

FEBRUARY 2024

CONNECTIONS

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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



BIRTH CONTROL AWARENESS MONTH: OUR SHARED MISSION

Long-acting, reversible methods of birth control (LARCs) like the IUD and implant offer 4-12 years of pregnancy prevention that are 99% effective. Because you support Planned Parenthood, we offer a range of sexual and reproductive healthcare at our health centers, including our patient-centered contraceptive counseling and a full range of birth control options to plan and prevent pregnancy—more important than ever under Texas' extreme abortion ban. Thank you for being a part of our mission.

"I have used Planned Parenthood's spectrum of services for over 10 years for preventive care and birth control, and as life progressed and I chose to get off birth control, I have been able to depend on the health center for support through those changes. I was a student without insurance in college, and the staff helped me understand how to be responsible for my health and they were a vital resource for me. Now I am a successful, single female small business owner and I still turn to Planned Parenthood at this point in my life."





EDUCATION

With abortion banned in Texas and bodily autonomy increasingly under scrutiny, Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas is committed to ensuring access to birth control. **75% of pregnancies among 15-19-year-olds are unintended and birth control is an essential component of reproductive healthcare.**

Texas ranks #9 for teen birth rates and #2 in repeat teen births in the U.S. Our education programs are facilitated by professional health educators to provide essential information about sexual health and contraception enabling teens to make informed decisions about their health and reduce unintended pregnancies. Because of community support, we provide young people with information and resources to lead healthy lives.



A NEWS CONNECTION: FEDERAL APPEAL COURT RULING

Pregnant Texans' health and lives at risk: ERs not required to perform life-saving abortions.

After the overturn of Roe v. Wade in June 2022, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services notified hospitals of their responsibility to offer stabilizing care to patients, including medically necessary abortions, under the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act. The Texas Attorney General sued in response to prevent Texas from providing emergency abortions.

Abortions are banned in Texas, except to save the life of the pregnant patient but doctors are struggling to implement the poorly defined medical exception and risk life in prison and the loss of their medical license.

Once again, Texas' extreme abortion ban puts Texans at risk, and we stand with you for the right to make healthcare decisions without political interference. Thank you for supporting advocacy to restore abortion access in Texas.

February is Birth Control Awareness Month

54% of pregnancies in Texas are unintended. But thanks to community support, 100% of birth control methods are available at Planned Parenthood! Options include IUDs, implants, injections, patch, ring, pills, and condoms.

110,623 33,026

As of October 2023, Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas provided **110,623 birth control visits**.

The total number of **birth control pill packets prescribed** as of October 2023, thereby empowering patients to take control of their reproductive health.

Our most common services provided are:



Birth control to help patients plan and space their pregnancies.



Testing and treatment for STIs, HIV tests, and PrEP and PEP to prevent HIV transmission.



Lifesaving breast and cervical cancer screenings.

TAKE ACTION

The Texas Primary is coming up in Texas and it is important that we all make our voices heard! Pledge to vote and urge friends and family to get to the polls this election. Important dates to know:

- Feb 5-last day to register for TX Primary
- Feb 20-first day of early voting for TX Primary
- Mar 1—last day early voting for TX Primary
- March 5–Texas Primary Election Day



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.

What's the difference between giving to Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas and Planned Parenthood Federation of America? When you donate directly to Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas, 100% of your gift supports local healthcare and sex education services across Central, East, North, and West Texas.

When you donate to the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, a portion of your gift supports local services, as well as national advocacy and sex education efforts.







