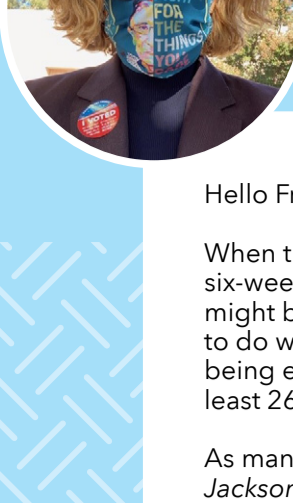


The Full Mar Monte

SUPPORTERS EDITION



LETTER FROM THE CEO Preparing for the abortion-rights emergency

Hello Friends,

When the U.S. Supreme Court held a hearing November 1 about the now infamous Texas six-week abortion ban, SB 8, it seemed as though even the most conservative justices might be open to allowing some legal challenges to proceed. But the hearing had nothing to do with deciding the constitutionality of the law, which the court did not block from being enacted in September. And the prospects for abortion rights surviving next year in at least 26 states remain bleak.

As many of you know, the court is also preparing to hear a case December 1, *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, about a 15-week abortion ban in Mississippi. That law was crafted as a direct challenge to *Roe v. Wade*, and it poses an even greater threat to abortion rights than the Texas case because it is more likely to be upheld by the extreme conservative majority on the Supreme Court.

All of this means that California and Nevada are poised to become "safe haven states" for abortion care, and PPMM is preparing accordingly. A study just released by the *Guttmacher Institute*, "*If Roe v. Wade Falls*," reports that in the event of a total ban on abortion, there would be a nearly 3,000 percent increase – yes, 3,000 percent! – in the number of out-of-state people of reproductive age whose closest access to abortion care would be in California. And the great majority would be from Arizona.

To meet this demand and establish abortion-access for all who need it, including in parts of California where there is an acute shortage of providers, PPMM is training more of our clinicians to provide abortions and take on a greater volume of patients.

We are also increasing capacity near major transportation hubs where out-of-state patients can easily fly to nearby airports. In the case of the FMM, you can read about plans for our new flagship health center in Reno, which will also expand capacity for on-site abortion care.

PPMM has already seen patients who have come to our Bay Area health centers from places where they cannot access abortion, and those are only the few who can afford to fly out of state.

One of our recent abortion care patients, who came to PPMM from Texas just after SB 8 went into effect, summed up the stakes very well. She told one of our staff members how upset she was that politicians and judges were making decisions about people's lives – "lives they know nothing about."

"They're taking away our most basic rights," she said. "Where are we supposed to go?"

With abortion rights on the verge of being denied to people in more than half the states in this country, PPMM is doing everything we can to ensure that we have the capacity to be one of the places where out-of-state people can go.

Thank you, on behalf of all our patients and future patients, for your dedication to supporting this work. Your commitment has never been more important.

In solidarity,

Stacy

New Reno health center in 2022, with on-site abortion care

Thanks to your support, PPMM was able to purchase land to build a new, permanent home for a state-of-the-art health center in Reno. Construction will begin soon and is expected to be complete by late 2022.



Design for PPMM's new flagship health center in Reno, NV

This new flagship health center will be 8,400 square feet, more than twice the size of our existing site, with more space for abortion services. The center will also be located near the Reno airport and other transportation hubs, making it convenient for local and out-of-state patients.

Nevada has historically struggled with abortion-provider shortages, so providing on-site abortion care in Reno will also be a relief for patients in Nevada and anyone who may need to travel here from other states to exercise their reproductive rights.

We look forward to sharing more updates about this new health center and how you can help along the way.

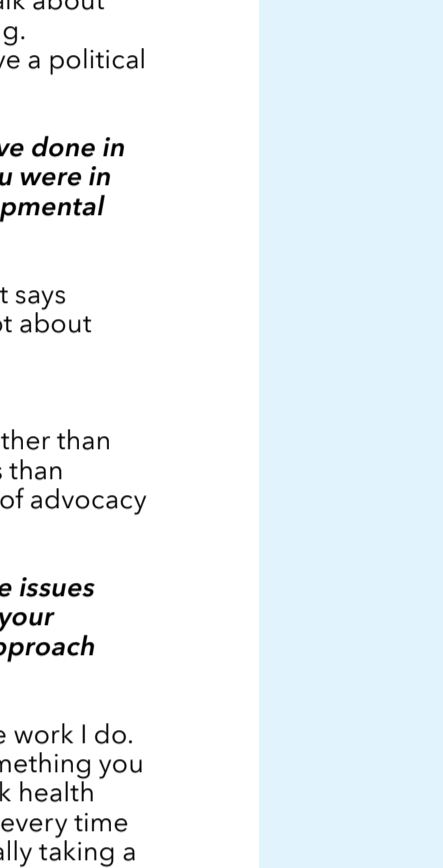
Interested in making a gift to support this work? Please contact Jay Cohen at 916-870-8830 or jay_cohen@ppmarmonite.org.

Services offered at the new center in Reno will include:

- Abortion care (medication and on-site)
- Breast and cervical cancer screening
- Early pregnancy complications evaluation and options education
- Family planning
- Gender affirming care
- HIV testing
- Pregnancy testing and options education
- Permanent contraception
- STI testing and treatment
- Teen services
- Well-person exams

Passion for politics, progress, and making change

Q&A with PPMM's new VP of Public Affairs Lauren Babb



PPMM is thrilled to welcome our new Vice President of Public Affairs **Lauren Babb**, a seasoned community leader and chair of the California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls who was recently named by *Women's Foundation California* as one of "14 Black Policy Movers & Shakers You Should Know." Lauren is a returning member of the *Planned Parenthood of Northern California (PP NorCal)*. She and PPMM Executive Director **Cheri Greven** will be co-leading the *Public Affairs* staff, with Lauren managing the organization's 501(c)(3) side and Cheri managing the 501(c)(4) electoral side.

The Full Mar Monte caught up with Lauren, working from her home in Sacramento, to learn more about her and how she's excited to hit the ground running at PPMM.

Full Mar Monte: What led you to be so committed to this work and such an effective change-maker in politics?

Lauren Babb: Well, I grew up in Detroit, and my grandfather, who had recently retired from the police department, was my primary caregiver while my parents were at work. He decided he wanted to study government in his retirement, and he and I would talk about politics from about as far back as I can remember – all about what he was learning. He was my mentor and really inspired me. Even now, every time I see him we have a political debate. We recently had a two-hour discussion about the debt ceiling!

FMM: What are some of the projects you're most proud of from the work you've done in the past couple of years as fellow at the Women's Policy Institute and when you were in the Office of Legislation and Regulations at California's Department of Developmental Services?

Lauren: When I was at Women's Policy Institute, I helped pass SB 1237, a bill that says California (certified) midwives do not need "physician supervision." I learned a lot about what midwives do, and it's pretty amazing.

One win I'm pretty proud of was, for the first time in history, getting California Developmental Services to take a stand in support of one piece of legislation, rather than being neutral. This bill, SB 639, made it illegal to pay people with disabilities less than minimum wage. Developmental Services coming out in favor of it added a layer of advocacy in a bureaucratic space where advocacy is not the norm.

FMM: Because you used to work at PP NorCal, you're already well aware of the issues facing the patients and communities PPMM serves. Was there anything about your approach there, as a member of the Public Affairs staff, that will inform your approach here at PPMM?

Lauren: It's the people in our health centers – patients and staff – that inspire the work I do. At PP NorCal, I used to ask health center staff, "What's your wish list? What is something you really need?" There was a bad problem with protesters outside the Walnut Creek health center, where I ran our patient escort program. Staff were always telling me that every time they called the police, nothing happened. There was no response, and it was really taking a toll.

I ended up having a discussion with the District Attorney's office about it. They sent a memo to the police department – and there finally started being arrests outside the health center. What I took from that experience is that there's always a creative way to get something done.

FMM: What is one of the main things that brought you back to reproductive rights work here at PPMM?

Lauren: What's happening to people in Texas, with SB 8 pretty much stopping abortion-access, is a huge concern for me. My goddaughter, who's 2, lives in Texas, and it's very upsetting to me to know that as she grows up, she'll have a much different reality than I do. Closer to home, our friends and folks in the Central Valley are already facing a different reality right now than in other parts of California.

It got me so fired up to focus right now on access. We millennials, who always have had these rights, have to put on our marching shoes and do the work! You don't have to be a "policy-wonky" type of person to make a difference, and I want to really spread that message. It's about showing up, continuing to tell the story, and focusing on who's in leadership and how they represent us. It's critical that we continue to be at the table.

FMM: Really inspiring! In closing, can you tell us a little something about yourself that a lot of people might not know about you?

Lauren: I'm an avid gardener. I'm pretty good at it, but I, have to tell you, the hot Sacramento weather is really ruining my tomatoes! It brings me so much joy and peace to grow something from the ground up and then enjoy it with friends and family.

We can't wait to see what you grow at PPMM, Lauren! Welcome!

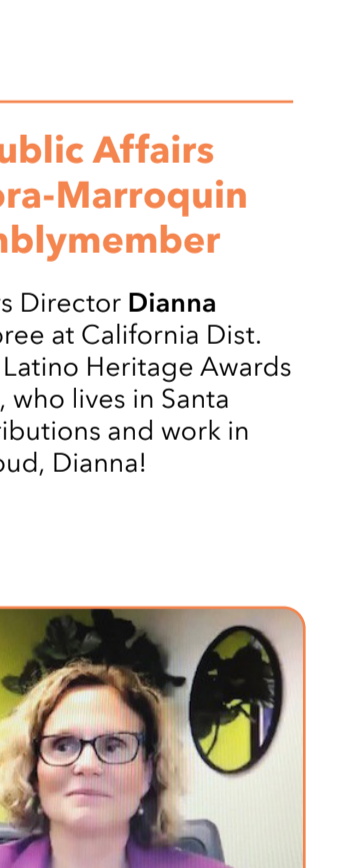
Being Memorable

In this space, we spotlight health center staff members who have been mentioned by name in patient surveys for delivering a fantastic patient experience.

RN Lucy C. masters "phoneside manner"

Here's what one person wrote on a patient survey recently after an appointment with RN Lucy C.

"Lucy was very nice to talk to. She didn't over-explain anything, she didn't overwhelm me with medical terms, very easy conversation to access the services I needed over the phone call, not to mention she was timely and did not require the 30-minute buffer after my 4:30 appointment."



RN Lucy C. outside the health center where she works

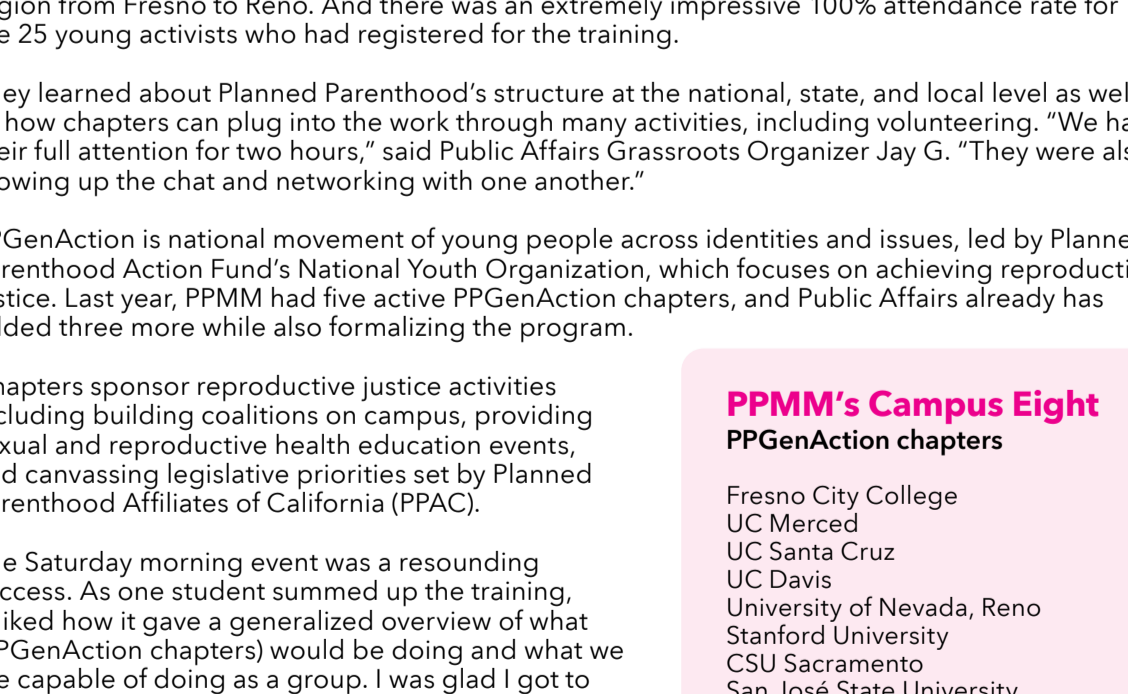
In her two years at PPMM, RN Lucy C. has always focused on making patients feel comfortable right away. She has trained those skills to telehealth appointments when patients call in from their homes or even on a quick break at their workplace.

"Telehealth still feels very new to a lot of patients, and some of them can be a little confused or anxious about it at first," Lucy said. "I always make sure they know that I want the appointment to be as convenient as possible for them. Is this a good time to speak on the phone? Does this work in your schedule right now? It's OK if you need to walk away for a minute and tend to your baby."

She also takes special care when she's on a phone appointment and can't make eye contact with patients to be sure they understand instructions, such as how and when to take certain medications. "I ask open-ended questions afterward like, 'Does that make sense?' or 'What questions do you have?' I want them to feel very comfortable and clear when we're on the phone, just as they would if we were in the health center."

Lucy said she now speaks with many returning patients who have become very comfortable during their phone appointments with her. "A lot of them really like it," she said. "I have more people calling me from their jobs because their boss will let them take a few minutes off for an appointment – and patients know that they'll be able to get what they need."

FROM THE EDUCATION DESK



Teen Council members "camping out" at the virtual retreat

Teen Council members convene at PPMM virtual retreat for peer educators

Did someone say camping? While our new and returning Teen Council peer educators were unable to meet in person for their annual retreat, that did not stop our fabulous peer education facilitators from creating a warm and inviting virtual campout for sharing and learning.

PPMM Education hosted 29 Teen Council members in October for our first live-virtual retreat. This peer education program has grown and now includes high school students from Alameda, Monterey, Sacramento, San Joaquin, San Mateo, and Santa Clara counties.

Youth from our communities meet weekly to learn how to lead sex ed lessons and have powerful one-to-one conversations with their peers and family members. After their virtual retreat, participants and facilitators commented on how wonderful it was to be able to connect with others. They were impressed with the turn-out, as well as the diversity and inclusivity that the retreat offered.

"It was really hard when we had to do school on Zoom all day, but this is so different," said one Teen Council member. "I love that I'm learning about my peers and having opportunities to do activities like 'Candle Pass.'" The Candle Pass is a virtual circle in which each teen chooses questions to answer about themselves. As they speak, they hold a candle and pass it to the next person.

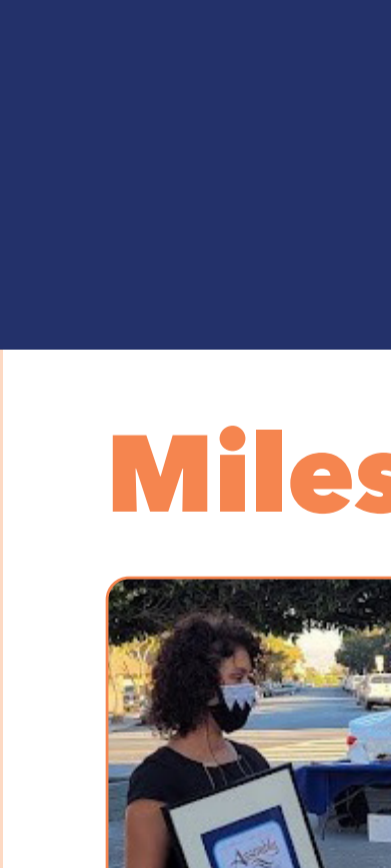
Throughout the program, alongside or guided by PPMM Peer Education facilitators, they will deliver sex ed through various methods including virtual presentations, online outreach, or text-based chats with their friends. The goal is for Teen Council groups to reach a combined total of 1,500 of their peers through the program this year.

One Teen Council member said, "I can't wait to learn more and start educating my peers about relationships, PPMM services, and more."



COVID Care STORIES

These are stories about how our amazing staff is caring for the community during the COVID-19 pandemic. You can read more on the PPMM blog at ppmarmonite.org/blog.



Lead HSS Trainer Katie G.

Making the "warmth and care" come through over the phone

Lead HSS Trainer Katie G. works with staff in many of our health centers, and she's seen close up how they have delivered care during the pandemic when they are only connected to patients through a phone line.

"One of the most important things we've learned during COVID is how to make sure the warmth and care come through over the phone, when the patient on the other end can't see you," Katie said. "We have been able to make patients 'hear the smile.'"

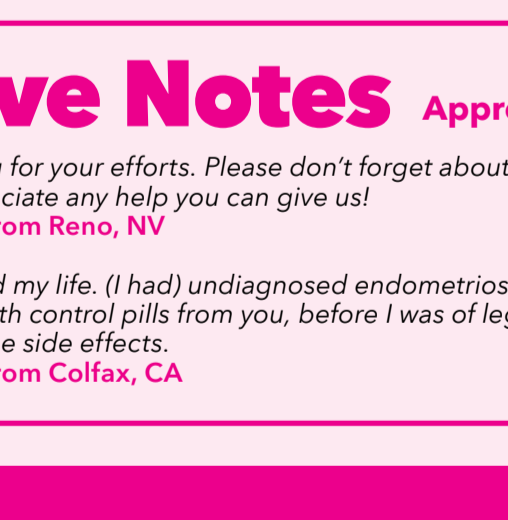
Because so many people have been unable or afraid to leave their houses for care, our staff is quick to reassure patients during phone appointments.

"A lot of people have put off routine health care during the pandemic," Katie said. "An HSS will often say to a patient, whether in person or on the phone, 'I hope you're proud of yourself for taking care of your health during this really difficult time.'"

"It's another way of showing them that they're getting more than quality medical care. They're also getting emotional support and a listening ear about what's going on with them."

She added that this approach has gone a long way toward prompting many patients to make appointments for other health care services they may have put off over the past 18 months.

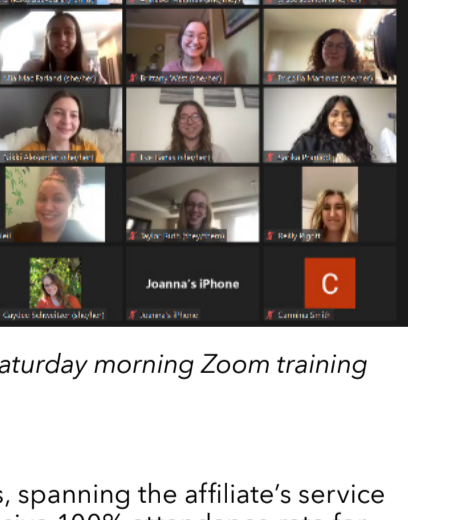
Milestones & Events



Silicon Valley/Coast Public Affairs Director, Dianna Zamora-Marroquin in Newark, CA, receiving her certificate of recognition from California Assemblymember Alex Lee

Silicon Valley/Coast Public Affairs Director Dianna Zamora-Marroquin honored by CA Assemblymember

Silicon Valley/Coast Public Affairs Director **Dianna Zamora-Marroquin** was an honoree at California Dist. 25 Assemblymember Alex Lee's Latino Heritage Awards ceremony in September. Dianna, who lives in Santa Clara, was honored for her contributions and work in the community. You make us proud, Dianna!



CEO Stacy Cross addresses supporters on our "What if Roe Collapses?" virtual webinar

PPMM's "What if Roe Collapses?" webinar draws a huge crowd

This month, Leadership Team and the Department worked together to put on a very timely virtual webinar for donors and supporters, "What if Roe Collapses?" The program drew nearly 200 participants who came to learn from CEO **Stacy Cross**, Chief Medical Officer **Dr. Laura Dalton**, and Chief Operating Officer **Domonique Lee** about challenges patients are facing to seek abortion care in "safe haven" states, like California and Nevada – and PPMM's plans to expand care and capacity as more states severely restrict or ban abortion.

Participants were eager to learn more and asked great questions. "I really appreciated the time and effort put into the webinar. It was both great and sobering," a donor from Visalia said. "I am extremely happy to see that Visalia is on the list for a PPMM (health) center. Please put me on that facility's upcoming volunteer list!"

The webinar was another example of why PPMM is a community leader in preventive health care and reproductive rights.

Love Notes

Appreciation for PPMM staff, from donors and supporters

Thank you for your efforts. Please don't forget about Reno. We appreciate any help you can give us!
— Donor from Reno, NV

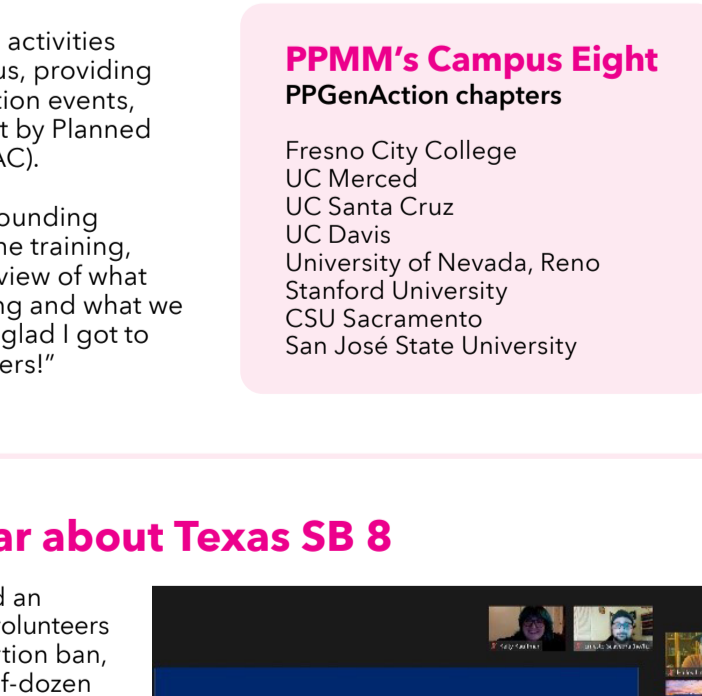
Thank you for being there for me for birth control, STD-testing, condoms, and a safe place I could get health care without letting my parents know. I HEART PP!
— Donor from San Mateo, CA

(PP) saved my life. (I had) undiagnosed endometriosis in the 1960s. Birth control pills from you, before I was of legal age, treated the side effects.
— Donor from Colfax, CA

The Big Picture

Saturday full house at PPMM PGenAction virtual training

Public Affairs community organizers, Ernesto S., Keltly K., Hailey L., Jas T., and Jay G., hosted one of the hottest events on campus – virtual campus – last month when they went on Zoom to lead PPMM's first-ever PP 101 and PGenAction training for college student activists.



PGenAction-ers at Saturday morning Zoom training

One of the most amazing things about it? More than two dozen 18 to 20-something-year-olds showed up on a Saturday morning – a Saturday morning! – to learn best practices for campus organizing and become integrated into the vital mission of PPMM and the organization's electoral arm, PPAMM.

Students attended from all eight campus PGenAction chapters, spanning the affiliate's service region from Fresno to Reno. And there was an extremely impressive 100% attendance rate for the 25 young activists who had registered for the training.

They learned about Planned Parenthood's structure at the national, state, and local level as well as how chapters can plug into the work through many activities, including volunteering. "We had their full attention for two hours," said Public Affairs Grassroots Organizer Jay G. "They were also blowing up the chat and networking with one another."

PGenAction is national movement of young people across identities and issues, led by Planned Parenthood Action Fund's National Youth Organization, which focuses on achieving reproductive justice. Last year, PPMM had five active PGenAction chapters, and Public Affairs already has added three more while also formalizing the program.

Chapters sponsor reproductive justice activities including building coalitions on campus, providing sexual and reproductive health education events, and canvassing legislative priorities set by Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California (PPAC).

PPMM's Campus Eight PGenAction chapters

- Fresno City College
- UC Merced
- UC Santa Cruz
- UC Davis
- University of Nevada, Reno
- Stanford University
- CSU Sacramento
- San José State University

P.A. team leads webinar about Texas SB 8

This month, the Public Affairs team held an information webinar for supportive volunteers about the nation's most draconian abortion ban, Texas Senate Bill (SB) 8. More than a half-dozen young people joined the virtual webinar to find out more about SB 8, which the U.S. Supreme Court did not stop from being enacted in September.



Public Affairs directors on the SB 8 webinar

Participants learned who is affected by the Texas law as well as how private citizens from any state are essentially "deputized" to enforce it, for a possible \$10,000 reward.

The webinar also focused on related legal battles at the local, state, and federal levels as well as answering questions about what reproductive-rights supporters in California and Nevada can do to help Texans affected by this clearly unconstitutional law.