

Summer 2016

Planned Parenthood Southeastern Pennsylvania



## AT PPSP WE CONTINUALLY STRIVE

to meet the growing health care needs of our community by strengthening our services and providing our patients with the best possible experience at all of our health centers, all while maintaining our high-quality delivery of health care. A key initiative that we launched this year focused on decreasing the length of time, particularly in the waiting room, that patients spend in our centers, since this will lead to significantly enhanced access and patients' overall satisfaction. We've also streamlined our appointment-scheduling processes to expand the availability of appointments. All of our patients are offered the opportunity to give feedback about their visits on iPad stations located in the centers or via the Internet from their phones or computers. Their feedback is extremely valuable since it enables us to continuously improve our services.

And, earlier this year, we consolidated our two Center City health centers, located less than three city blocks apart, into a single location. Our Elizabeth Blackwell Health Center™, formerly at 1211 Chestnut Street merged with our health center at 1144 Locust Street. The new Elizabeth Blackwell Health Center™ at Locust Street has seven exam rooms, and a staff of twenty-five professionals, including three full-time clinicians. Open Monday through Saturday, we offer thousands of women, teens and men a broad range of reproductive healthcare services by appointment or on a walk-in basis.



## LETTER FROM PRESIDENT AND CEO, DAYLE STEINBERG



We are celebrating! The Supreme Court's June 27th landmark ruling in *Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt* protected access to safe, legal abortion by blocking two unconstitutional Texas restrictions that threatened to close all but nine health centers in a state with 5.4 million women of reproductive age.

These restrictions led to closures of more than twenty health centers, and women in Texas were traveling hundreds of miles, crossing state lines and waiting weeks for abortion services. The Court made explicit that requiring clinics to meet hospital surgical standards and doctors to obtain admitting privileges at a local hospital were unjustified burdens stating, "Neither of these provisions offers medical benefits sufficient to justify the burdens upon access that each imposes."

The ruling allows current providers to stay open and paves the way for expanded access to abortion in Texas. While no other state laws are immediately affected, the Court established a strong legal standard that will help to challenge similar laws in other states. It's time to pass laws that protect a woman's constitutional right to abortion, and repeal ones that block it! A woman's access should not be dependent on her zipcode.

The Court importantly recognized our opponents' thinly veiled attempts to pass these laws off as necessary to protect women's safety—we've always known that these laws are designed to close abortion clinics altogether. This ruling is an enormous win for women across the country, yet this victory does not undo the damage wrought by 316 abortion restrictions already written into law over the last five years. Far too many women still face insurmountable barriers to access, and many elected officials seek to score political points by pleasing their conservative bases, and they continually target women's health care.

But, their attacks have also served to galvanize our supporters and brought thousands of new ones into our fold. Three thousand of us gathered to rally in front of the Supreme Court steps during the arguments for this case. Planned Parenthood remains the most trusted women's health care provider and an enormously powerful political messenger. Thank you for continuing to support our work. You help us do so much good for so many!



PPSP volunteers joined over 3,000 activists in Washington, DC on March 2 to rally during oral arguments in *Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt*.



## PPSP Annual Volunteer Service Award Winners

On May 5<sup>th</sup>, PPSP honored four volunteers with our annual Volunteer Service Award.



### Mary Lindsay (ML) Cerulli

ML began volunteering two years ago in our Health Center Advocacy Program (HCAP). She quickly climbed the ladder and became a volunteer leader all-star; co-facilitating trainings, leading shifts, and managing other volunteers.



### Bob Karpinski

Bob has been volunteering with PPSP since 2011 as an extremely dedicated and composed patient escort coordinator. Bob adds an extra layer of leadership and support to our team of escorts while ensuring patient safety

and freedom from harassment to all who enter our facilities. He is always ready to travel to the health center where he's most needed.



### Virginia (Ginny) Kendall

Ginny has been supporting our West Chester patients as a Handholder since the inception of the program and is our longest-serving volunteer in this role. Her supportive and caring presence has guided many

women through what can be a difficult time. We are grateful for Ginny's long-standing commitment to PPSP's patients.



### Laura Quiñones

Laura came to PPSP last year as an External Affairs intern. She has served as a lead HCAP intern and has continued her commitment to this work as a member of PPFA's Young Leaders Advisory Council.

Laura is not afraid to speak up, whether at a legislative visit or at a rally, and we appreciate her courage and dedication.

## April 29<sup>th</sup> Auction Gala



(Left) State Representative Chris Ross proudly wearing his "I Stand with Planned Parenthood" shirt; (Right) Joe Kohn (left and second from right) with their guests, Chris Karnes and Amy Goldbloom; PPSP board chair Marvin Marsh

## May 24<sup>th</sup> Spring Gathering with Keynote



(Left) Debbie Barol, Connie Williams, and PPSP board members Nancy Eales and Wendy Davis; (Right) Mayor of Philadelphia Jim Kenney



(Left) Fay Ehsan, PPSP Board Member George Banks and Ellen Steele; (Right) Wendy Davis



# PPSP



ITS DONORS

## Donor Spotlight

**Betsy Salandria  
and Ruth Dubb**

*A mother and daughter  
speak about what Planned  
Parenthood means to them*



"I could only go by myself."

So begins Betsy Salandria, recalling the first of her three abortions, all resulting from failed birth control and before Roe vs. Wade legalized abortion.

"It was a snowy day," Betsy continues. "When I met the doctor, I sensed fear in his eyes. More like justified paranoia. He did his thing. I rested for a half an hour. He gave me antibiotics. As he sent me on my way, he offered this judgement, 'Now your boyfriend will never marry you.'"

"Being sensible, I had gotten in touch with my doctor beforehand, who would not do the procedure, of course, but would see me afterwards, just to be sure all went well. It had. A few weeks after, my doctor called me. He asked for the contact information of the man who performed my abortion. It was for one of his patients."

"Two years ago, I decided to make an appointment at the Locust Street Health Center for a routine gynecological checkup," Betsy confides. "I went to at least three gynecologists before making this decision. None of them would see me only for a routine checkup. They told me that they solely focus on patients with serious medical issues, like cancer."

"I've been a longtime supporter of Planned Parenthood, and had no idea that they would serve my needs in such a special way. I can't thank them enough."

...

"She always stressed the importance of birth control, even before I was sexually active," Ruth Dubb says of her mother, Betsy. "While I can't pinpoint exactly when I first learned about Planned Parenthood and their work, I suspect it was through reading Ann Landers' columns and Sara Paretsky's V.I. Warshawski novels."

After graduating from the University of Chicago in the late 1980's, Ruth moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico. "I got a Norplant at a Planned Parenthood clinic there," Ruth recalls. "This was significant to me because, at the time, I had been diagnosed with migraines. Taking the pill would have been extremely dangerous. It was my only birth control option."

"To the dedicated staff at PPSP we say this: Thank you, God bless you, and keep up the good work. The job you do is indispensable!"

*Betsy and Ruth have been advocates for Planned Parenthood for as long as they can remember. They firmly believe that while Roe vs. Wade is law, it will continue to be the target of individuals and groups who want to turn the calendar back for women. We applaud Betsy and Ruth for their generosity and for their fighting spirit. Thank you!*



hood" T-shirt; (Middle) 100th Anniversary Sponsors Lisa and  
erg; (Right) Ann Moss, PPSP board member Dee Carter and

## ote Speaker Wendy Davis



Oxholm; (Right) PPSP CEO Dayle Steinberg, keynote



Davis delivers an inspiring message





## Spotlight Summer 2016

Planned Parenthood Southeastern Pennsylvania




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### Pennsylvania Political Front

We recently saw the PA House pass yet another bill targeted at abortion. Within the timeframe of a few days, extreme anti-choice hardliners in the House pushed a vote that would have resulted in the most restrictive abortion bill in the country – one that would ban a commonly-used abortion procedure, and would prohibit an abortion altogether after 18 weeks gestation with NO exceptions for rape, incest or fetal anomaly. The bill was derailed for a few weeks in the House in no small part due to a rapidly organized press conference, featuring Cecile Richards and Governor Tom Wolf, focusing on three courageous PA women who shared their heart-

wrenching stories about the abortions they chose to have due to fetal anomalies that would have been banned by the proposed bill. Our friends like you  made thousands of calls and sent countless emails to Harrisburg. But of course our opposition did not give up and brought the bill to the House floor with essentially no notice, and without a hearing or input from medical professionals. The bill passed in the House 132-65 and was passed by the Senate Judiciary Committee. However, we know that Governor Wolf will veto this proposed legislation!

The PA Budget negotiations for the fiscal year 2016 went nine months past the deadline but fortunately, the fiscal year 2017 budget process was completed and there is no language within to defund Planned Parenthood's preventative services. In the meantime, we are advocating for the Agenda for Women's Health. Our top priorities for the Agenda this season include: workplace accommodations for pregnant women and nursing mothers, equal pay for women for equal work, health center access and comprehensive sexuality education in PA public schools. (For more information, go to [www.pa4womenshealth.org](http://www.pa4womenshealth.org))

Photo by The Office of Governor Tom Wolf