doubt that Senators Daines and Tester now know exactly how Montanans feel about Judge Kavanaugh's nomination. Supporters from across the state called, e-mailed, and called again to voice their concerns about how a new make-up on the court would impact their lives, rights, and health care.

Thanks to each of you for taking the time to make your voice heard!

PPAMT summer intern, Alice Collins, rallying in Washington, DC against Judge Kavanaugh's nomination

A Message from Martha





I don't think it was possible to live in Montana this summer and not hear about Pearl Jam's concert in Missoula. Now, because I am a member of Generation X, I was pre-programmed as a teen to be excited about this, but when the band asked if Planned Parenthood Advocates of Montana would like to partner with them for this event, my excitement crossed the line into pure joy. Pearl Jam wanted to use their star power to spread the word about how critical voting is, and chose to team up with PPAMT and three other Montana groups to coordinate efforts.

On a gorgeous August night, 25,000 people filed into Washington-Griz Stadium, many of them having spent the afternoon at the pre-concert festival organized by the band and featuring tables from dozens of non-profits, including Planned Parenthood Advocates of Montana and Planned Parenthood of Montana. If you

asked each of those 25,000 people if they had gotten the message about the importance of voting, you would have been hard-pressed to find someone who hadn't heard the band talk about voting or been asked to sign a pledge to vote by a volunteer.

While getting to meet band members, including Montana's own Jeff Ament and lead singer Eddie Vedder, was pretty darn cool, I think I was most impressed by how Pearl Jam seized an opportunity to tell their fans about the importance of using their voices and votes. Most of us will never get the chance to tell an audience of 25,000 to get to the polls, but we can all be get-out-the-vote rock stars in our own networks.

My challenge to each of you this fall is to set a goal for how many people you will encourage to use their vote to make their voice heard. It could be 5 or 10 or 25 or, if you really ARE a rock star, 25,000. Think creatively about how you will encourage your audience to vote...Will you help them register to vote? Will you make sure they have a plan for voting? Will you offer rides to the polls? Will you help them research candidates and ballot initiatives? Will you use social media to tell your network to vote? Will you proudly wear an "I voted" sticker?

After you talk to your own network, think about ways you can become involved in getting people you don't know to vote...Planned Parenthood Advocates of Montana can help you by connecting you to our volunteer phone banks, training you as a door-knocker, and assisting you in hosting a party designed to get your pals to help too.

Because you care about access to sexuality education and sexual and reproductive health care, and because you support policies that ensure that access, you understand why elections matter. Use your voice, and your vote, to tell your audience—your friends, your family, your neighbors, and candidates for office, that these things matter to you. You too can be a rock star, even if you can't carry a tune or play a single chord.

Onward,

Martha Stahl, President and CEO

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Supporters at the Pearl Jam concert. Photo © Alex Kowalchik, A2 Photography



VOTE FOR MONTANA'S CHAMPIONS FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH

Planned Parenthood Advocates of Montana proudly endorses these candidates for elected office because they are committed to protecting and advancing access to comprehensive reproductive health care, including abortion, sexual health education, and the personal freedom for Montanans to decide whether or when to become a parent without interference from politicians and government. PPAMT is grateful for their leadership.

9	Kwen Shirley	House District 04	Evergreen
	Mary Custer	House District 06	Whitefish
	James H Cossitt	House District 07	Kalispell
	Diane L. Magone	House District 14	Superior
	Lynelle Melton	House District 19	Great Falls
9	Keaton Sunchild	House District 20	Great Falls
8	Laura Dever	House District 22	Great Falls
	Barbara Bessette	House District 24	Great Falls
1	Jasmine Krotkov	House District 25	Great Falls
	Rep. Casey Schreiner	House District 26	Great Falls
9	Kathryn G.H. Nicholes	House District 30	Martinsdale

(Blair Koch	House District 43	Billings
1	Ming Cabrera	House District 44	Billings
	Anne Giuliano	House District 46	Billings
	Rep. Kathy Kelker	House District 47	Billings
	Rep. Jessica L. Karjala	House District 48	Billings
	Emma Kerr-Carpenter	House District 49	Billings
	Jade Bahr	House District 50	Billings
9	Amelia Marquez	House District 52	Billings
	Kathleen O'Donnell	House District 55	Billings
1	Rep. Laurie Bishop	House District 60	Livingston
	Rep. Jim Hamilton	House District 61	Bozeman

Vote for Montana's Champions for Women's Health

	Candidate Name	Legislative District	City
6	Christopher Pope	House District 65	Bozeman
	Catherine Scott	House District 80	Helena
	Rep. Mary M. Caferro	House District 81	Helena
	Rep. Moffie Funk	House District 82	Helena
	Rep. Kim Abbott	House District 83	Helena
	Rep. Mary Ann Dunwell	House District 84	Helena
	Katie Sullivan	House District 89	Missoula
9	Marilyn Marler	House District 90	Missoula
	Connie Keogh	House District 91	Missoula
	Lee Bridges	House District 92	East Missoula
19	Rep. Kimberly P. Dudik	House District 94	Missoula
9	Rep. Shane A. Morigeau	House District 95	Missoula
1	Thomas Winter	House District 96	Missoula
	Patrick Maloney	House District 97	Lolo

	Candidate Name	Legislative District	City
9	Rep. Marilyn Ryan	House District 99	Missoula
	Rep. Andrea Olsen	House District 100	Missoula
	Bob Moretti	Senate District 13	Great Falls
8	Paul Tuss	Senate District 14	Havre
	Mary Zeiss Stange	Senate District 19	Ekalaka
	Sen. Mary McNally	Senate District 24	Billings
0	Dan Vermillion	Senate District 30	Livingston
	Pat Flowers	Senate District 32	Belgrade
周	Sen. Jennifer "JP" Pomnichowski	Senate District 33	Bozeman
*	Sen. Janet Ellis	Senate District 41	Helena
	Sen. Jill Cohenour	Senate District 42	East Helena
3	Sen. Diane Sands	Senate District 49	Missoula
0	Rep. Bryce Bennett	Senate District 50	Missoula

For more information ppamt.org

Paid for by Planned Parenthood Advocates of Montana. Treasurer, Katie Ranta. 1116 Grand Ave, Ste 201, Billings, MT 59102 "We are proud to be working on this critically important effort to prevent our patients and thousands of other Montanans from losing their health coverage. Increasing the tobacco tax has proven to save lives and reduce the negative impacts of cancer and heart disease on health outcomes and our economy." — Martha Stahl

VOTE YES!

on I-185 and for a Healthy Montana

In February, a broad group of organizations working to improve the health of Montanans filed initiative language for the 2018 ballot with the Montana Secretary of State that would increase the state tax on tobacco for the purposes of funding Montana's Medicaid program and other health initiatives.

The proposed ballot initiative would raise the state tax on cigarettes and other tobacco products and use the new funds to prevent nearly 94,000 Montanans from losing their health insurance. The revenue would also pay for veterans' suicide prevention programs, long-term care services to help seniors and people with disabilities stay in their homes, and programs to prevent kids from smoking and help smokers quit.

In 2015, the Montana Legislature approved Medicaid eligibility for low-income Montanans who otherwise were left in a coverage gap without access to affordable health care. Since its passage, 93,950 Montanans have enrolled for health coverage under the guidelines. Without this initiative, those Montanans would lose coverage.

This summer Montanans showed their support for Planned Parenthood

at events throughout the state, such as the Pearl Jam concert, press conferences, the PRIDE march, and the Power of Pink conference.



"Reproductive health is a critical part of every woman's health care Standard medical care should be based on science, not ideology. The fundamental right to health cannot be a privilege reserved only for those who can afford it." - Dr. Leana Wen



"Montana women and families deserve leaders who will stand up for our values in public office.

Planned Parenthood Advocates of Montana's efforts to educate voters across Montana is important work and I'm pleased they are providing legislative candidates across the state with critical information about access to quality and affordable health care.

I stand with PPAMT and the Montana women and families they support and am grateful to PPAMT for standing with me."

Steve Bullock



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Use Your Own POWER OF PINK

Here's how you can help...

SHARE YOUR STORY • How has Planned Parenthood helped you? Sharing your stories is a powerful tool that can be used to win the hearts and minds of decision-makers, from your friends and neighbors to elected officials.

VOLUNTEER • PPAMT volunteers serve in a wide range of capacities; including on the phone, at the Capital, on campuses, online and throughout Montana.

If you are interested in sharing your story or volunteering contact Rachel Pauli at rachel.pauli@ppmontana.org or 406-830-3485.

See the Voter Guide on pages 3 and 4.





DONATE • Your support is critically important this year as we prepare for mid-term elections. Your donation will allow PPAMT to engage volunteers, advocates, and voters across the state.

- Donate online Please visit www.ppamt.org
- Mail a donation to: Planned Parenthood Advocates of Montana 1116 Grand Ave, Suite 201, Billings, MT 59102-4282

If you have questions about donating please contact Christina Roberts, Major Gifts Officer, at **christina.roberts@ppmontana.org** or **406-830-3491.**

VOTE • Now is the time to hold politicians accountable and elect leaders who advocate for policies and programs that help women and their families and who promote access to sexual and reproductive health care and education. Register to vote, commit to voting in November (and every election after!) and encourage your friends and family to do the same.