



Planned Parenthood of Northern New England **NEWS SOURCE**

Fall 2022

Dear Friends,

The loss of Roe was devastating. Today in America, **1 in 3 women, and others who can become pregnant, live without legal abortion.** Basic human rights have been restricted, and the freedom to make your own decision about a pregnancy now depends on where you live and how much money you have.

In this edition of *NewsSource*, we'll share how the recent *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* decision is impacting PPNNE, the plans we're making for the future, and how you can support us in this moment.

You make our work possible. Your financial support, your time, your activism, your stories, and your voice are the blocks we need to build a better future.

To navigate these uncharted waters, we must balance doing everything we can - today - to help patients access the care they need, while creating a world for the generations to come, where attacks against our most basic freedoms will be a distant memory.

I can't thank you enough for standing with us - and our patients. Whether you've been part of the PPNNE community for decades, or you were spurred into action after Dobbs, together, we are stronger, and together, we will ensure that our patients can access the care they need.

It is easy to get lost in the despair of this moment, but I ask that you find hope for the future. We can be angry, we can be frustrated, we can be mad - yet, at the end of the day, we must have hope for the potential of the days ahead.

And hope is here. You just have to look at how your friends, family, and neighbors are stepping up. They care as much as you do. Yes, it might take us a while to get back what we've lost - but my hope, what I hold dear, is that we will go beyond Roe, and create a world where decisions people make about their health, lives, and futures are theirs alone, without judgment, shame, or hardship.

Onward together,

Nicole Clegg | Sr. VP of Public Policy & Interim Leadership Team

AN UPDATE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR



Dear Friends,

I am excited to announce that after a thorough and comprehensive search, the Board of Trustees has unanimously selected **Judith Selzer as the next CEO of PPNNE.**

Judith comes to PPNNE with deep experience and an understanding of Planned Parenthood. Her passion for the mission and her leadership talents will be critical in helping us meet this extraordinary moment and plan for the future.

I look forward to her getting to know you - our incredible base of supporters in northern New England - in the coming months!

On behalf of PPNNE and the full board, I would also like to thank Nicole Clegg, Yvonne Lockerby, and Kai Williams, for their time and energy as they stepped in as Interim co-CEOs throughout this transition.

Warmly,

Margot Milliken
PPNNE Board Chair



ACROSS OUR REGION

We all celebrated with Kansas, when voters sent a clear message that politicians should not be involved in personal, medical decisions by soundly defeating the “no right to abortion” constitutional amendment.



New Hampshire

Meanwhile, in **New Hampshire**, the 5-person executive council defunded PPNNE and 2 other reproductive health care providers again! **They voted 4-1 to deny family planning funding for critical lifesaving care.** This was the 4th vote in the past year to defund us - and at a time when demand for birth control is increasing. These votes have denied state funding since June 30, 2021, for the providers - including PPNNE - who serve 75% of patients in the NH family planning program. These funds allow for family planning services, which include STI testing and treatment, cancer screenings, and birth control for the uninsured, and those least able to access care.



Vermont

In **Vermont**, we are working to pass our own constitutional amendment, the **Reproductive Liberty Amendment**. Vermont voters will get to have their voices heard by voting on this amendment, Article 22, this November. **If passed, it could be the first constitutional amendment to protect reproductive rights in the country.** Having these protections enshrined in the constitution will make it abundantly clear that Vermonters value reproductive liberty.

The nation is paying close attention to what can be accomplished in Vermont with other states poised to pursue similar paths.



Maine

In **Maine**, we worked with Governor Janet Mills to pass the Patient Safety Zone bill, and her **executive order that prohibits any extradition or prosecution of people coming to Maine for abortion care.** Her leadership and commitment to protecting our clinicians and patients are critical as we work to mitigate potential risks in this post-Roe environment.

THE DOBBS DECISION

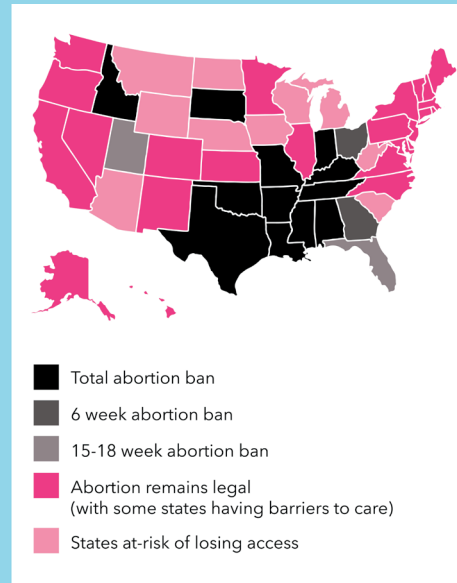
On June 24, the moment we'd been preparing for, and dreading, arrived. With their decision in the Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization case, the US Supreme Court overturned the landmark Roe v. Wade decision and 50 years of precedent protecting our right to abortion at the federal level.

Access to abortion care in this country looks vastly different now.

Already, 16 states have abortion bans in effect. We anticipate as many as 10 more states introducing bans in the months ahead. That means that half the country, more than 36 million women of reproductive age and those who can become pregnant, have already lost or will lose access to safe and legal abortion.

National Abortion Access Landscape:

Current as of September 2022



AL: Total ban
AR: Total ban
FL: 15 week ban
GA: 6 week ban
ID: Total ban
IN: Total ban
(effective Sept. 15)
KY: Total ban
LA: Total ban
MS: Total ban
MO: Total ban
OH: 6 week ban
OK: Total ban
SD: Total ban
TN: Total ban
TX: Total ban
UT: 18 week ban

IN OUR HEALTH CENTERS

PPNNE represents 3 of the states left standing – ready and able to provide a full range of sexual and reproductive health care – including birth control, STI testing and treatment, and abortion care.

We are committed to providing the highest-quality care, and ensuring that everyone in northern New England, and everyone who may travel here for care, has access to health care, education, and whatever it takes to make decisions about their bodies, their lives, and their futures.

Since the Dobbs Decision, we've seen a large increase in calls from people in our region, and outside it. Patients are nervous. There is confusion and fear. And we've seen the predicted increase in appointment requests from people outside our region – some from banned states, including Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Ohio, South Dakota, and Texas. And some from neighboring states like NY and MA – where wait times for appointments have grown as more and more people have to travel to get care.



Patients' reasons for traveling to northern New England vary from established ties to the region, to available appointments in their time frames, and seeing our states as locations with increased safety and privacy. These appointments aren't just for abortion care, but also for basic sexual and reproductive health care.

7 Ways to Help in this Moment



SCAN ME to take action
and learn more!

FOLLOW US ONLINE!

@ppnne @ppmeaf @ppnhaf @ppvtaf



1. Donate to PPNNE at www.ppnne.org/donate to help us provide quality reproductive and sexual health care to patients across ME, NH, and VT.



2. Donate to our Laura Fund at www.ppnne.org/laurafund which provides financial assistance to those seeking abortion but cannot afford the procedure.



3. Get involved in the Planned Parenthood Action Fund in your state to protect access to reproductive health care: ppmeaf.org | ppnhaf.org | ppvtaf.org



4. Hold Your Own Fundraiser Bake sales, yoga classes, concerts, house parties, races, business sales, college projects - our supporters have done them all. Let us know at supportus@ppnne.org.



5. Volunteer with us! Scan the QR code to learn more about volunteer opportunities in your area.



6. Share your Planned Parenthood story by emailing supportus@ppnne.org



7. Amplify abortionfinder.org to help people who are seeking abortion care.

STORIES FROM OUR PATIENTS



In the past few months, we've seen more and more patients from outside our region relying on PPNNE for care. Sometimes they are patients from neighboring states like MA and NY - where wait times for appointments are growing due to the influx from other states, and sometimes they are patients from states where access has been banned. Here are just a few examples of the impact on our patients:

A woman from the Midwest, already a mother of 3 and pregnant as a result of a **failed vasectomy**, traveled to our region for care. She shared that even though there were states closer where abortion remains legal, she felt that northern New England, further away from the protests and bans, was a safer option.

A patient from a state that banned abortion made an appointment online and used a fake name and date of birth because she was **afraid of being prosecuted** for traveling for care. She then called to verify her real info over the phone, and to explain.

A patient from a state with an abortion ban was seen in their home state and turned away. They contacted PPNNE and will be traveling to our region for care.



A junior in high school recently shared with us that she is **re-evaluating her college choices**. She no longer wants to attend a college in a state where abortion is illegal.

An upset patient called to ask if **they could be prosecuted for a past abortion**. The patient is living in our region, but had an abortion in a state where abortion is now illegal.

Thank you for helping us serve these patients and thousands more like them each year.



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