

Welcome to Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas' monthly newsletter. As a member of our community, we would like to share the latest updates on the healthcare and education you make possible at Planned Parenthood.



CONNECTIONS

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MEN'S SERVICES SPOTLIGHT: STI TESTING AND TREATMENT

Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas is a trusted resource for men's healthcare. STI rates are on the rise in Texas with high rates in Lubbock and Tarrant counties. Many people assume that if they have a sexually transmitted infection (STI), they will know it. However, many STIs do not have symptoms which makes regular STI screenings so important. Because of donors like you, Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas is here providing information and healthcare to prevent and treat STIs to keep our communities healthy:

- Condom use is always the best bet for safer sex.
- Pre-exposure prophylaxis (or PrEP) is a medicine taken every day to prevent HIV that is highly effective when taken as prescribed.
- Doxycycline Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (or DoxyPEP) is a medicine taken within 72 hours of unprotected sex. It's like emergency contraception for STIs and substantially reduces the risk of chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis, and other STIs.



MEN'S SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION: BRIDGING THE GAP

Men's sexual healthcare is important for well-being and the education programs at Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas like Teen Advocacy Board (TAB) are designed to inform and empower teens in our community including young men. Teen Advocacy Board enables teens in the Austin, Dallas, and Fort Worth areas to provide peer education and advocate for sexual health.

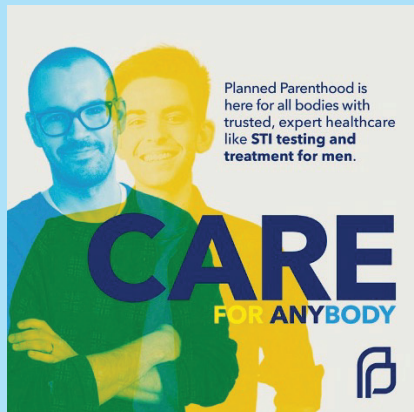


Because you stand with us, our education team is a resource for health information and education through workshops designed to provide teens, including young men, with knowledge and resources to make informed decisions about their health.

Do you know a teen who would like to join TAB? Applications are open for interested participants in the Austin, Dallas, and Fort Worth areas. The deadline is September 1, 2024.

MEN'S SERVICES CAMPAIGN: CARE FOR ANYBODY

Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas is here for all bodies with trusted, expert healthcare. Our current social media outreach campaign focuses on men's services and encourages men to take charge of their sexual health with regular checkups and testing for sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Regular checkups can keep everybody healthy in our communities.



A NEWS CONNECTION

Texas Supreme Court rejects pleas from Texans to protect their health and lives.

The landmark *Zurawski v. State of Texas* lawsuit was intended to provide clear guidance to doctors regarding emergency exemptions to Texas' extreme abortion bans. Unfortunately, the Texas Supreme Court failed to provide guidance to protect Texas women's health and lives.

"How the [Texas] Supreme Court could hear our stories and our real, lived experiences and decide that no, they were OK with what was happening in Texas, that's been really hard..."

-Taylor Edwards, plaintiff in *Zurawski v. State of Texas*

Thank you for standing with us amid the heartbreaking crisis pregnant Texans face today. **We know you stand with us in advocating to restore abortion rights in Texas.**

July is Men's Services Month

Why do men, and those who identify as men, come to Planned Parenthood for health services? For the same reason all patients come to Planned Parenthood—for non-judgmental, expert healthcare they can trust.

17% In 2023, 17% of our patients identified as male.

16,000

Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas provided 16,000 healthcare visits in 2023 to patients who identify as male.

Our most common services provided are:



Testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections (STIs)



Condoms and sex education to help men make informed decisions about their sexual health



Rapid HIV testing and HIV prevention medication

TAKE ACTION: PRIDE EVENTS RECAP

Thank you to all who joined our Pride festivals and parades in June. It is inspiring when we all stand in support and solidarity with the LBGTOIA+ community.

LEFT: Our Dallas Teen Advocacy Board (TAB) members engaged with the Dallas community at Teen Pride in June.

RIGHT: An interactive thought board at the Round Rock Pride event.



IN DEPTH PRESENTATION: PLANNED PARENTHOOD'S BLACK HEALTH EQUITY INITIATIVE

Please join us for a special call on July 25th at 12 PM CST. Planned Parenthood Federation of America launched a Black Health Equity (BHE) Initiative to address inequities in the healthcare system to improve health outcomes and reduce disparities in communities across the U.S., particularly for Black patients. The U.S. legacy of race and racism is reflected in barriers to sexual and reproductive healthcare and in Texas' maternal mortality crisis and other public health disparities.

Our call will share an overview of Planned Parenthood Federation of America's Initiative, Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas' health equity task force, and insights on community health priorities in South Dallas identified by Soulstice Consultancy.

Guest speakers include: Ken Lambrecht, PPGT President & CEO; Josette Ayers, PPGT Board Chair; Dr. Froswa' Booker-Drew, CEO, Soulstice Consultancy; and Dr. Amna Dermish, PPGT Chief Operating and Medical Services Officer. We hope to see you on the call.



Scan here to register.

WAYS TO GIVE

Support high-quality healthcare and sex education programs. Please get in touch with us today at development@ppgt.org or **214-254-3017** to learn how a legacy gift to Planned Parenthood ensures high-quality healthcare for generations ahead.

If you have a question, want to learn more, or want to get involved, please get in touch with the Development Office at (214) 254-3017 or development@ppgt.org.

